

BE WATER WISE THIS SUMMER

With the summer months nearly here, NIRC will be encouraging residents, business owners, community groups and visitors to be more aware of their water usage through an ongoing Water Wise campaign.

Our island home is a beautiful place, but local conditions and our remote location means that water is a limited resource on Norfolk Island. We are heavily reliant on rainwater tanks and ground water storage, and extended dry spells in the weather can quickly impact on our water supplies.

Small changes in our behaviour and attitude can make a big difference to our community's water consumption and make life easier when drought does hit Norfolk.

Try these water saving tips to reduce water usage:

- Limit yourself to one shower a day. Encourage the family to take short showers.
- Turn off the shower while you soap yourself down or shampoo hair, and back on again for a final rinse off.
- Turn the tap off while you brush your teeth. Just wet your toothbrush before you begin and use a glass of water to rinse your mouth.
- Collect water during your shower to be used to water gardens or for soaking soiled clothing.
- Divert grey water from your washing machine to use on your gardens (don't do this if you use harsh chemicals, such as bleach).



Is your household
WATER WISE?



- When buying new household items, look for water efficiency ratings and water efficient shower heads and taps. Fix any leaks in your plumbing – make sure taps and pipes are in good order.
- Maximise rainfall roof catchment by fixing leaky gutters and connecting all downpipes to water storage.
- Mulch vegetable gardens to reduce moisture loss and prevent weeds. Lawn clippings and leaf litter are a great, free mulch and NIRC currently has free woodchip available to the community.
- Water gardens in the early morning or evening to reduce water loss through evaporation.
- Water gardens deeply, but less often, to encourage strong deep roots.
- If rain is forecast set up additional rainwater catchments around your property – old bathtubs, buckets, and so on, then use this water to water your gardens.

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IN THIS EDITION

- Are you cyclone-ready?

- Citizen scientists needed this December
- Current tenders



COUNCIL TO TRANSITION TO NORFOLK ISLAND ASSEMBLY WITH SUPPORT OF EXTENDED ADMINISTRATION

The Commonwealth Government has announced that Norfolk Island Regional Council will transition to a bespoke form of local government, the Norfolk Island Assembly, to be established and operating by the end of 2025.

Interim changes to the period of council administration will take effect from 5 December this year.

Mr Mike Colreavy will see through the end of his appointment to 5 December 2024 and will be replaced by a Lead Administrator and a Financial Administrator, as announced by the Minister for Territories, The Hon Kristy McBain MP, last Wednesday.

The incoming administrators are Mr Scott Mason (Lead Administrator) and Mr Gary Mottau (Financial Administrator), who will support the transition of Norfolk Island Regional Council to the Norfolk Island Assembly.

Scott has had an extensive career in local government in Queensland, with over thirty years of experience, including in CEO positions and in strategic consultancy roles, to numerous councils.

Leading several local government organisations located in regional and remote areas, Scott has effected successful corporate, operational and change management strategies to improve councils' financial and administrative standing.

His understanding of the challenges that are faced by geographically isolated communities will assist in his new role.

Gary Mottau has been an independent member of the Norfolk Island Audit, Risk and Improvements Committee (ARIC), the group tasked with providing independent oversight and objective monitoring of risk management, control, governance and external accountability responsibilities, since 2021.

An experienced Chief Finance and Information Officer during his forty-year working life, Gary is a retired chartered accountant and certified local government auditor, bringing skills from both the local government and corporate sectors, including not-for-profit and superannuation.

Mike Colreavy will administer the final Ordinary Council Meeting for 2024, to be held on Wednesday 4 December. Norfolk Island Regional Council sincerely thanks Mr Colreavy for his time and responsiveness in leading the governing body of Council through a period of significant change.

Both Scott and Gary will visit Norfolk Island to observe the December Council meeting and will formally commence their roles on 6 December 2024.

Water Wise *from page 1*

- Avoid washing your car unless it is absolutely necessary. If you must wash your car, use a bucket and sponge, rather than the hose.
- Consider using dry washing products for cleaning your car.

Drought conditions can impact on water health

As rainwater tank supplies are depleted and bore water usage increases, the possibility of poor water quality may also increase, and that has the potential to impact human health.

If you are topping up the tank with bore or creek water, it is wise to boil your water for at least one minute before drinking. Over the counter chemicals can be used to treat bacterial contamination in your water supply.

