

Tweed Shire Council wishes to recognise the generations of the local Aboriginal people of the Tweed Bundjalung Nation who have lived in and derived their physical and spiritual needs from the forests, rivers, lakes and streams of this beautiful valley over many thousands of years as the traditional custodians of these lands.



Before you set out to explore the Northern Rivers Rail Trail, make sure you're aware of the Rail Trail safety tips to be aware of expected behaviours and plan for potential risks.

Top tips for exploring the new Rail Trail

From preparing for dark tunnels to how to identify your location, a raft of safety tips and handy hints on how to use the new Northern Rivers Rail Trail help users make the most of their experience.

After a busy 6 weeks since the official opening, the importance of safety and individual responsibility is being highlighted.

Users need to follow the safety tips and rules – clearly identified through signage on the Rail Trail and on the official website and social media channels – so everyone has a safe and enjoyable experience.

The Northern Rivers Rail Trail website (northernriversrailtrail.com.au) highlights the shared nature of the trail, which adjoins local farmland, and encourages visitors to be aware and plan for potential risks.

Rail Trail safety tips explain how to:

- Share the trail
- Be safe
- Be alert
- Be visible
- Be prepared.

Cyclists should adhere to general road rules including keeping left, adhering to speed limits and always ride at safe speeds. And at all times all wear a helmet. We've had reports of some close calls so please always pass with a gap – a metre matters – and alert pedestrians as you pass – use your bell or a polite 'on your right'.

We're also encouraging people to use common sense when crossing any roads and intersections accessing the Rail Trail. Slow down, and take note of all signage and safety measures for road or trail crossings. They are there for a reason.

To support the community and users to adopt the safety tips and rules, Council Rangers in conjunction with Tweed Byron Police are actively on the rail trail to monitor trail safety and behaviours to ensure everyone is using the recreation space in a safe manner.

Visit northernriversrailtrail.com.au/safety-rules and access Rail Trail rules, safety tips, and a helpful 'plan, pack and prepare' checklist before you visit. You can also watch the safety videos online, download your copy of the safety tips and rules and read the frequently asked questions.



Are you concerned about falls prevention to ensure you stay active as you age? Join the Stand Together program.

Are you a senior worried about falls?

Falls are a serious health concern for older adults, as they can lead to fractures, head injuries, and other complications that can result in hospitalization and a loss of independence.

Council's Community Care Team is offering support for those who might be concerned about themselves or a loved one by way of an important fall prevention program this May. The program, Stand Together, will take place in Murwillumbah over 8 weeks.

Stand Together aims to prevent falls by growing participant's confidence through improving strength and



Last week we each used
164L a day
as at 10 April 2023

In brief ...

Join in the fight against cane toads

Effective cane toad control is here! Council has partnered with not-for-profit community environment group Watergum to bring cane toad control to the Tweed.

Did you know? Cane toads are toxic at every life stage and have a devastating impact on our native wildlife, pets and agriculture. Female cane toads can lay 2 clutches each season, with up to 35,000 eggs each time!

Join us on Thursday 20 April from 6:30 to 8 pm at the Banora Point Community Centre to learn about the impact of cane toads, trap thousands of tadpoles on your properties, toad-proof water bodies and more.

Enjoy complimentary pizza and refreshments with the presentation.

Spaces are limited so please register as soon as possible at tweed.nsw.gov.au/cane-toads

For more information about the event, email canetoads@watergum.org or call 07 2103 5796.

Tragically, Lenny the koala has died

Lenny the koala who we introduced to you last week, was hit by a car and killed on the M1 at Tweed Heads South last Friday morning. Lenny was a 5-year-old female koala who called Banora Point home.

Council and Friends of the Koala again plead with drivers to be vigilant while travelling around the Tweed and not only in bushland areas.

Council's conservation planning officer Marama Hopkins said: "It will absolutely ruin yours and your kids' holiday if you hit a koala in your travels. It certainly ruined the long weekend for Friends of the Koala volunteers who have cared for and released Lenny over the years, to have to respond to this call and pick her up off the road. The death of Lenny, this well-known healthy female this Easter, is devastating."

