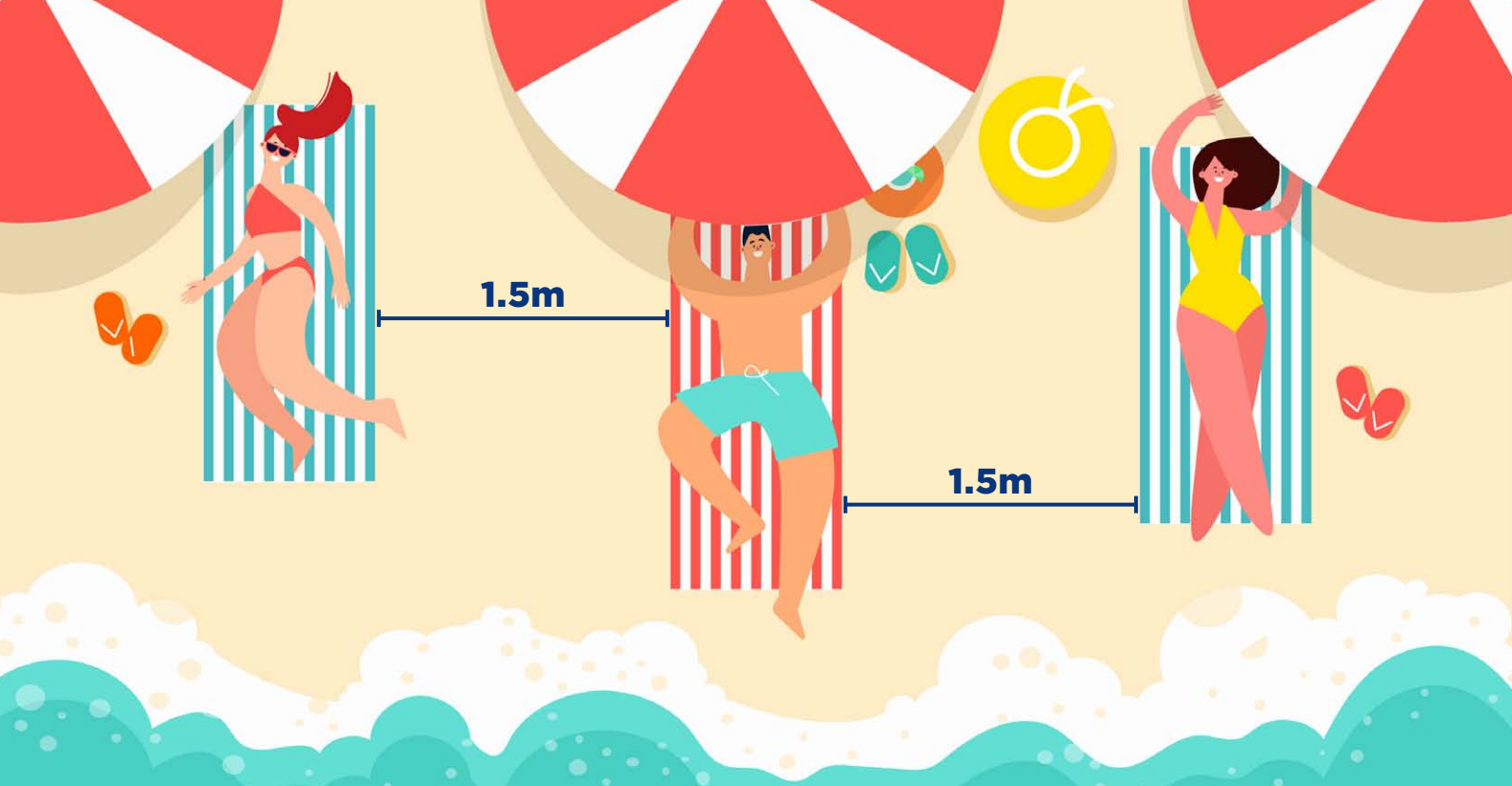


COVID-19 Summer Action Plan

FOR OUTDOOR PUBLIC SPACES





Global Pandemic: COVID-19

The World Health Organisation (WHO) declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 30 January 2020 and declared the COVID-19 outbreak a Pandemic on 11 March 2020.

In response, the Australian Federal, State and Territory governments developed a series of measures to prioritise community health and safety. NSW Health issued a succession of Public Health Orders to adapt to the ever-changing environment.

In line with NSW Health, Council implemented a range of actions to support the effectiveness of the Public Health Orders, to ensure our community was well informed and that we provided compassion and care to help our community through the challenge.

