

MAINTAINING WATERCOURSES

Let's talk about waterways in Wollondilly Shire! We have many creeks and rivers that are important homes to unique plants and animals such as the Camden White Gum, Platypus and Kingfishers. Maintaining the health of these waterways – including creek banks and water quality – is a shared responsibility.

Council owned land

Wollondilly Shire Council has a maintenance program in place to look after watercourses including creeks, wetlands, storm water drains and drainage pipes on Council owned land. This maintenance program is in place to make sure suitable repairs are made and includes annual weed control and vegetation maintenance program to improve bank stability and biodiversity

Private property

Many streams, creeks and rivers across the Wollondilly Shire are on private property. Maintenance of these watercourses is the responsibility of the land owner.

If a watercourse is part of a legally created easement, it will usually be up to whoever has the benefit of the easement to maintain that part of the watercourse.

Other Lands

There are also a range of streams, creeks and rivers across the Wollondilly Shire that occur on Crown Lands, Sydney water and Water NSW, drinking water catchment and National Parks property. Each of these organisations also undertake a range of maintenance activities to care for these waterways.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What can I do to improve the watercourse on my property?

Council can provide further guidance and support for residents who want to improve the creek bank vegetation, remove weeds and prevent erosion - all of which will lead to more attractive and healthier waterways and improve biodiversity.

Council can assist by providing advice on creek bank management and can provide native tube stock species tailored to your property's needs.

Can Council carry out work on watercourses on private property?

No. Council is unable to perform any work on watercourses that are on private property or easements that have no value to Council.

Do I need approval to carry out work on watercourses?

Yes. You will generally need approval from Council and possibly other government agencies for work that involves removing trees, excavation, scour protection, bank stabilisation, or where there are threatened plant or animal species present.

Where can I get further information?

- If you need advice on the maintenance of watercourses, please contact Council's Community Nursery for further information - nursery@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au or call us on 4677 1100.
- If you need advice on approvals for works on watercourses, please contact Council's Duty Planner for further information - email council@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au or call us on 4677 1100.
- If you need advice on flooding associated with watercourses, please contact Council for further information - email council@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au or call us on 4677 1100.