



January 2019

Blue Mountains City Council

Save Our Recycling campaign

We are asking the Blue Mountains community to take part in a landmark recycling survey and support the calls for the NSW Government to come up with a practical, long-term solution to waste management in NSW.

Blue Mountains residents are committed to recycling. Together, we have reduced



the amount of waste going to landfill significantly in recent years. However until recently the NSW recycling system relied heavily on overseas processors. These markets are now winding back the amount of recycling they will accept.

That's why we urgently need a state-wide approach to collect, process and reuse recyclable material in NSW. Blue Mountains City Council is participating in the Local Government NSW (LGNSW) 'Save Our Recycling' campaign, which calls for the reinvestment of 100% of the Waste Levy collected each year by the NSW Government in waste minimisation, recycling and resource recovery.

The NSW Government already collects hundreds of millions of dollars through its Waste Levy every single year. You pay this levy through your Domestic Waste Charge and through gate fees at Councils Resource Recovery and Waste Management Facilities. The NSW Government only reinvests a small proportion of this in waste and recycling. In 2016-17, the NSW Government collected \$726 million from local government, community, businesses and industry via the Waste Levy, but only committed to use \$72 million - or 10% - through its 'Waste

Less Recycle More' initiative on waste minimisation and recycling in 2017-18. At a local government level, just 18% of the \$300 million collected from the local government sector each year is reinvested in recycling and waste management.

The reinvestment of the Waste Levy to support waste and resource recovery infrastructure, develop markets and innovative solutions, and undertake other initiatives to encourage reuse and recycling also offers wide-ranging benefits to our communities right across NSW. There is the potential for economic growth, new infrastructure, new technology and new jobs, particularly in our regional areas.

For further information and to complete the survey visit <https://saveourrecycling.com.au/survey>.

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Have Your Say

Blue Mountains Have Your Say provides a convenient online forum for the community to find out about Council projects and proposals that are open for public comment and to provide feedback to contribute to Council's decision making.

Go to bluemountainshaveyoursay.com.au





blue mountains
**YOUTH
COUNCIL**

Update on City projects

A regular column providing an update on Council's 10 year program of work 2015-2025 funded or part-funded by the special rate variation.

We're looking for new members to join our Youth Council!

We believe young people should be empowered to gain a deep understanding of citizenship and be involved in positive civic action for change in their communities. The Blue Mountains Youth Council is made up of local young people.

Projects and initiatives developed by the Youth Council in 2019 will focus on the environment.

This is exciting as it will involve getting outdoors, getting active, and learning with community and environmental professionals.

If you're aged 12-19 years old, live in the Blue Mountains and are passionate about your community, the environment and the future of the Blue Mountains apply for the Blue Mountains Youth Council now!

Closing date is Thursday 7 February, 2019.

Go to bluemountainshaveyoursay.com.au/youthcouncil for more info.



Council is currently working with the member agencies of the Bush Fire Management Committee on **fire trail renewal and upgrade** work across the City following the NSW Government policy changes and reclassification of all trails. Detailed planning is underway for vegetation management, trail widening and surface restoration on a small number of Council managed trails, particularly strategic trails that occur on multiple land tenures. Council continues to liaise closely with the Rural Fire Service and the Soil Conservation Service with regards to funding and the timelines for delivery of this important work.

Council is also working in close partnership with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) as part of a pilot project to **develop a local recovery plan for the City**. A multi-agency workshop was held in November 2018, and a Community Resilience Network workshop is scheduled for early 2019, both of which will further inform the development of the local recovery plan. In selecting the Blue Mountains to participate in the pilot, OEM has recognised Council's significant involvement in the recovery effort from the 2013 bush fires, and the invaluable experience gained by agencies and the community sector.

Council has joined the Western Sydney Regional Illegal Dumping (RID) Squad to **strengthen its focus on illegal dumping**. There is approximately 600 illegal dumping incidents in the Blue Mountains every year with an average clean-up cost of over \$269,000 each year. The dedicated team of professional investigators from the RID Squad have expanded their operations into the Blue Mountains as of 1 January 2019. Residents are encouraged to report illegal dumping to Council on **4780 5000**.

Seniors Week 2019 - Love your life

Celebrate 61 years of Seniors Week in Australia this February. The theme for 2019 is 'Love your life'. Blue Mountains seniors can participate in a variety of activities offered by Council, in partnership with local community organisations and businesses, as part of the Seniors Week program for the Blue Mountains.

The annual Seniors Week Recognition Awards will be held on Tuesday 26 February at the Blue Mountains Theatre, Springwood. These awards recognise the valuable contributions that seniors make to our community. This event is open to the public.

A program of events will be available at the end of January. For further information on Seniors Week, contact Prue Hardgrove, Council's Aged and Disability Services Development Officer, on council@bmcc.nsw.gov.au or **4780 5546**.





Blue Mountains Local Citizen of the Year Awards

Congratulations to the 2019 Local Citizen of the Year award recipients:

- **Citizen of the Year** – George Winston
- **Young Citizen of the Year** – Adisen Wright
- **Community Achievement of the Year** – Blackheath Community Op Shop

Each year our community celebrates the achievement and contribution of notable local residents through the Blue Mountains Local Citizen of the Year Awards by profiling leading citizens who are role models for us all.