NSW Health authorities have identified cases of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Australia since January 2020.



Overview

Bayside Council has management of 8km of open and unpatrolled beachfront including five swimming enclosures and extensive parklands, cycleways and walking tracks. The waterfront is home to several major parks such as Cook Park and Depena Reserve as well as the popular Brighton Le Sands precinct.

The regular Bayside Summer Foreshore Program commences on 1 November 2020 until 1 April 2021. This program aims to address anti-social issues along the Botany Bay foreshore during the warmer months. The objective is to ensure compliance, so that Council's parks and open space and facilities are enjoyable and safe for residents and visitors alike.

As part of the program additional Council Rangers, Parking Patrol Officers and Waste Services staff are deployed, particularly during school holidays and on weekends to provide enhanced and increased patrols and monitoring of popular areas.

This Bayside Summer Foreshore Program works with the COVID-19 Summer Action Plan for Outdoor Spaces in assisting with monitoring compliance and raising awareness in the community.



Purpose

The aim of this Plan is to provide a framework to support Council in the effective management of our public spaces. We want to keep our beaches, reserves, parks, walking trails and other public spaces open for the enjoyment and wellbeing of the community while adhering to NSW Public Health Orders and recommendations.

The Plan is dynamic and will be regularly reviewed and updated to ensure the community's health and safety is prioritised. During 1 November 2020 until 1 April 2021, we will:

- ▶ Promote the wellbeing of our community through the enjoyment of our outdoor public spaces.
- ▶ Support NSW Public Health Orders and directions.
- ▶ Provide clarity and consistency in communications for the public.
- ▶ Maintain safe public access to our open space and coastal areas for our community.
- ▶ Balance the public health risk with the benefits to our community access to the foreshore and open spaces.
- ▶ Protect our workforce during the changing pandemic restrictions.



Community's Role

The current NSW Public Health Orders and directions (as at September 2020) provides the following requirements:

- ▶ Physical distancing means reducing the close physical contact we have with one another and staying 1.5 metres away from other people where possible. This does not apply to people living in the same household.
- ▶ People must not participate in an outdoor public gathering of more than 20.
- ▶ There is currently no number limits for general outdoor areas (e.g. beaches, parks etc.). However, currently there is a 500 person limit for community sporting activities.
- ▶ The Four Square Metre (4m²) rule applies to all of Council's open spaces, including our beaches and parks. The four square metre rule (4m²) is outlined in the Public Health Order and requires a minimum 4m² of space for each person, whether they are indoors or outdoors.

Staying safe during COVID-19 means looking after each other and our environment:

- ▶ Keep our parks and beaches clean. All rubbish must be placed in the bins provided or taken home and disposed of properly.
- ▶ Be respectful of the law and those working to keep us safe. Park in accordance with the road rules, not where you please. Rangers and the Police will issue fines to those who ignore the parking laws and road rules.

Council's Role

Bayside Council has a role in educating our community and visitors to our area. We will do this via Public Announcements, social media content, signage and patrols of public amenities including parks, reserves, outdoor pools etc.

Council has a COVID-19 Summer Action Plan for Outdoor Public Spaces consisting of four stages. The escalation levels in the plan will be determined and implemented in accordance with the Public Health Order and directions in place.



ESCALATION PROCESS

ESCALATION LEVEL	ACTION
STAGE 1: Normal operations	Public announcements regarding physical distancing messages displayed continuously utilising a variety of media platforms.
	Education material provided to raise awareness within community.
	Focussed media campaign and escalation to Local Emergency Management Officer (LEMO) to request additional Police presence and patrols including increased Council Ranger presence as required.
	Presence of additional Council rangers and staff as per Summer Foreshore Program on identified high risk days such as Public Holidays, School Holidays and weekends where the predicted temperature exceeds 30C.
	CCTV cameras will monitor social distancing compliance and we will respond to non-compliance as per the relevant escalation stages.