Friends of the Koala volunteers were shocked as they responded to another close call on Clothiers Creek Road this weekend. Drivers continued to speed around them as they checked on the safety of a koala, in an area that another female with joey was hit earlier this year.

Every death pushes the Tweed's koalas closer to extinction. Council and the community continue to work hard to improve road safety through messaging, and to increase koala habitat to maintain healthy populations.

For all koala rescues or incidents call Friends of the Koala's 24-hour hotline on 02 6622 1233 or report sightings at tweed.nsw.gov.au/koalas

Potential new school site still free from development

The NSW Land and Environment Court (LEC) has dismissed a deemed refusal appeal relating to a Concept Development Application to build on land earmarked for a potential new high school at Pottsville.

In its ruling published on 31 March, the LEC dismissed a deemed refusal appeal in respect of the Concept DA submitted by Newland Developers Pty Ltd in 2022 to build a seniors housing development on 6.3 ha of vacant land at Seabreeze Boulevard, Pottsville.

Under the proposal, Newland was proposing to develop 93 lots for seniors housing as part of a community title subdivision. A second matter heard by the LEC, to carry out water and sewer supply works on the property, was approved by the Court, subject to certain conditions.

This is the third time Council has successfully defended its position in the Court against Newland Developers, with the first two DA refusals (involving residential housing) upheld by the LEC in 2017 and 2020.

As part of the Facts and Contentions put forward by Council in defence of this appeal, it was argued that the proposed development was inconsistent with Section B15 of the Tweed Development Control Plan 2008 (DCP 2008) which identifies the subject site as a potential school site.

However, in its ruling on the current Concept DA, the primary finding of the LEC was that the Concept DA failed to adequately address provisions for emergency response in situations such as flooding.

Read the full story at tweed.nsw.gov.au/latest-news



The vacant land at Seabreeze Estate, Pottsville originally earmarked for a high school.

Connecting trades and industry to rebuild

The Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation (NRRC) is hosting an industry conference to provide insight into the works required to rebuild the region following the February – March 2022 floods.

Figures released by the Insurance Council of Australia estimate the costs and scale of the damage to homes, business and infrastructure caused by the floods at more than \$5.56 billion, the largest in Australian history. In addition, there was already a pre-flood infrastructure pipeline of \$3.5 billion in the Northern Rivers.

Hosted by the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation, the conference will be held on Thursday 27 April 2023 at Twin Towns Club, Tweed Heads.

NRRC Chief Executive David Witherdin said the aim of

the conference is to connect trades and industry with Tweed Shire Council and other local councils and the NSW Government and get the rebuild underway.

The conference provides opportunity to meet and speak with the key procuring agencies involved in the reconstruction and will cover the pipeline of work, including the Resilient Homes Program and public infrastructure pipeline.

There will be sessions on resilient rebuilding, procurement and diversity strategies to increase the workforce, capability uplifts, business and material innovation and more.

The event is free. To register, visit the NRRC website at nsw.gov.au/northern-rivers-reconstruction-corporation, click on 'Resources' and then 'Trades and Industry'.



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Get the Tweed Link early by email

Be one of the first to see all the latest news from Tweed Shire Council each week.

Subscribers to the Tweed Link receive it by email each week on Wednesday mornings, in addition to it appearing in print in the Tweed Valley Weekly on Thursdays.

Sign up at tweed.nsw.gov.au/subscribe

Follow Council on social media

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Save water, the environment and your money

Go to tweed.nsw.gov.au/residential-water-rebates or call us on 02 6670 2400.

Our website details the terms and conditions.



Resident and ratepayer assoc. meetings

Fingal Head Community Association will hold its Annual General Meeting followed by the April General meeting on Wednesday 19 April 2023, commencing 7 pm at Fingal Rovers Surf Life Saving Club.

Current vacancies

Visit tweed.nsw.gov.au/job-vacancies to view current vacancies. Subscribe to receive Job Vacancy Alerts via email at tweed.nsw.gov.au/subscribe

WATER WEEK 1



Check when your water meter is read at tweed.nsw.gov.au/meter-reading

Fig tree lopping on Kyogle Road

Motorists are advised of changed traffic conditions on Kyogle Road on Friday 14 April 2023 as tree loppers remove overhanging branches of a large fig tree.

