

TOSSERS

Following a couple of articles appearing in the Berry Town Crier recently we have received quite a few approaches from Berry residents who are upset about the ongoing inappropriate use of Council bins in parks and public spaces resulting in overflowing and mess being generated.

Here is an excerpt from one letter which puts it very well.

"RE: Council garbage bins located at local parks and reserves in Berry.

Details of what is on the sticker on the garbage bins:

S632 Local Government Act 1993

STOP

If you are about to put waste that is generated in a domestic or commercial place into this bin, you are committing an offence against the Local Government Act.

The placing of the following waste types in this bin is PROHIBITED

* domestic waste generated at a domicile residence or

* waste generated from a commercial premises

Rangers Patrolling at all times

Offenders will be prosecuted

Penalties exceed \$100

**By Order General Manager
Shoalhaven City Council**

It is hard to believe that in this day and age, with the education and knowledge of recycling and the importance of conserving our environment, that some inconsiderate, lazy people are still taking up space in local SCC public rubbish bins. Even after the new stickers were placed on these bins.

I regularly exercise at the local parks that have these garbage bins. After months and months of observation I am compelled to write this to hopefully shame these 'tossers' into doing the right thing.

My frustrations first came up when, at the Camp Quality Park, one of the garbage bins was constantly overflowing - with what was obviously household rubbish, and many bags of it.

A few months later one of the new SCC penalty stickers was placed on the bin, at the same time an additional bin was added to the existing one, (more room for locals to dump household rubbish).

Needless to say both bins became constantly full and overflowing. I then began observing other bins. I've even gone to the effort of looking in the rubbish content, and to my dumbfoundment and extreme frustration, all the rubbish has been household.

From seeing through the plastic bags it has

been obvious that a lot of the rubbish content is recyclable matter. These bags of rubbish are often even separated into bags of rubbish and bags of recycling. HUH?!

Don't get me wrong I do understand the issues of the local people who do not have the luxury of curb side rubbish collection. The Shoalhaven City Council rubbish trucks do not service the outer areas of Berry, Woodhill Mt, Berry Mt. etc. These residents have the benefit of paying a lower rate amount because they have no rubbish collection. So these people living in these areas must take their rubbish to the local tip once accumulated. Tip visit \$6. Also there is the recycle centre out the back car park, behind the butchers.

Maybe those tossers could take their pre-bagged recycling to this station?!

Having lived in the Berry Mountains, previously for three years, I understand the inconvenience of not being able to just wheel your bin up to the road. We had to have three black bins, two for recycling and one for rubbish. Once they were full we'd load up the car and off to the tip, usually once a fortnight. And I believe for the privilege of living in some of Berry's beautiful hideaways, I don't think it is too much to ask to just take your rubbish to the tip.

Having lived in Berry for over twenty years, noticing the changes in environment, river flows, effects of tourism, I am very conscious of doing all the things I can do to conserve Berry's beauty. Being a concerned citizen is one of the things I can do. So I urge the tossers to please do the right thing. Yeah I hear you say "but the rubbish we dump in local bins gets to the tip eventually anyway".

Sure fair enough. But the least you can do is take your recycling to the station in Berry... hey even leave it in the plastic bags, I'll go down and separate it for you!! And that additional rubbish matter (mostly being recyclable), in your garbage bags, takes up a whole lot more land fill than necessary.

We all need to do our best to ensure the future beauty of Berry. Thank you.

Concerned Citizen, who will still be observing the bins.î

Editors Note: The Berry Alliance has been involved in a number of meetings and exchanges of letters concerning the garbage issue in our community.

We have learnt and passed on:


The fact that there will soon be rangers and inspectors investigating illegal use of garbage bins and imposing fines.

Council are considering moving the garbage bins to other locations that are not too easy to drive to as the majority of illegal use is by drivers pulling up right next to the bins;

Council will consider any location for garbage collection as long as the garbage truck can make it up and down the road and there are a few residents willing to pay the additional rates for the service. Just approach council.

Following recent approaches to the Alliance we have now written to Council requesting that recycling bins (yellow tops) be placed in public areas alongside the normal collection service to make it easier for people to sort and recycle their garbage whether they are dumping illegally or not..we will let you know the result.

Rick Gainford, Editor

<p>Worship Service Times 9.30am 6.00pm</p> <p>MOPS (Mothers of Pre Schoolers)</p> <p>YOUTH GROUP KIDZ CHURCH</p> <p>HOME GROUPS</p>  <p>Baptist Union of N.S.W.</p>	<p>Berry Community Church</p> <p><i>Choosing Life</i></p> <p>Rev Peter Clegg 4464 2128 All Welcome 34 Alexandra St.</p>
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