Sea turtle hatchlings are coming! Sea turtle hatchlings are beginning to emerge from their nests across the Tweed and a free information session for the community will help ensure as many hatchlings make it to the ocean as possible.

Sea turtle hatchlings begin to emerge on local beaches anytime in January and continue through until May. Hatchlings can be affected by light pollution, marine debris, predators and coastal erosion. One of the big questions is, what happens to the nests after they have been laid and what can the public do to help? The community is invited to come along to an information session to find out what they can do. General Manager of Australian Seabird Rescue Ollie Pitt will be there on the day to share some of the centre’s successful sea turtle rehabilitation stories.

When: Saturday 15 February, 10am – 12pm.
Where: Kingscliff Community Hall, 81 Marine Parade, Kingscliff.

There’s no need to register, just come along – there’s plenty of space for everyone.

The NSW TurtleWatch program has been developed by Australian Seabird Rescue and is in partnership with the NSW Government’s Saving Our Species program. To find out more about the program visit www.environment.nsw.gov.au/turtlewatch.

For more information about the NSW TurtleWatch program visit sealibresearch.org.au or www.facebook.com/NSTurtleWatch. If you see a hatchling please call Australian Seabird Rescue immediately on (02) 6666 2532.

Tweed’s green scenery is deceptive

The water level of Clarrie Hall Dam has begun to fall after the short respite provided by rain two weeks ago.

“The Tweed River is no longer flowing over Brany Creek Weir so if we don’t get rain in the catchment that is forecast for this week we will have to increase our releases from the dam to supply the community,” Manager Water and Wastewater Anthony Burnham said.

Currently Council is obliged to release four megalitres a day to maintain environmental flows and river health. To supply drinking water to the community, it will have to release between 32 and 35 megalitres a day.

Over the weekend, the dam level fell 0.3 per cent, from 81.4 per cent on Friday to 81.1 per cent on Monday. Meanwhile, water use figures have risen, with the average person again using 180 litres a day, after falling to 174 litres a day before the recent rain.

“The green hues of the Tweed Valley are a double-edged sword when it comes to water restrictions,” Mr Burnham said. “The scenery does not accurately reflect the situation we are in.”

Level 2 water restrictions remain in place throughout the Tweed, except in Tyalgum, which is fed by the alternate Oxley River system.

“We need to start releasing from Clarrie Hall Dam to supply drinking water to the community so we can expect the dam to drop nearly two per cent a week, which means we will quickly lose any advantage afforded by the recent rain.”

Tweed residents are urged to double their efforts to save water now and delay the implementation of harsher water restrictions which will harm Tweed businesses.

“It’s up to you to stay at Level 2.”

Council will again be ramping up its education campaign to reduce water usage. Residents with tank supplies filled by the recent rain are reminded that those supplies are subject to the current restrictions.

“If your tank is not entirely independent of the town water supply, you must comply with all water restrictions. “Wasting lawns is banned, as is the use of sprinkler and soaker hoses,” he said.


Plenty of fun for seniors

The NSW Senior Festival starts next week and the Tweed will once again be hosting a full program of events for seniors to get involved in.

The festival runs from Wednesday 12 February to Sunday 23 February and the program includes 37 activities, events or offers available to seniors across the 12-day festival.

It includes events such as morning teas, social get-togethers, health activities, demonstrations, tours, exhibitions, classes, activities and more.

The Seniors Festival opening ceremony will be held on Wednesday 12 February at 10am at the Tweed Heads Civic and Cultural Centre Auditorium and will include entertainment, light refreshments and an opportunity to enjoy a fun morning celebrating with your community.

The opening ceremony will include presentation of the NSW Seniors Local Achievement Awards. These awards provide an opportunity for local MPs and the community to recognise seniors that help make their community a diverse, active and inspiring place to live.

Visit www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/SeniorFestival to register your attendance for the opening ceremony or download a copy of the Seniors Festival program.
Greywater is household wastewater from the shower, bath, hand basin or washing machine. It does not include water from the kitchen sink or from toilets.

The use of greywater is regulated because of the potential for it to spread disease. Greywater contains impurities such as bacteria and when it is stored it ‘goes off’ as the bacteria multiply. Greywater is potentially infectious and so all greywater systems are regulated and require Council approval.

Greywater also contains detergents, clearing agents and waste materials which are not suitable for all garden use.

Things you can do with greywater
- You can use today’s greywater by directly bucketing it from the kitchen sink with a piece of fabric over the kitchen basin at the sink, to keep out hair and other debris.
- Use washing detergents low in sodium and phosphorous to avoid degradation of your soils or only use the washing machine rinse cycle.
- Distribute greywater over different locations in the garden and lawns.
- If there are any boggy and smelly patches stop using greywater.
- Stop using greywater if you see any negative change in gardens.
- Wash your hands after using greywater.

Be careful lifting and carrying buckets of greywater over slippery surfaces, stairs and steps.
Use greywater diversion devices that are accredited by NSW Health and installed by a licensed plumber.
Use greywater treatment systems only if they are accredited by NSW Health and approved by Council. Things you can’t do with greywater
- Do not store greywater as this will increase the potential for bacteria to grow and for bad odours to occur.
- Do not reuse greywater for irrigation during wet weather as your garden soil will already be saturated by rain.
- Do not use toilet or kitchen wastewater, as they contain artefacts and pathogens.
- Do not apply greywater in areas accessible to children, people with low immune system or pets.
- Do not use greywater generated from the washing of nappies or soiled clothing.
- Do not use greywater when a resident is sick, e.g. has gastro.
- Do not reuse greywater on plants that will be eaten e.g. in a veggie garden.

