

# SUSTAINING LIVERPOOL

SPRING 2019



This honeyeater is an inquisitive and active bird, and rarely sits still long enough to give an extended view. ☺☺

New Holland Honeyeater  
– *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*

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LIVERPOOL  
CITY  
COUNCIL



Image courtesy of Michael Streatfeild



# MESSAGE THE FROM MAYOR

## Welcome to the Spring Edition of our Sustaining Liverpool newsletter.

Spring is a busy time of year for anyone involved with nature, whether in a professional capacity such as Council's parks staff or as a keen amateur gardener or bush restorer.

Everywhere you look plants are bursting back into life, creating marvellous displays of colour and vibrancy.

It's a great time to be out and about. Threatened Species Day comes to Edmondson Regional Park on Saturday, 7 September from 9am to 12pm.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service is organising the day but Liverpool City Council will be on hand to talk native gardens and give away native plants. There will also be an early morning guided bird walk from 7.30am plus bushwalks, native animals and a spectacular free flight bird performance.

Bushcare's Big Day Out comes to Glen Regent Reserve on Sunday, 15 September from 9am to 11.30am.

Bushcare's Big Day Out is a national day of community participation to restore remnant bushland. Bring your family and friends and roll up your sleeves to remove weeds and help plant native trees.

If you can't make it to the Big Day Out, you can always give your green fingers a workout at our Community Tree Planting day at Bringelly Reserve on Saturday, 12 October from 9am to 11.30am.

If you can't get out into our natural environment, you can still play your part in looking after it at home. National Recycling Week runs from 11 November to 17 November and is all about promoting recycling and encouraging best practice. You'll find answers to some common questions on page 9.

Wherever you are and however you choose to engage, I hope you have a wonderful time enjoying your environment this Spring.



**Mayor Wendy Waller**  
Liverpool City Council

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**Broad-leaved drumsticks**  
*Isopogon anemonifolius*



*Dillwynia tenuifolia*

## RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL

Your edition of Sustaining Liverpool can now be sent to your email address.

If you would like to receive it electronically rather than printed, email: [lcc@liverpool.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lcc@liverpool.nsw.gov.au)



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# #BeatAirPollution



Students participating in the South West Sydney regional competition.

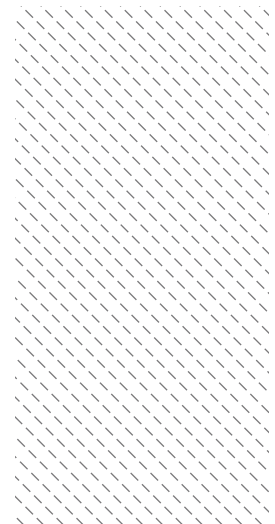
Speaking 4 the Planet (S4P) is a public speaking, drama and art competition for high school students which recognises and celebrates the United Nations' annual World Environment Day (WED). The competition aims to encourage young people to think creatively about ways to be sustainable and share them in a public forum.

Liverpool City Council was proud to support a regional S4P event with Campbelltown Council, Camden Council and 4Sustainability Education Consultancy. The event, opened by Campbelltown Councillor Ben Gilholme, was held at the Australian Botanic Gardens in Mount Annan on 7 June 2019 as part of the WED celebrations.

Local high school students were invited to prepare speeches, performances and artwork related to this year's WED theme of *Air Pollution*.

Austral school Unity Grammar excelled in the competition. The winners were:

- **Prepared Speech** – Maysa Maarbani, Unity Grammar;
- **Impromptu Speech** – Rhiannon Essex, St Benedict's Catholic College;
- **Impromptu Eco-Drama** – Oran Park Anglican College;
- **Art** – Daniya Atif Sayed and Haniyah Jabeen, Unity Grammar.



## LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANTS TREES

Thank you to everyone who came along to Brownes Farm Reserve in Hoxton Park and planted a tree for National Tree Day on Sunday 28 July.

It was a spectacular winter day with more than 300 people planting locally native trees, shrubs, grasses and groundcovers to help expand the patch of remnant bushland along Cabramatta Creek.

Tree planting volunteers enjoyed an interactive wildlife display from Australian Wildlife Displays, a BBQ lunch supplied by the Lions Club of

Liverpool and face painting for kids from Council's talented Children's Services staff.

Special thanks go to:

- All the volunteers;
- Middleton Rural Fire Brigade, who brought their fire truck to water all the plants;
- Council's Bush Regeneration Team, who prepared the site and provided planting assistance on the day.

Thanks again and remember – every day can be tree day!



national  
tree day  
PLANETARK TOYOTA



# BIODIVERSITY MONTH

## GO GREEN AT ED PARK 7 SEPTEMBER 2019



[nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au)

**The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) will be celebrating Threatened Species Day on Saturday 7 September 2019 with a community event – Go Green at Ed Park!**

We will start the day with a welcome and smoking ceremony to acknowledge the park's significance to Aboriginal people.