Alternatively, consider installing a UV system at your place, as it is a good way to treat water without the addition or handling of chemicals.

Check any filter you may have on your system and replace it if it is no longer effective. You may want to consider having your bore water professionally tested to ensure it is safe to drink.



EMNI REMINDER

Emergency Management Norfolk Island and Norfolk Island Regional Council would like to remind the community that now is the time to prepare their homes during cyclone season.

Cyclone season generally runs from November through to April, however cyclones can form outside those months. Prior to cyclone season and before a warning is issued by the Bureau of Meteorology, it's important to take the time to prepare your home.

Things you can do now to help safeguard your property include:

- check over the outside of your house, sheds and outbuildings;
- keep gutters and downpipes clear of leaves and blockages;
- trim any trees and branches well clear of your house;
- clear your yard of loose material that could blow about and cause injury and damage in severe winds;
- have a plan for the safety of your pets;
- prepare an emergency kit containing for example portable battery radio, torch with spare batteries, matches, water bottles, dried or canned food, first aid kit and masking tape for windows and a list of emergency phone and contact details.

For more information on cyclone preparation and safety procedures, you can refer to the [Emergency Management](#) page on Council's website.

**Is your household
WATER WISE?
DRY WASH YOUR CAR**

- You'll need dry wash spray and a microfibre cloth
- Park the car in a shaded spot
- Spray the dry wash product on and follow directions to wipe off and buff the surface
- Alternatively, use two buckets of soapy water to hand wash your car with a mitt or sponge
- Rinse using one bucket of clean water and wipe dry with a microfibre towel



CALLING ALL CITIZEN SCIENTISTS - HOW YOU CAN HELP THE NORFOLK ISLAND GREEN PARROT

The community has a rare opportunity to play citizen scientist next month as part of the Norfolk Island Green Parrot census.

The Threatened Species Conservancy (TSC), with support from NIRC and the Norfolk Island National Park, will conduct the population census outside of the National Park area, focusing on the public and private land areas of the island.

This will be the first time such a census has been held outside of the National Park and will provide valuable data about one of our native fauna species.

Abi Smith and Mitch Burrows from TSC will lead the project, which will see volunteers trained up to participate in an important research activity for the island.

The survey will be conducted from Saturday 14 December through to Saturday 21 December, from sunrise to around 12 pm each day. Volunteers do not need to commit to every day, just as many as they are willing to participate in.

The criteria for becoming a citizen scientist in one of the world's most unique ecosystems is simple. You should consider joining the project if you:

- are interested in being trained as a volunteer citizen scientist and are willing to participate in the green parrot population census;

- are willing to have Abi and Mitch, accompanied by volunteer citizen scientists, access your land to conduct surveys for the green parrot, and/or;
- see green parrots on your property.

A community information hosted by TSC, NINP and NIRC will be held at 5pm on Saturday 14 December at the Knowledge and Learning Centre, 70/72 Taylors Rd. The session will include a 20-minute presentation on the project, followed by a Q&A afterwards.

Volunteers who participate will be trained as citizen scientists in a fixed-point survey method, where all green parrots (and any other birds) seen or heard within a 30m radius of a point will be identified and counted (as best as one can) over a 10-minute period.

Surveys will be conducted at 100 random survey points across the private and public land tenure areas, but only where permission is expressly given. The goal is to conduct all 100 surveys between 14 and 21 December 2024, with future surveys planned to inform long-term population trends of the Norfolk Island Green Parrot.

For further information, contact Mitch Burrows on mitch.burrows@tsconservancy.org.

INFRASTRUCTURE NEWS

YOUNG'S QUARRY UPDATE

Following the successful blasting of rock at Young's Quarry in August, NIRC has taken the next steps toward making the material usable and removing it to more appropriate locations.

Considering the significant safety and logistical issues involved, Council officers have now completed the Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) for the safe removal and crushing of the rock resulting from the blast.

The next step will be to seek competitive bids from on-Island firms which demonstrate their capacity to undertake the work.

Bidding documents will be issued and made available on Council's website next month with work planned to commence first thing in the new year.

Interested companies should check the [Tenders and EOI's webpage](#) and keep an eye on our facebook page for advice when the bidding documents have been released.



TRUCK-MOUNTED EWP TENDER CLOSING SOON

Potential tenderers for the supply of a truck-mounted equipment are reminded that submissions close in the first week of December.

