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**SHIRE OF WAROONA**

"We're on the Web -  
[www.waroona.wa.gov.au](http://www.waroona.wa.gov.au)"

## Waroona Shire Rangers

The Waroona Shire and Murray Shire have joined forces to provide a joint Rangers Department under a resource sharing agreement. Waroona shire residents can still contact the Rangers on 9733 7816 or 9531 7776.

**Please note:** After hours service is only available for emergencies in which there is danger to the public and only if there has been a major dog attack or if there is stray stock on the roads.

The Shire Rangers work tirelessly throughout the festive season, but it is important for the general public to note it is not a 24 hour service. Matters will be responded to outside normal office hours if the Rangers consider it to be an emergency.

Shire Rangers will respond to all matters within the appropriate time frames, dependent upon the complexity of the matter and their current circumstances. The Rangers have to prioritise response times based on assessments of the situation and the impact to the community with matters of life safety taking precedence over other issues.

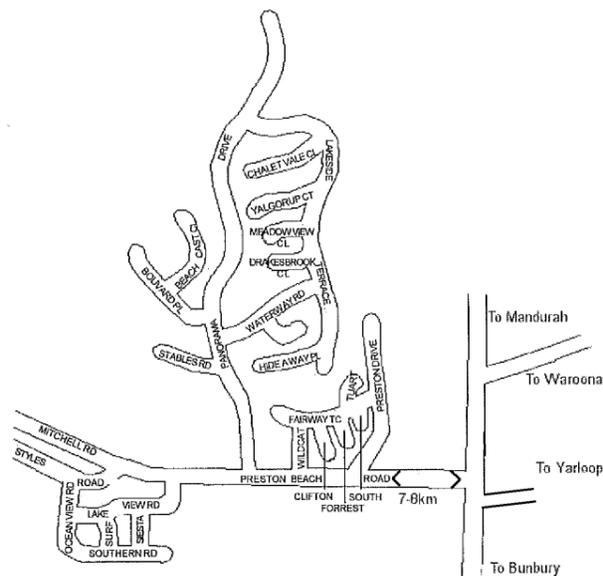
Shire Rangers are there to administer and enforce the provisions of the following:

- Local Government Act 1995
- Local Government Miscellaneous provisions Act 1960
- Dog Act 1976 & regulations
- Litter Act 1979 & regulations
- Caravan Parks and Camping Grounds Act 1995 and regulations 1997
- Bush fires Act 1954 & regulations
- Control of vehicles (off road areas) Act 1978

The administration of these Statutes and Local Laws include investigating complaints, providing public education and awareness and the issue of Infringement Notices or instigation of Prosecutions for non-compliance.

In addition to the State Statutes, Council's Rangers administer and enforce a number of various Local Laws, which have been adopted by the Council in particular Local Government Property Local Law which contains specific guidelines in relation to Preston Beach.

### PRESTON BEACH TOWNSHIP



**Shire of Waroona**

# Preston Beach Newsletter

**Issue 6**

**December 2016**

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## President's Welcome ...

Welcome to all residents and visitors to Preston Beach for the 2016/17 summer. We hope that you enjoy your stay in this quiet, pristine environment.

Preston Beach is an ideal get-away for anyone interested in fishing, swimming, golfing or just enjoy the nature experience. Whilst in the area you may like to venture further afield and visit historic Hamel, the thrombolites at Lake Clifton or the inland areas around Waroona.

The Shire Office is located at 52 Hesse St, Waroona and is open from 9am-4pm Monday to Friday. Phone 9733 7800, email [warshire@waroona.wa.gov.au](mailto:warshire@waroona.wa.gov.au), website: [www.waroona.wa.gov.au](http://www.waroona.wa.gov.au). Please note however, the Shire office will be closed over the Christmas & New Year period 24th December to 2nd January inclusive. Reopening on Tuesday 3rd January 2017. The Buller Road Refuse Site will be open its normal hours and days except for Christmas Day & New Year Day. (eg, closed 25th Dec & 1st Jan). Residential kerbside rubbish collection will take place as per normal on Boxing Day. Enjoy your summer!

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**Noel Dew**  
Shire President



### Some "do's" while in the area :

- ★ enjoy your stay.
- ★ stick to the 50km/h speed limit
- ★ be courteous to others in the town.
- ★ keep night time noise to a minimum as many people here are permanent residents.
- ★ take your litter with you to help keep the environment pristine and waterways clean and healthy.
- ★ drive carefully on the beach.
- ★ watch out for kangaroos!

