



Biodiversity in Randwick City

Biodiversity refers to the variety of life, including all plants, animals, microorganisms and the ecosystems of which they are part.

Biodiversity is what makes human life on earth possible, providing us with many services we depend on, including clean air, water, productive soils and the recycling of organic matter. It also provides the local community with places of recreational, cultural and scientific value.

Maintaining biodiversity is imperative to the health and wellbeing of current and future generations. In Randwick City, less than 7 per cent of original bushland remains, much of which is present in Malabar Headland and Kamay-Botany National Parks.

The remaining pockets consist of smaller fragments that are constantly under threat from human activities, including weed infestation, feral animals, vandalism, erosion, trampling and land clearing.



What is Council doing to protect local biodiversity?

Since 1991, Randwick City Council has provided funds for a bushland program overseen by the Bushland Management Unit, whose primary function is to protect and preserve the biodiversity values of our remaining bushland areas.

On the ground, work is carried out across all bushland sites on a regular basis by specialist bush regeneration contractors as well as volunteers as part of Council's Bushcare program. The aim is to restore bushland from a weed-infested or otherwise degraded plant community to a healthy community composed of plants that are indigenous to the area.

Protecting our remaining bushland is important because it can be the last stronghold for threatened animals, plants and plant communities. These areas provide food and shelter for a variety of native animals including birds, lizards and frogs.

What can you do to protect local biodiversity?

- Be a responsible pet owner - keep cats inside at night, clean up after your dog, microchip, desex and register your pets.
- Undertake natural pest control in your garden and don't use chemical fertilisers.

- Prevent the spread of weeds and garden plants into neighbouring bushland.
- Plant local native plant species at home (available from Council's Indigenous plant nursery).
- Refrain from dumping garden waste and illegal tree vandalism.
- Report any suspicious behaviour to Council.

What services does Council offer?

Council is here to help. Get in touch and work with Council to protect biodiversity.

- Become a Bushcare volunteer at one of your local reserves.
- Get involved in the Native Havens program to create a wildlife habitat in your own garden.
- Take advantage of the free rubbish clean-up services Council offers each year (one scheduled and several booked collections). There is no reason to dump rubbish.
- Take your e-waste, polystyrene, soft plastics, chemicals, clothing, white goods and metal to the Randwick Recycling Centre in Matraville.
- Drop your extra green waste at the Randwick Recycling Centre on Saturdays from 8am-11am.

How to get involved

Contact Council on **1300 722 542**, email council@randwick.nsw.gov.au or to book a clean-up, fill out the appropriate online form through Council's website at randwick.nsw.gov.au