NIRC is inviting suitably qualified on-island suppliers to submit a Tender Response to Supply a Truck Mounted Elevating Work Platform (EWP) ITT-12/2024 in accordance with the Invitation to Tender Documentation.

Documentation and instructions about the submission process can be viewed on Council's [Tenders and EOI's webpage](#).

Tenders close at 2:00pm on Tuesday 3 December 2024.



EOI - ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Road Safety Committee (RSC) is seeking expressions of interest (EOI) from members of the Norfolk Island community to assist the committee to carry out its functions.

The Traffic Act 2010 (NI) (the Act) provides for the establishment of a Road Safety Committee, two members of which will be community members.

The committee is now seeking applicants with suitable knowledge, qualifications and experience to fill one (1) community member vacancy.

The Act provides that the Committee shall meet regularly and shall, amongst other things, have the power to inquire into and make recommendations to the Chief Executive Officer in relation to changes to the Act or the Regulations which would make the Act more effective in regulating road traffic for the purpose of improving road safety for persons in Norfolk Island.

Applicant requirements

Applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Knowledge, experience and qualifications related to road safety and traffic regulations involving the use of motor vehicles would be highly desirable.
- Live within the Norfolk Island local government area.
- Evidence of professional and ethical standards of behaviour, including team participation, sound judgment, ability to interpret information, and relate effectively with community and a range of stakeholders.
- A willingness and demonstrated ability to devote time and energy to the role and represent the interests of the Norfolk Island community.

Application process

An EOI application should include:

- A written application of no more than two pages addressing why you would like to serve on the Road Safety Committee, how you think your skills, attributes and/or experience align to the above criteria;
- A current copy of your curriculum vitae (CV) or a brief overview of your experience and qualifications (one to two pages);
- Names and contact details of two referees.

To submit an EOI for this role, please email your application to customercare@nirc.gov.nf by no later than close of business on Monday, 16 December 2024.

For any further information regarding this EOI, please contact Katie Walden, Registrar of Motor Vehicles, Norfolk Island Regional Council on +6723 22001.



COMMERCIAL WEIGHING AND CALIBRATION SERVICE AVAILABLE ON ISLAND IN DECEMBER

Norfolk Island business that rely on accurate weighing equipment have the opportunity to have their scales, large and small, tested or serviced on-island.

GC Weighing and Calibration will be on Norfolk next month to service and calibrate the weighbridge, and while they are here will be available to any island business to service or calibrate their commercial weighing equipment, across all uses and industries, from the largest capacity weighbridges down to small laboratory balances.

If your business relies on the accuracy of scales, this is an opportunity to have them serviced by an experienced, specialist company. It's anticipated that they will be on Norfolk around mid-December.

To make a booking or enquiry, contact Allan McConnell at allan.mcconnell@nirc.gov.nf or 50884 or contact Craig Holman directly at GC Weighing and Calibrations by email on craig@gcweigh.com.au or by phoning Australian mobile 0474 304 050.



WE'RE HIRING



Are you an all-rounder with strong admin experience, high level communication skills and a calm, can-do approach to work?

NIRC is recruiting for a **SECRETARIAL SUPPORT** role for EMNI for a period of three months on a casual basis. In this position you will provide support to the Controller and assist in the coordination and management of NI Emergency Management Services, through a wide range of administrative, communication and engagement tasks.

Applications close Wednesday 11 December 2024. For full details of this vacancy, head to our [Working for Council on our website](#)

Norfolk Telecom Prepaid Mobile Data Plans Update

\$30 FOR 8GB IWI TORK <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8GB of data 200 minutes of local calls 200 local SMS 	\$45 FOR 15GB LORNG TORK <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15GB of data 300 minutes of local calls 300 local SMS 90 minutes of calls to any AUS/NZ mobile or landline
\$80 FOR 20GB KAA DANA TORK <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20GB of data Unlimited local calls Unlimited local SMS 120 minutes of calls to any AUS/NZ mobile or landline 	\$30 FOR 5GB TOURIST PLAN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5GB of data 60 minutes of local calls 60 minutes of calls to any AUS/NZ mobile or landline 25 local SMS

RESIDENT PLAN ADD-ONS

\$20 DATA	\$30 DATA	\$50 DATA	\$10 IDD (AUS/NZ)	\$50 IDD (AUS/NZ)	\$10 LOCAL
4GB	8GB	16GB	30 IDD MINS	150 IDD MINS	60 MINS LOCAL CALLS + 60 LOCAL SMS