ESCALATION LEVEL	ACTION
STAGE 2: 50% capacity <i>or</i> Requests from the Police due to an increase in people gathering in neighbouring coastal Council areas and any large increases of people gathering in Bayside	Focussed media campaigns and additional Police. Council patrols will follow agency advice via the LEMO including any announced change to the NSW Public Health Order and directions.
	All Stage 1 Actions – All parks, facilities and amenities to remain open however access is restricted to defined areas to limit further breaches.
	Additional signage at parks, playgrounds, beach entry areas, swimming enclosure entries, BBQ's, shelters, exercise equipment, skate ramps, sports fields and Council amenities.
	Access is restricted to specific areas based upon reported physical distancing breaches and other breaches reported. Specific/sequential closure of public car parking in those areas or access restrictions in-line with adjacent Council actions.
	Continued advice to the public via all social media platforms and signage.
STAGE 3: 75% capacity <i>or</i> Response to a localised outbreak, cluster or an escalation due to a change to NSW Public Health Order and directions	All Stage 1 & 2 actions.
	Facilities are progressively closed at specific sites; BBQs, picnic shelters, playgrounds, bubblers, beaches and beachfront carparks etc.
	Additional information provided for frontline staff to distribute.
STAGE 4: Maximum capacity Full closure of public facilities including the beaches and foreshore as prescribed by NSW Health	All Stage 1, 2 & 3 actions.
	Full lockdown of facilities including: BBQs, picnic shelters, playgrounds, bubblers, beaches and beachfront carparks etc.



Outdoor Spaces

Outdoor Swimming Enclosures

Outdoor swimming enclosures are to be monitored and managed based on prevailing NSW Health restrictions and appropriate physical distancing guidelines. Swimming Clubs are required to have a COVID-19 Safety plan and therefore are not subject to the requirements of this plan, however, physical distancing requirements will apply. The 'four square metre rule' (4m²) still applies (as at September 2020) under the current Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) Order (No 4) 2020.

Skate Parks, Open Spaces, Parks and Reserves

Skate parks, open spaces, parks and reserves will be monitored and managed based on current NSW Health restrictions and recommendations.

Walkways, Tracks and Trails

There are a range of walkways, tracks and trails that attract significant community use year round. It is anticipated these areas will be subject to increased usage this summer. The approach to managing walkways, tracks and trails is focused on ensuring they remain open and that pedestrian traffic flow is well supported. This is in the interest of promoting the wellbeing of our community. There are no crowd capacity limits planned for the walkways, tracks and trails. They will be monitored and managed based on current NSW Health restrictions and recommendations.



Communications Approach

Raising Awareness in Our Community

Our Rangers will provide onsite interactions with community promoting physical distancing 'Stay 1.5m'.

Our Communications team will:

- ▶ Monitor, create and share posts from relevant agencies.
- ▶ Create social media messaging in line with key COVID-19 messages 'Stay 1.5m towel width apart' and '4m² per person'.
- ▶ Monitor and respond to customer requests on social media.
- ▶ Support our customer contact officers by providing updates and messaging.
- ▶ Update website news items regularly.
- ▶ Distribute e-newsletters, publish media releases and collaborate with local print publications to ensure effective communication of key messages.

Signage

Signage will reinforce the 4m² per person and the 1.5m physical distancing between people. The community and visitors to Bayside are encouraged to keep a look out for advisory signage as this will change from time to time, in line with Public Health Orders and directions.



Council VMS Board Scripts

Physical distancing

BE COVID-SAFE
KEEP 1.5M AWAY
HELP STOP THE SPREAD

Beach nearing capacity

BEACHES ALMOST FULL
RECONSIDER YOUR PLANS
HELP STOP THE SPREAD

Beach at capacity

BEACHES CLOSED
RECONSIDER YOUR PLANS
HELP STOP THE SPREAD

Clean beaches

KEEP OUR BEACHES CLEAN
PUT RUBBISH IN THE BIN OR TAKE IT WITH YOU

Stay informed and protected



COVIDSafe app

The COVIDSafe app speeds up contacting people exposed to coronavirus (COVID-19).

This helps us support and protect you, your friends and family. Please read the content on this page before downloading



Coronavirus Australia app

Stay up to date with official information and advice about the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation.

You can check your symptoms and get notified when urgent information and updates are published.



Australian Government WhatsApp channel for COVID-19

Join our COVID-19 WhatsApp channel to learn the latest on Australia's response to coronavirus (COVID-19).

If you're already a WhatsApp user you can send a message to the channel to connect. If you don't have WhatsApp, download the app to join the channel.

For more information:
www.health.gov.au





Bayside Council

Serving Our Community



Keep



physical distance



Wash
your
hands



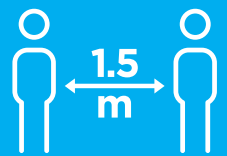
Cover
nose and
mouth



Avoid
touching
your face



Stay
at home
if sick



Keep
your
distance

www.bayside.nsw.gov.au/covid19