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Council began repairs to the rock wall on the bank at Budd Park, Murwillumbah on Monday 3 February. A 10-metre section of this erosion protection wall slipped into the river approximately 10 months after the March 2017 flood.

Waterways Program Leader Tom Alletson said the damage occurred as a result of deep scour hole developing in the river channel. Immediately following the flood there was no sign that the wall had been damaged, however, as time progressed the wall’s base rocks slipped away into a newly-created deep scour hole, leading to a section of the structure collapsing.” Mr Alletson said.

The work will take approximately two weeks (weather permitting) and will result in some disruption to the park and carpark access. Access to the majority of the park, barbecues facilities and recreational boating pontoon will be unaffected.

Implementation of the recommendations of the Planning Committee Meeting is on hold.”

The Council Agenda for Thursday 6 February 2020 is available on Council’s website www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/CouncilMeetings. The meeting will be held at the Council Chambers, Murwillumbah Civic & Cultural Centre, Tumbulgum Road, Murwillumbah commencing at 6.30pm. A Planning Committee Public Forum on Agenda items being considered is to be held at 4.30pm prior to the Meeting.

Planning Committee Meeting Agenda ‒ Thursday 6 February 2020

The Planning Committee Meeting Agenda for Thursday 6 February 2020 is available on Council’s website www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/CouncilMeetings. The meeting will be held at the Council Chambers, Murwillumbah Civic & Cultural Centre, Tumbulgum Road, Murwillumbah commencing at 6.30pm. A Planning Committee Public Forum on Agenda items being considered is to be held at 4.30pm prior to the Meeting.

Reports for consideration Planning and Regulation
1 Development Application DA19/0383 for Alterations and Additions to Existing Building and Replacement of CO2 Tank at Lot 207 DP 1327268 No. 35–37 Kite Crescent, South Murwillumbah
2 Development Application DA19/0424 for the Erection of Dwelling to Create Detached Dual Occupancy and a Detached Garage and Carport at Lot 38 DP 263730 No. 52 Royal Drive, Pottsville
3 Development Application DA19/0773 for a ‘For the Love’ Music Festival to be held on Saturday 22 February from ‘5pm until 10pm at Ebenezer Park, Tweed Heads at Lot 7339 DP 166191;Part Lot 7340 DP 166190; Lot 7341 DP 166191 & Lot 7342 DP 166191; Lot 7343 DP 166191;Part Lot 448 DP 755740;Part Lot 653 DP 752018;Lot 704 DP 877249; Lot 703 DP 877250; Coral Street, Tweed Heads
4 Development Application DA14/1300.05 for an Amendment to Development Consent DA14/1300 for Integrated Housing Development incorporating 6 Dwellings being Part Two and Part Three Storey at Lot 1 DP 110483 & Lot 15 DP 21686 No. 12 Hungerford Lane, Kingscliff;Part Lot 3 DP 110642 No. 14 Hungerford Lane, Kingscliff
5 Planning Proposal PP19/0005 for Additional Permitted Uses at Salt Village 1 Lot 10 DP 742383 and Lot 5 DP 83834, 49–51 Bel’s Boulevard, Kingscliff
6 Variations to Development Standards under State Environmental Planning Policy No. 1 – Development Standards

Stakeholder Meeting Agenda ‒ Thursday 6 February 2020

The Stakeholder Meeting Agenda for Thursday 6 February 2020 is available on Council’s website www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/CouncilMeetings. The meeting will be held at the Council Chambers, Murwillumbah Civic & Cultural Centre, Tumbulgum Road, Murwillumbah commencing at 6.30pm. A Planning Committee Public Forum on Agenda items being considered is to be held at 4.30pm prior to the Meeting.

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6 Variations to Development Standards under State Environmental Planning Policy No. 1 – Development Standards

Sub-committees/working groups
15 Minutes of the Tweed Coast and Waterways Committee Meeting held Wednesday 9 October 2019
16 Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held 25 November 2019
17 Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held 19 December 2019

Confidential items for consideration General Manager in committee C1 Industry Central Land Exchange – Adoption of Probity Plan Planning and Regulation in committee C2 Class 1 Appeal – Development Application DA13/0712.01 for an Amendment to Development Consent DA13/0712 for a Micro Herb Production Facility including Two Greenhouses, Two Pump Sheds, Potting Shed/Office, Workshop, Water Tank, Driveway Access and Associated Earthworks at Lot 3 DP 119155 No. 67 Howards Road, Burringbar
C3 Fee for Service – Service of a 19 metre Refrigerated Compactor Bin Engineering in committee C4 Voluntary House Purchases DA19/0174 Tweed Valley Way, Burringbar C5 Voluntary House Purchases DA19/0174 Tweed Valley Way, South Murwillumbah

Sustainable Communities and Environment in committee C6 Fee for Service – Service of a 19 metre Refrigerated Compactor Bin Engineering in committee C4 Voluntary House Purchases DA19/0174 Tweed Valley Way, Burringbar C5 Voluntary House Purchases DA19/0174 Tweed Valley Way, South Murwillumbah

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