TOURIST PLAN ADD-ONS

\$20 DATA	\$10 IDD (AUS/NZ)
4GB	30 IDD MINS

NOTE:
Resident bundles are valid for 30 days
Tourist bundles are valid for 21 days

For more information go to www.norfolk.net.au/easys/mobile/
 IDD = International Direct Dialling



TOURISM NEWS

Watawieh yorlyi and welcome to all our visitors

WINNERS ARE GRINNERS

What a lovely experience to have met Pepa Caceres and Gemma Panader, pictured bottom right, who were the successful bidders to win a holiday to Norfolk Island at the charity Dream Ball in May 2024, a key fundraiser for Look Good Feel Better, an organisation dedicated to improving the appearance, confidence and self-esteem of people undergoing cancer treatment.

Event organiser Nicole Jervis said that over four hundred Dream Ball guests came together to share an incredible night of fun and positivity.

Kerri-Anne Kennerley, not for the first time, took the reins as Master of Ceremonies, while past program participant, Pam, shared her experience of how the Look Good Feel Better program uplifted her through two cancer diagnoses.

The generous donations of supporters allowed the charity to raise \$320,000. These crucial funds will support 3,200 cancer patients across the country at a time when they need it most.

Look Good Feel Better exists to connect a community of people living a shared experience, empowering them to regain control, confidence, and a sense of self.

A shout out to the generosity of **Aloha Hibiscus** for the apartment and to **Simons Water Rentals** for the supplied car - your support is greatly appreciated.

NORFOLK ISLAND TOURISM WEBSITE

In the coming months, updates will be implemented on norfolkisland.com.au, including new content, information, and images.

If your business is featured in the Book Easy system, please verify your images - the more amazing the better - and confirm your details are accurate as well.

We will share a timeline with relevant businesses soon.

NORFOLK ISLAND IN THE NEWS

Island Time is a tourism industry publications distributed to some 20,000 industry contacts in New Zealand and Australia. Norfolk Island Tourism will provide content for the Summer issue and editor, Fran McDermott, is offering great rates for local operators.

Local tourism operators have been contacted about this opportunity, and we encourage local tourism business to contact Fran direct by emailing her on fran@islandtime.co.nz.

Browse our latest issues

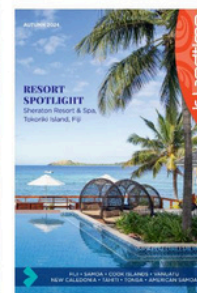
Islandtime Magazine is the only trade publication in New Zealand and Australia that's dedicated to Pacific travel. In each issue, we feature a variety of island destinations, provide updates and news from all around the region and talk to the people that are shaping travel in this wonderful part of the world.



CLICK TO READ - SPRING 2025



CLICK TO READ - WINTER 2024



CLICK TO READ - AUTUMN 2024



NORFOLK NATIVES - DIANELLA

There are 182 recognised native plant species, of which about 25% are endemic, and at least a further 430 naturalised species on the Norfolk Island group. Find out more [here](#).

Dianella intermedia

Common Names: *Flax lily*

Family: *Asphodelaceae*

Status

Native

Description

A small, clumping, flax-like plant growing to approx. 2ft in height. Leaves are long, dark green and glossy with slightly serrated edges. Leaf edges at the base of the plant are edged with an orange/red colour. Delicate clusters of white flowers with yellow stamens emerge on a central stem. After pollination these develop into clumps of green berries that ripen to a deep, glossy violet blue colour.

Distribution

Island wide

Growing conditions

Grows well in most conditions. Is a popular addition to gardens or used for edging. Often found growing in clumps of ungrazed forest or where the forest meets grassland.

Propagation

Seeds germinate easily at home. Collect ripe seeds, remove flesh and sow. Also grows from pups. Separating existing clumps of *Dianella* can result in many plants.

Look-alikes

There are several species of *Dianella* across the southern hemisphere. It is thought that we share our species, *Dianella intermedia*, with Lord Howe Island, making it endemic to our bioregion. However, it may be endemic to Norfolk Island only.