They inspire us through their achievements and challenge us to make our own contribution to creating a better Blue Mountains and a better Australia.

Further information about our local Citizens of the Year will be available in the Blue Mountains Gazette and social media.



The Compost Hub is looking for your food scraps

The Compost Hub links households with food scraps to households that have compost bins. The Compost Hub provides an innovative way for residents that find it difficult to manage their own compost bin to get involved and reduce food waste to landfill. Contributors simply drop off their food scraps to a Compost Champion nearby.

Over 26% of garbage collected from Blue Mountains homes is food waste which could have been avoided or composted. You can help by finding a Compost Champion near you, using Council's interactive online platform.

After registering, participants can pin their location on an online map as a Compost Champion or a Compost Contributor which then enables you to find each other.



Council will provide your Compost Hub with compost bins to Compost Champions and kitchen caddies to Compost Contributors. Participants are also invited to record how much food waste is collected to help calculate how their actions reduce waste to landfill.

For more information or to find your composting match, visit bluemountainshaveyoursay.com.au/composthub or call Council on **4780 5000**.

Looking for a child-centred career from home?

Imagine a fulfilling career where you work from home and set your own hours and rates. Blue Mountains Family Day Care is seeking educators throughout the Blue Mountains.

Family Day Care offers you the opportunity for flexible and rewarding work from home and you can even have your own children with you. You are supported by caring professionals and, best of all, you work with children.

You'll need an early childhood qualification or the motivation to gain a Certificate III in Children's Services qualification to start, plus a Working with Children Check, a first aid certificate, and a property inspection.

For more information please call **4780 5280** or visit bmcc.nsw.gov.au/FamilyDayCare.



Road safety workshops

FREE Senior Drivers Workshop

Senior drivers have the opportunity to refresh their knowledge on topics including - tips for safe driving, refresh knowledge on road rules and speed limits, understand licencing for senior drivers and, your health and driving.

Date: Wednesday 27 February, 2019

Time: 10am – 12 noon

Location: Springwood Community Hub

The workshop will include a free morning tea and show bag.

FREE Learner Driver Workshop

Are you supporting a young person learning to drive? This free 2 hour workshop is an ideal way as a parent or carer to get practical advice on how to help young learner drivers to become safer drivers.

Date: Saturday 16 March 2019

Time: 2pm - 4pm

Location: Springwood Community Hub

Bookings are essential for both workshops and can be made through Council's Road Safety Coordinator on **4780 5000** or council@bmcc.nsw.gov.au.

Want to keep up to date on Council news?

Subscribe to our fortnightly eNewsletter.

Go to bmcc.nsw.gov.au/community-news-snapshot.

Councillors

Ward 1

Bell to Leura, Megalong Valley & The Mounts

Cr Don McGregor

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Cr Kerry Brown

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Cr Kevin Schreiber

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Ward 2

Wentworth Falls to Faulconbridge/Springwood

Cr Chris Van der Kley (Deputy Mayor)

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Cr Romola Hollywood

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Cr Daniel Myles

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Cr Mick Fell

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Ward 4

Warrimoo to Lapstone

Cr Mark Greenhill (Mayor)

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Cr Brendan Christie

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Cr Darryl Bowling

0414 195 989

WHAT'S ON BLUE MOUNTAINS



New Year, new activity? Bushcare could be it!

Meet new people, learn new skills and help the environment. Join a Bushcare or Landcare group or participate in a one-off Bushcare event. You can help in a number of ways from weeding, planting, seed collecting and more. Go to bushcareblue-mountains.org.au or call **4780 5623**.



Blue Mountains Housing Study

Council is calling for expressions of interest from residents to participate in focus groups in February /March on the subject of housing in the City. For further information and to register visit bluemountainshaveyoursay/housingstudy or contact rwalker@bmcc.nsw.gov.au or call **4780 5726**.



Saturday 23 February 2019

A FREE **Child Restraint Checking Day** will be held at United Cinemas - The Edge, underground carpark, Katoomba, from 9am to 1pm. These checking days are very popular and book out very quickly. To book call **4780 5000**.

More information at childcarseats.com.au.



Plan for HSC 2019 and beyond – March 2019

Demystify the HSC with Blue Mountains Library. This program is designed to assist students in Years 11 & 12 to plan for their study and their future. Experts will answer tricky questions and students can explore further education pathways.

Date TBC for further info library.bmcc.nsw.gov.au.



Blue Mountains Cultural Centre

Silver Jewellery Making: A pendant in a day. February 2, 10am – 3.30pm. Learn and practice various techniques to create your own unique silver pendant. No experience required. All materials and tools included. \$160 / \$150 Insight members. bluemountainculturalcentre.com.au.



Blue Mountains Theatre

Big. Bold. Brilliant! 2019 is shaping up to be an incredible year for entertainment. Laugh with Arj Barker - 8 March. Enjoy celtic folk-rock group Mánran - 13 April. Join Marina Prior & David Hobson - 4 May. And prepare to be wowed by the Tap Pack - 10 May. [Go to bluemountainstheatre.com.au](http://bluemountainstheatre.com.au).

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Telephone

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