



Restoring native fish to a cleaner Parramatta River

What you can do

Clean waterways and the return of native fish are just two of the objectives of Parramatta City Council's "Rivers of Opportunity" strategy. This strategy is being conducted in partnership with Clean Up Australia's Clean Water Campaign to restore the health of the Parramatta River. We are working together to encourage people to fish carp out of the river to help native fish such as Bass to return.

1. Take action

Fish carp out of the river

- Keep fishing for carp and remove them from the river
- Don't throw live or dead carp back into the river when fishing
- Use bait recommended by your local tackle shop including soft and hard lures not live carp
- Don't put koi carp from your fish pond or tank into any creeks or rivers
- Take part in Clean Up Australia's "Carp Busters" Campaign.

For further information see the NSW Department of Primary Industries recreational fishing guide, available on <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/recreational/regulations>

A guide to general fishing code of conduct can be found at: <http://www.daff.gov.au/fisheries/legal-arrangements/code-conduct>



Join your local fishing club

Fishing is a great pastime and there are plenty of clubs in the area you can join:

Check the Sportsfish web site for a club near you
<http://www.sportsfish.com.au/directory/fishing-clubs/new-south-wales.html>

Bass Sydney, a club dedicated to the conservation of Australian Bass
www.basssydney.com

Seven Hills/Toongabbie RSL Fishing Club, cnr. Best Rd & William St Seven Hills 2147 Ph: (02) 9622-2800
www.sevenhillsrsl.com.au

Become a Fishcare volunteer

Talk to anglers about fishing rules and responsible fishing.

Help with a range of activities, including fishing clinics, catch surveys and community fishing events.
The NSW Department of Primary

Did you know?

Carp:

- Are native to central Asia. ¹
- Are now the most common fish in Australia's rivers, making up 90% of the weight of all fish. ¹
- Can lay one million eggs a year and live for 20 years. ²
- Can tolerate degraded river conditions, which is dangerous to native fish. ³
- Have a negative affect on native fish populations. ¹
- It is illegal to stock carp into creek, rivers or lakes in NSW and fines of up to \$11,000 apply. ¹

Carp Busters

The Carp Fish-out on the Parramatta River has been inspired by the work of the Social Fishing Club at Rathdowney Hotel in central Queensland; the original Carp Busters. See <http://www.cleanup.com.au/au/Campaigns/carpbusters.html>



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What you can do

2. Join a group working to clean up your local environment

Clean Up Australia Day

- Clean Up Australia Day is held on the first Sunday in March.
- Join local groups at Parramatta Park, Prince Alfred Park and Lake Parramatta.
- Visit the Clean Up Australia website www.cleanup.org.au to register a site, or register as a volunteer.

Become a Bushcare Volunteer

- Help rehabilitate the local bush, river and creek banks by removing weeds and replanting
- Improve fish habitats
- Groups run at Duck River, Ponds/Subiaco Creek, Vineyard Creek and the Parramatta River foreshore.
- Log on to find out how you can become a volunteer:
http://www.parracity.nsw.gov.au/environment/bushcare_bulletin
- Contact Erin Hall, Parramatta City Council, Bushcare Coordinator on 9806 5722 or ehall@parracity.nsw.gov.au to find out which is the best local group for you.

3. What can you do in your backyard to make a difference to the river?

Keep detergent out of the river

- Do not wash your car in the street as detergent will run into the stormwater drains and eventually the river. Fish don't like detergents so take your car to a car wash.

Keep paint, oils and other wastes out of stormwater drains

- Paint, pesticides, herbicides, solvents, household cleaners, motor oils, fuels, batteries, gas bottles, fire extinguishers, pool and hobby chemicals can be disposed of using the Chemicals Disposal Service provided by the Council. Visit the Clean Out website, www.cleanout.com.au or contact the Clean Out Info Hotline on 1300 787 870.

Remember to throw take away food containers, drink cans and bottles in the bin and not in the River!

Support the reuse of carp

Buy Charlie Carp All Purpose Plant Fertiliser made from carp. Charlie Carp is ideal for vegetable gardens, shrubs including natives, seedlings and lawns. www.charliecarp.com

Learn more about clean waterways

Contact Parramatta City Council's Clean Waterways Program 9806 5000

References

Further information on carp and native fish:

- 1) Carp – NSW DPI
<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/pests-diseases/freshwater-pests/species/carp>
- 2) Queensland Murray-Darling Committee
http://www.regionalnrm.qld.gov.au/about_new/news_events_publications/news/vor/2009_may/gmdc4.html
- 3) Carp Villian or Victim
<http://publication.mdbc.gov.au/download/MDBC%208875%20Carp%20Villian%20or%20Victim.pdf>