WEED WATCH - MADEIRA VINE

Madeira vine (*Anredera cordifolia*) is a vigorous climber that can produce thousands of aerial tubers along its stem. It is a serious environmental invasive plant that can degrade intact native forests, smothering other vegetation including the canopy of tall trees.

Common names: Madeira Vine, Bridal Wreath, Jalap, Jolop Potato Vine, Lamb's Tail, Potato Vine. Family Basellaceae

Description

South America A vigorous climbing vine with slightly fleshy, heart shaped, leaves (2-15cm long) that alternate their way up the stem. Stems are green or reddish when young, adopting a more rope-like appearance as they mature and capable of climbing over 30m into the canopy. Aerial tubers, grey/brown in colour, grow along the length of the vines, normally about 2-3cm in length but sometimes growing in clusters larger than a fist. Flowers are tiny, white/cream and fragrant. They appear in late Summer/early Autumn on drooping flower spikes up to 30cm long.

How does it spread?

Viable seeds aren't often produced however the vine grows thousands of aerial tubers that drop at the slightest disturbance. There can be up to 1500 fallen aerial tubers per square metre under dense infestation. These tubers are extremely fragile and can easily be broken into small pieces, all of which are capable of growing and reproducing. They also spread by tuberous roots and creeping underground stems.

Why is it an issue?

Madeira Vine is an extremely vigorous and invasive species, capable of growing 1m per week. It will quickly smother entire areas of native forest, creating impenetrable walls that greatly reduce biodiversity and habitat. Its ability to lie dormant for so many years make it a weed that is not easily beaten and requires years of follow up treatment.

Where are you likely to find it?

Madeira Vine currently occurs in valleys in the 100 Acre and Headstone area. It has also been found in multiple valleys across Norfolk. It could easily establish itself across the island if tubers or stems were moved intentionally or accidentally from these areas.

How can I control it?

- Hand pulling and digging of tubers for small and immature infestations. This must be followed up with monitoring and treatment as necessary. All plant material should be bagged with extreme caution and left to rot COMPLETELY. Alternatively, moved with extreme caution to the Waste Management Centre to be HOT composted.
- Scrape and paint - Mix 2L Glyphosate to 2L of water and add 15g Metsulfuron methyl.
- Over Spray - Mix 50mL Glyphosate and 10L of water and 1.5g Metsulfuron methyl (MM) per 10L to help treat corms and tubers. Dissolve MM in the water before adding Glyphosate. Add surfactant to mix (Pulse®) and agitate/mix well.
- FOLLOW UP TREATMENT WILL BE REQUIRED.



NIRC SNIPPETS

LATEST JOBS WITH NIRC

We promote all of our vacancies on facebook, with full details about the positions and how to apply on our website. Click [HERE](#) to find out more.

FREE WOODCHIP / MULCH

Free woodchip / mulch is currently available at the WMC by calling Paul Anderson on 53280 between 6:00am and 2:00pm to arrange the collection of your load. This woodchip has been treated for Argentine ants.



UPCOMING EVENTS

11 and 18 December	Government House Charity Open Day
14-21 December	Green Parrot Census information session and survey week
20 December	Christmas Pageant and Street Parade
5 January	Heiwa - Community Day, Emily Bay
13-17 January	NOC - Norfolk Ocean challenge

Click [HERE](#) for details of all upcoming events, or to find everything you need to know about visiting our beautiful island, head over to our tourism website at norfolkisland.com.au/

COUNCIL MEETING

DATE

The next Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on 4 December 2024 at Bicentennial Complex 39 Taylors Road, Burnt Pine, Norfolk Island. Meetings can also be viewed online with the live link provided on Council's Facebook page prior to the commencement of the meeting.

PUBLIC ACCESS

MEETING

Requests for Public Access are open to members of the public until 3pm on the Tuesday prior to Council Meeting day, with public access meetings to be held at 10am on the day of the Council meeting. See below information to arrange a Public Access meeting with the Administrator.

The Council Administrator Mr Mike Colreavy, can be contacted to discuss concerns, issues or general information by emailing: executiveassistant@nirc.gov.nf.

CONTACT NIRC

ADDRESS:

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39 Taylors Road, Burnt Pine
NORFOLK ISLAND 2899

PHONE:

Free local call 0100 and for international callers + 6723 22001

EMAIL:

customercare@nirc.gov.nf

WEBSITE:

<https://www.nirc.gov.au>

OPENING HOURS

Monday to Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm (closed on public holidays)

