

Did you know?

Local Law 6 – Bathing Reserves

Local Law No 6 (Bathing Reserves) 2011 endeavours to enhance the public safety and convenience of beaches, or part of the shore and sea, placed under Council's control through orderly management and regulation of activities within these reserves.

This Local Law sets out:

- The management of safe, supervised bathing areas
- The regulation of conduct and the use of aquatic equipment within bathing reserves
- The appointment and powers of authorised persons

It also covers the assignment of responsibility to life saving clubs for managing, patrolling and supervising bathing reserves.

Did you know that a member of a **life saving patrol** is authorised to enforce this Local Law and you must obey their direction; and must not obstruct or interfere with an **authorised person** in the performance of their duties?

If a person behaves in a bathing reserve in a way that endangers the safety of the person or someone else, or causes a nuisance to someone else, an authorised person may direct the person to stop the behaviour or give a direction to leave the water.

Did you know the following about **bathing reserves** and life saving patrols?

- A member of a **life saving patrol** must wear a distinctive uniform appropriate to the member's rank in a design approved by Surf Life Saving Queensland.
- If there are **2 patrol flags displayed**, the bathing area marked out is the safest and most suitable for bathing in view of prevailing conditions.
- If there are **no patrol flags displayed**, the bathing reserve is not under surveillance by a life saving patrol.
- If there is a **red flag displayed**, the bathing reserve is closed due to potentially hazardous conditions prevailing. A person must not bathe in a bathing reserve while it is closed.
- A person must not have **prohibited equipment** including a spear gun or fishing spear or other dangerous object in a bathing reserve.
- A person must not use **aquatic equipment** including vessel, boat, jet ski, body board, surf board, surf ski or sail board in a bathing area.
- A vessel, boat or jet ski is not permitted within 60m of a bathing area in a bathing reserve or less than 400m seawards of the low water mark. A body board, surf board or similar is not permitted within 20m of a bathing area in a bathing reserve.
- Life saving equipment may be used in a bathing area by members of a life saving patrol for surveillance of the bathing area or to assist bathers in distress.
- An **approval is required** to use a part of a bathing reserve for the conduct of life saving training exclusively, a life saving competition, a surfing competition or other aquatic activity.

Information

Did you know?

If a person brings aquatic or prohibited equipment or other dangerous objects onto a bathing reserve, an authorised person may direct the person to take specified action to remove or reduce the danger posed by the object or it may be seized.

Did you know if an **emergency evacuation** alarm is given, a person within a bathing reserve must leave the water as soon as practicable, and must not enter or re-enter the water until the all clear is given?

- An emergency evacuation alarm is given by the prolonged ringing of a bell or sounding of a siren, and the exhibition of a red flag.
- The all clear is given by a short ringing of the bell or sounding of the siren and the replacement of the red flag by a yellow flag.
- A person must not give an emergency evacuation alarm or the all clear afterwards without the authority of an authorised person.
- A person must not damage, destroy or interfere with a sign or flag erected or life saving equipment within a bathing reserve.

Full details are available in Local Law No 6 (Bathing Reserves) 2011 and the associated Subordinate Local Law.

New Local Laws – A consistent approach for our community

For more information about the new Regional Local Laws contact Council's Customer Service Centre or visit our website.

Information