### Special points to note:

- No Camping on Beach, in dunes or the Beach Car park
- No Open Fires - anywhere!!
- Keep dogs on leashes in all public areas
- Swim safely and be aware of rips

### TIPS FOR THE BEACH

- **No lifesaving services operate on this beach.** Please treat these waters with care and caution at all times.
- Be courteous when parking on the beach.....park parallel to the ocean, not across the beach, east west fashion as this at times tends to block access.
- Please deflate your tyres before you get onto the beach access tracks.
- Do not drive between the tyres, this is extremely dangerous as lots of people, especially little ones, utilise this area.

- Please watch your speed. Kids playing on this beach may not hear you coming.
- Driving in the dunes is prohibited and significant penalties are applicable.
- Keep an eye on the young ones playing in the dunes as snakes are often prevalent over summer.

**"Remember - No lifesaving services operate at Preston Beach - Please take Care"**

## Beware of Ticks

At certain times of the year kangaroo ticks can be prevalent in Preston Beach. Walking through thick scrub is not recommended. A good quality repellent will greatly assist in keeping these little nasties from becoming attached to you! A leaflet on the ticks can usually be found at the General Store. Bottom line, a persistent itch is usually a good indicator you may be an unwilling host.



**NOTICE  
CLOSURE OF GREEN WASTE  
AREA**

Due to the risk of fire, Council has directed that the green waste area at Preston Beach shall be closed between 15 December 2016 – 15 March 2017. Green waste can be disposed of at the Buller Road Refuse Site, 702 Buller Road, WAROONA. Please direct any queries to the Shire of Waroona Works Depot on 9733 7817.

**FOR ALL FIRE  
EMERGENCIES  
PLEASE DIAL 000**

**PRESTON BEACH DUNE  
RESTORATION PROJECT**

The Shire of Waroona and Preston Beach Progress Association, were again successful in securing a grant from the Department of Planning's Coastwest grant in 2016 for the ongoing Preston Beach Dune Restoration Project.

The project, primarily located around the Preston Beach main carpark, is focused on dune brushing and replanting which assists in preventing access, stabilising dune blowouts and reducing erosion. Annual planting of 800 trees stabilises the dunes, promotes natural seed clusters and encourages natural revegetation.

The project has been running since 2011 and the Shire has again been successful in obtaining funding for 2017. Mandurah Baptist College and the Preston Beach Rangers are again looking forward to being involved. All residents are also very welcome to attend.

**LAKE PRESTON TRAIL UPDATE**

The Lake Preston Trail Project has been completed with the observation platform constructed by a local business. This project has been funded by the NRM and Lotterywest to the value of \$45,000.

**Preston Beach Volunteer  
Fire Brigade Summer  
Period**

Once again we are being warned that we face another challenging fire season and it is crucial that all of us prepare now in order to protect our safety and property in the event of a bushfire. The recently launched "Are you Ready?" Campaign is urging communities to be vigilant, seek out as much information as possible and to take action to ensure their own safety. This must be a shared responsibility and we need to be aware of our surroundings, stay connected to your community, talk to our neighbours, listen to the A.B.C. radio bulletins and be prepared to take action for your safety at the first sign of a fire or emergency. The Preston Beach Fire Brigade recently held a community Bushfire Awareness session and it was pleasing to, once again, see a large number from the community attend this informative event. If you were not able to attend and would like more information on the "Are You Aware?" program, we suggest you go to the WA Government DFES website ([www.dfes.wa.gov.au](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au)) for the relevant advice or alternatively you can talk to one of the members of our local Brigade.

It is important to note that ahead of the bushfire season, DFES is urging people not to risk their lives by waiting for a text message or telephone warning that may not come. One senior officer from DFES recently said "there seems to be a perception that an emergency telephone warning will always be issued for a bushfire, but this is not the case." The reality is often when a bushfire starts near homes, there may not always be time to issue an emergency telephone warning. It is recommended that we do not rely on one source of information. Sometimes the first warning you will have to a fire in your area is when you see it, smell it or see fire-fighting appliances and of course the sound of aircraft, especially the choppers, can be a strong indication that you have an incident in your area. This bushfire season, a new multi-hazard Emergency WA website will give you better access to emergency information and community safety warnings. The new easy-to-use site [www.emergency.wa.gov.au](http://www.emergency.wa.gov.au) will deliver a live feed of emergency incidents reported to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) for the first time.

