



SHIRE OF

Capel Snippets

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Welcome to another month of Capel Snippets aimed at keeping the community informed. Previous editions are available from our website.

There are many times when the Shire will actively seek public comment on a range of topics, a few recent ones include the Emergency Management Plan, and the Capel and Boyanup Townsite Strategies. Your comments are valued and enable sound decision making by Council. Too often residents miss these opportunities and it isn't until the bulldozers start up or the development commences that concerns are expressed, so we really do urge you to take the time to submit your views.

The Shire's community development team have once again excelled at facilitating a fantastic school holiday program, painting of the skate park and the youth event "EscapED". Sue does an incredible job at making sure the school holiday programs are exciting and different and it is to her credit that each event is filled on registration day. To Ashlee, Ross, Kye and Shannen and the many volunteers that were involved and worked with Sue on the development and delivery of the Youth event, well done. Congratulations to Donna and local skaters Dylan, Branxston, Bronte, Aaron, Jay, Lou and Sam who worked with artists Dan & Daz painting the skate park which has added vibrancy to the park in Capel. It is fantastic to see Young People being involved in what is happening in their community and I congratulate you all.

Paul Sheedy - Chief Executive Officer

Drinking Water

Council staff have conducted tests on various sources of drinking water for people who are not connected to scheme water, these sources have been rainwater tanks, bores and dams. The tests have shown that a large proportion of the drinking water samples have a low pH level, in some cases down to 4.5; normal drinking water should have a level around 6.5. A low pH level in water can lead to problems with a water supply such as leaching of copper from copper water pipes; and Bore water that has a low pH may contain metals other than copper such as arsenic or aluminium. There are simple ways to increase pH level of water for example the annual addition of sodium bicarbonate to a rainwater tank will raise the pH. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Council staff.

Beware The Mozzies!

Winter is coming and that means an increase in the number of mosquitoes and an increased threat of Ross River Virus and Barmah Forest Virus. Council will once again be targeting the major breeding areas in the shire. However it is important for people to take personal protection measures to reduce the risk of disease.

- Try to avoid times when mosquitoes are most active, dawn & dusk;
- Cover up with long, loose fitting and preferably light coloured clothing, (moszies can bite through clothing that is tight against the skin, even denim jeans).

When outdoors always use an effective mosquito repellent. The most effective ones contain either DEET at between 5 to 20% or Picaridin. Remember not all mosquito breeding takes place in wetlands. They can also breed in a variety of

domestic situations and only need a week in a small amount of standing water to breed for example:

- Roof gutters, pot plant drip trays, animal drinking containers and bird baths which all should be drained at least once a week.
- Septic tanks & Leach drains should be completely sealed and check that vent pipes are fitted with a mosquito proof screen.
- Rain water tanks should be sealed. Information brochures on rainwater tanks available from Council.

Remember to regularly check your garden to make sure you're not breeding the mosquito that will come back and bite you!



Proposals

Available for Comment

Details of the proposals are available for inspection at the Council Office, and some are also available from the Shire's website www.capel.wa.gov.au.

SCHEME AMENDMENT

TOWN PLANNING SCHEME NO. 7 – AMENDMENT NO. 41

The Shire of Capel has prepared the abovementioned Scheme Amendment for the purpose of:

1. Amending the scheme by deleting the R2.5 density code from Lot 19 Weld Road, Capel and applying the codes R25 and R30.
2. Amending the Scheme Map by including portion of the land within the Recreation Reserve and adding a portion to the Foreshore Protection Zone.

Submissions on the Scheme Amendment should be made in writing on Form No. 4 and lodged with the Shire of Capel on or before Monday 9th June, 2008.

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

Council has received an application to consider a Draft Outline Development Plan which sets out guidelines for development of lots 104 and Part Lot 16 Bussell Highway Gelorup consisting of a fast food outlet, tourism service centre and redevelopment of the existing Caltex service station.

Submissions on the Plan should be submitted in writing and lodged with the Shire of Capel, PO Box 369, Capel WA 6271 on or before 5 June 2008.

Plan for the Future

A plan of major works such as roads, rubbish, recreation and rates has been released for public comment.

This Plan provides an outline of the possible expenditure and funding streams for these works over the next four financial years. It provides a financial road map of the main items that are expected to be included in Council's annual budgets.

The Plan includes major proposed projects such as the new multi purpose sports pavilions at Capel and Boyanup, playgrounds in Capel and Boyanup, various recreation and other facilities in Dalyellup, the Capel waste transfer station, the possible redevelopment of the Shire's administration offices as well as road and civil works for future years. Details of funding sources including loans, grants and rates are included along with an expectation of likely future rate increases.

Although politically unpalatable rate increases are unfortunately inevitable to meet the costs associated with delivering services to a rapidly growing Shire. Such costs include the general increased cost of labour, materials and contracts, additional loan repayments for the expanding borrowing program and new employees to meet the demand for services.

Copies of the Plan are available on the Shire's website and at libraries and the administration office.

Written comments or submissions relating to this Plan are invited to be sent to the Shire and will be received up to 4.00pm on Friday 23rd May.

Submit Your Comments !

The GreenSpace!

Welcome to 'The GreenSpace', the newest addition to Capel Snippets which provides regular articles and information regarding all things environmental.

This month we want to give you some handy hints on ways to minimise impact on our waterways by protecting our drains from household contaminants.

Hints to improve Stormwater quality

- Apply environmentally friendly fertilizer to lawn and garden
- Wash detergents and chemicals on the lawn or soil instead of down the drain.
- Wash cars and out door equipment on lawns
- Rinse paint brushes on lawn or soil if water based. If oil based dispose of paint when dry into a rubbish bin.
- Dispose of garden waste thoughtfully. Rotting leaves increase nutrient pollution.
- Sweep leaves off paths and driveways – Better exercise and less water.
- Manage septic tank pumps when they start to smell, as polluted water can leach out of tanks and into groundwater and rivers.
- Correctly dispose of cigarette butts and other litter. Do not let it wash down the drains.
- While landscaping and performing earthworks, prevent soil and other material being washed away.
- Pick up dog droppings. Do not let them pollute the stormwater.

Reduce your Stormwater Footprint!