The tree is located at 887/911 Kyogle Road (near Dum Dum) and poses a safety hazard due to the deteriorating

nature of the tree.

The work will commence at 7 am and is expected to be completed by 3 pm and traffic controllers will be on site to allow single lane use.

For further information contact Council's flood administration team on 02 6670 2400.



The fig tree to be removed on Kyogle Road.



Have your say

Add your voice to decision making in the Tweed

Help shape the future of sports and active recreation across the Tweed

Demand for sports and recreation facilities is growing in our communities. What does this mean for you and being physically active, your sports, your clubs and facilities?

We are conducting a survey to help identify how our community would like to be physically active, the sports that are most popular, the facilities that are most needed and the challenges that are being faced.

Have your say

We want to make sport and active recreation accessible and enjoyable for everyone. Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey, share it with family and friends.

The survey closes at 5 pm, 5 May 2023. To get involved and learn more visit yoursaytweed.com.au/activercreation

Council confidentiality policy: On request, any submission including identifying particulars will be made public. Council will give consideration to the 'Public Interest' and requests for confidentiality however, the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* may require confidential submissions to be released to an applicant.

Help us make decisions with you
Register at yoursaytweed.com.au

Development application determinations

Notification of development application determinations for the purposes of Section 4.59 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (as amended).

Application details

Approved

- DA22/0580** – Two lot strata subdivision
Lot 432 DP 749442, No. 7 Birnam Avenue, **Banora Point**
- DA22/0637** – Carport and alterations and additions to existing dwelling
Lot 56 DP 855514, No. 48 Winders Place, **Banora Point**
- DA22/0726** – Use of alterations and additions to existing dwelling
Lot 37 DP 238995, No. 36 Banora Boulevard, **Banora Point**
- DA23/0112** – In-ground swimming pool
Lot 517 DP 857005, No. 32 Avondale Drive, **Banora Point**
- DA22/0764** – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling
Lot 142 DP 836305, No. 26 Tallwood Avenue, **Bogangar**
- DA23/0087** – Carport within front building line
Lot 193 DP 241366, No. 18 Kurrajong Avenue, **Bogangar**
- DA22/0620** – Two storey farm building with amenities
Lot 8 DP 12676, No. 438 Eviron Road, **Eviron**
- DA22/0678** – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling including in-ground swimming pool and carport within the front building line
Lot 61 DP 249140, No. 21 Surf Street, **Kingscliff**
- DA23/0068** – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling including an in-ground swimming pool
Lot 48 DP 879147, No. 41 Kingfisher Circuit, **Kingscliff**
- DA22/0720** – Three storey dwelling with attached garage including in-ground swimming pool and 1.8m front and return fence
Lot 9 DP 23576, No. 15 Elanora Avenue, **Pottsville**
- DA23/0098** – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling
Lot 27 DP 870695, No. 3 Sassafras Street, **Pottsville**
- DA23/0009** – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling including carport
Lot 11 DP 814951, No. 5 Valleyview Place, **Terranora**
- DA23/0051** – Alterations and additions including an in-ground swimming pool and 1.8 m front fence
Lot 257 DP 873663, No. 35 Illawong Crescent, **Terranora**
- DA22/0600** – Carport
Lot 30 DP 260432, No. 9 Shearwater Parade, **Tweed Heads**
- DA22/0711** – Alterations and additions
Lot 21 DP 258723, No. 41 Blundell Boulevard, **Tweed Heads South**
- DA22/0513** – Alterations and additions to existing dwelling including first floor additions
Lot 13 DP 32023, No. 77 Piggabeen Road, **Tweed Heads West**
- DA23/0044** – In-ground swimming pool, front fence and the use of unauthorised building works
Lot 125 DP 30960, No. 1 Gollan Drive, **Tweed Heads West**

The above development determinations are available for public inspection free of charge at the Planning and Regulation Division, Murwillumbah Civic Centre, during ordinary office hours or viewed on Council's DA Tracking site located at datracker.tweed.nsw.gov.au

02 6670 2400 or 1300 292 872

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