

Today's Snap Shot

Council teams continue on the ground to clean up in affected areas and have been making good progress along affected foreshores, reserves and shared pathways. Focusing on removal of debris stockpiles and assisting property owners, and will continue to do so over the coming week.

A total of 4,200 tonnes additional storm waste has been sent to our waste facilities collected from affected properties, 2,500 tonnes of wrack has been cleared from our foreshores and over 1,200 tonnes of debris has been collected from our beaches all the way from Terrigal right through to Ocean Beach, with more expected to be cleared over the coming weeks.

We have inspected 2,400 trees with the majority requiring removal as a result of storm damage. Trees that have fallen into local waterways that represent navigation hazards have been assessed by Council and Transport NSW and will be trimmed/realigned or removed over the course of the coming weeks. Please be aware and take care when out on the waterways.

Unfortunately, two playspaces remain closed at Mackenzie Reserve Budgewoi and Oakland Street / Tuggerawong Road, Wyongah, as soon as we can access them we will replenish the soft fall to ensure the area is safe to use.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue the clean-up.

Sewer

Residents who have been affected with sewer service interruptions are mostly all returned to normal operations, some intermittent issues are being experienced affecting the continuity and service to some residents which we are aiming to resolve by Tuesday 3 March.

Water Restrictions

As a reminder in the event of, or where there is a risk of, an accident, fire, hazard to health or the environment, water restrictions do not apply. This includes the hosing of driveways to clear debris left by the recent storm event.

Waste

Council have inspected all flood affected areas and are seeing a reduction in demand for waste removal. If there is still debris that has washed

up on your property, please place within the road reserve we will still collect it. **Call us on 1300 463 954**

This does not include normal green waste which continues to be available through normal services.

Please ensure that household chemicals such as paints, gas bottles, motor oil, household cleaners, fire extinguishers, pesticides and pool chemicals are NOT placed on the kerb. Leaking chemicals can cause serious environmental effects, polluting our region's waterways.

Chemical Cleanout items can be dropped off for free 9am-3.30pm, 29 February and 1 March at our Long Jetty Depot, corner The Entrance and Wyong Roads.

www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/residents/waste-and-recycling/disposing-hazardous-waste

Register Register Register!

We are again asking anyone who has been impacted by the flood and storms in any way to register with the Recovery Centre and Information Points. They offer a range of services that are available for you to meet with face-to-face, helping one step at a time.

Details are:

The Entrance Community Centre (Building E), Battley Avenue, The Entrance which is open from 9am to 5pm weekdays and from 10am to 4pm Saturdays. *Note* the centre is closed on Sundays.

Blue Haven Community Centre, 1 Aspley Court Blue Haven

- Tuesday 3 March 10am–4pm

Advice from NSW Health

NSW Health provides basic hygiene advice during and after floods. Some helpful tips include:

- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and clean water after handling flood-affected items or participating in any flood clean-up activities, after going to the toilet and always before handling or eating food.
- Avoid coughing or sneezing on others and avoid the use of common or unclean eating

utensils, toothbrushes, towels or handkerchiefs.

- Avoid all unnecessary contact with mud and floodwaters. If you must walk through mud or enter floodwaters, always wear solid shoes, not thongs or sandals. Always wear gloves when handling flood-affected items or mud. Keep children out of flood-affected areas.
- All cuts and abrasions should be cleaned, treated with antiseptic and covered immediately. If you have a deep cut or wound, if a wound has had contact with floodwaters or if a wound develops redness, swelling or discharge, seek immediate medical attention.
- Avoid being bitten by mosquitoes. Use an insect repellent on exposed skin areas and reapply every couple of hours. Cover up as much as possible with loose-fitting and light-coloured clothing. Should you or any of your family have severe diarrhoea or vomiting, please seek immediate medical assistance. If you have these symptoms, you'll need extra fluids to replace what you lose. The best fluids to take are those that contain a mixture of special salts (electrolytes) and sugars, (e.g. Gastrolyte) which can be purchased from local pharmacies.
- Please avoid swimming and any other recreational contact with our waterways during the current significant rainfall conditions. Extended heavy rainfall increases the risk of our waterways being impacted by pollution due to stormwater run-off.

Mental Health support

If you or someone you know is in need of support during and after the bush fire or flood/storm events, please reach out. Speak to your GP, or regular health care provider.

Additional support is available on:

- Lifeline – 13 11 14 | www.lifeline.org.au
- Beyond Blue – 1300 224 636 | www.beyondblue.org.au
- Mensline – 1300 789 9978 | www.mensline.org.au
- Kids Helpline – 1800 551800 | www.kidshelpline.com.au
- Mental Health Line – 1800 011 511

Disaster relief for individuals

Grants are available from the NSW Government for eligible individuals and families whose homes and essential household contents have been damaged or destroyed by a natural disaster.

To be eligible for this grant you must:

- be a low-income earner and meet an income assets test
- demonstrate that the affected home is your principal place of residence
- not be covered by insurance
- demonstrate that the damage was caused by the disaster
- lodge the application within four months of the disaster occurring

Contact the Disaster Welfare Assistance Line on **1800 018 444**.

Want more info?

Call Council on 1300 463 954

We are adding to our online recovery resources daily. Stay up-to-date with the latest information and start exploring your needs at www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/council/news/helppful-information-following-severe-weather