Preston Beach is currently equipped with a fairly new 3.4 Urban Tanker and at present has 17 trained fire fighters who all work hard in order to not only protect our community but are always ready and willing to assist others when required, as was demonstrated during that horrendous fire in January 2016. The Brigade is always looking for new members and if you would like to become a member of this important team, please contact Brigade Captain, Steve Thomas, on 0431 941 716. As community members or visitors, you can assist us by being vigilant during the hot summer months ahead and report any suspicious activities to the Police on 131444. To report a fire, please dial 000.



Kids, watch out for Santa who has told us he is coming to town on Xmas Eve. He will be in the fire truck and would love to see you!

Have a fabulous, safe and merry Xmas and wonderful 2017.

**Summer Holidays Message from  
Preston Beach Volunteer Rangers**



As always, summer brings with it, not only the warm weather, but also an influx of visitors to our beach and so once again beach users can expect to see the now familiar sight of the Preston Beach Volunteer Rangers undertaking regular patrols of the 17km stretch of coastline that is under the control of the Shire of Waroona. The aim of the Rangers is to try to ensure that all beach users have access to a safe and friendly environment that will in turn contribute to providing everyone with an enjoyable experience on this pristine section of coastline. It should be noted that there are a set of rules applicable to driving on this beach and we encourage drivers to familiarise themselves with these simple but important requirements. For example, having someone riding on the back of a ute or on the bonnet or lighting a fire at anytime during the year on this beach can result in a \$200 Fine. As volunteers, our role is predominately educational, but we do work closely with the Shire Rangers, local Police and Fire Brigade and if we see anyone acting inappropriately and

especially in a dangerous manner we will pass this information on to the relevant authority. In addition our vehicles are equipped with in-car cameras and radios. Last year, we noted, that with the increase in vehicles driving on the beach, especially those doing the run from Whitehills and Myalup, we are regrettably witnessing an increase in vehicles speeding. This is concerning, not only for the occupants of these vehicles but even more so for the safety of the young ones playing on our beach and the harsh reality is that the only thing we can do at present is to appeal to all drivers to be aware of the consequences of their actions and to **slow down**. We need to get the message out that driving on this special beach is a privilege, not a right and that old rule of Abuse it....Lose it, applies! The Preston Beach Volunteer Rangers look forward to welcoming you to the beach and trust you will have a safe and happy time. We can be contacted on: 0427199754 or 0418957451 and Shire Ranger Services 97337816.

**NOTE:  
Speed limit  
on beach is  
20km/h**

To check for recent shark activity in the area

Go to [SHARKSMART.COM.AU](http://SHARKSMART.COM.AU)

**TO REPORT SHARK SIGHTINGS CALL  
WATER POLICE ON 9442 8600**

The coastline in the Preston Beach area **IS NOT** patrolled by Surf Life Saving WA



**WARNING!**

**HOLIDAY HOMES REQUIRE COUNCIL  
APPROVAL**

Council's Town Planning Policy for Holiday Homes was developed to ensure that holiday homes do not compromise the amenity of residential areas and to consider the inequity with other tourism accommodation providers. In order to address this concern the policy encourages operators to abide by recognised best practice, relevant legislation and this policy. Holiday homes require the approval of Council through an application for Planning Consent in terms of the Shire's Town Planning Scheme and approvals are required to be renewed annually. Copies of the Policy are available at Council's office or on Council's website. Enquiries about Planning Consent Applications can be directed to the Shire's Planning Department.

**MOSQUITO ADVICE**

Mosquitoes are found in Lake Clifton, Preston Beach and surrounding areas. Care should be taken to avoid being bitten as mosquitoes can carry diseases which may cause painful or swollen joints, sore muscles, skin rashes, fever, fatigue and headaches. Consider the following mitigation procedures where possible or practicable:

- ◇ Avoid areas of high mosquito activity, especially around dawn and dusk.
- ◇ Wear protective (long, loose-fitting) clothing when outdoors.
- ◇ Use a personal mosquito repellent. Only infant-strength repellents should be used on small children. (Obtain medical advice where necessary).
- ◇ Install insect screens and use mosquito nets and mosquito-proof tents.
- ◇ Ensure that any containers around the house are empty of water.
- ◇ Protect infants and children against mosquito bites with suitable clothing, bed nets or other forms of insect screening.

For any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Shire's Environmental Health staff on 97337800.