Liverpool City Council will be on hand to talk native gardens and give away some native plants. All are welcome to join us in planting native tree and shrubs. Local RFS volunteers and some native animals and birds will join in the fun. There will be birdwalks and bushwalks with engaging ecologists and a spectacular free flight bird performance.

In October 2017 we opened the first precinct of Edmondson Regional Park, which will cover an area of 150ha, made up of four precincts in the heart of Edmondson Park. The Cabramatta Creek precinct (Zouch Road, Denham Court) is being restored by a team of bush regenerators and we can already see a remarkable increase in bird diversity.

The park is habitat for many native animals too, including the swift parrot and the grey-headed flying fox.

### WHEN

Saturday 7 September 2019, 9am-12pm

### WHERE

Edmondson Regional Park,  
Zouch Rd, Denham Court

### MORE INFORMATION

[www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/events/go-green-at-ed-park](http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/events/go-green-at-ed-park)

### ACTIVITIES

7.30am: Early morning guided birdwalk

10.30am: Explore your local bushland with an engaging ecologist

### RSVP

[Edmondson.park@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Edmondson.park@environment.nsw.gov.au) or  
0472 820 010

## HAVE YOUR SAY

## ON THE CUMBERLAND PLAIN CONSERVATION PLAN



Come along to an information session to have your say on a conservation plan for Western Sydney.

As part of its vision for the Western Parkland City, the NSW Government is preparing a conservation plan to protect the region's threatened plants and animals and create conservation areas including green space for the local community.

More green places close to homes means more shade, cooler suburbs and a better urban environment for communities to enjoy.

You are invited to come along to one of the following information sessions to hear more, give feedback and help develop the plan.

**Wednesday, 18 September,  
4pm-8pm –**  
Twin Creeks Country Club,  
2/8 Twin Creeks Drive,  
Luddenham

**Saturday, 21 September,  
9am-1pm –**  
Campbelltown RSL,  
1 Carberry Lane,  
Campbelltown

Biodiversity Month is celebrated in September each year to promote the importance of protecting, conserving and improving biodiversity both in Australia and across the world. The aim is to ensure our important environments and habitats are preserved for future generations. For more information, visit [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/biodiversity/helping-biodiversity.htm](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/biodiversity/helping-biodiversity.htm)

## CICADARAMA CITIZEN SCIENCE

Did you know that Australia has an estimated 750 to 1000 species of cicada? We are the world's cicada capital with the largest number of cicada species in the world.

Cicadarama is an Australian-based project dedicated to learning about the lives of cicadas. Members of the public are being encouraged to submit their cicada photos for an updated book profiling different species created by plant ecologist Dr Nathan Emery and animal ecologist Dr Alan Kwok.

Be a citizen scientist and record your cicadas! Cicadarama is developing an exciting new tool to help you identify cicadas.

To get involved, visit [www.cicadarama.com](http://www.cicadarama.com), follow [www.facebook.com/cicadarama](https://www.facebook.com/cicadarama) and join the conversation with [#cicadarama](https://twitter.com/cicadarama)



## SYDNEY NATURE

Want to find out about the huge variety of native plants and animals across Sydney, the benefits they provide and how you can support native plants and animals in your local area?

Learn more and share the actions you can take across balconies, backyards and neighbourhoods at [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/get-involved/sydney-nature](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/get-involved/sydney-nature)



## BUSHCARE'S BIG DAY OUT

Celebrating a day to restore and maintain Australia's remaining bushland



Held annually in spring, Bushcare's Big Day Out is a national day of community participation to restore remnant bushland.

**The next Bushcare's Big Day Out is on Sunday 15 September 2019.**

It's a fun day where anyone can get involved and learn alongside experts. Activities include weed removal, tree planting, mulching or even continued improvement of sites where rehabilitation has already begun. Come along and bring a friend!

For more information and to find an event near you, visit [conservationvolunteers.com.au/what-we-do/bushcares-big-day-out](http://conservationvolunteers.com.au/what-we-do/bushcares-big-day-out).



## COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING

at Glen Regent Reserve  
9am–11.30am

Meet in the park on  
Tom Way, Casula

# FROGBIT ALERT!

An infestation of Frogbit (*Limnobium laevigatum*) was recently located on the Georges River in neighbouring Glenfield. Frogbit is a high-priority plant for prevention and eradication. It is listed as Prohibited Matter under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and must not be kept.

Frogbit is a floating freshwater plant from Central and South America with smooth, rounded green leaves up to 4cm across. It has been kept and traded for use in fish ponds, aquariums and water features. Frogbit can rapidly invade and smother waterways and is a serious biosecurity threat.

Council is working with Campbelltown Council to identify the extent of the infestation and coordinate eradication of the plants. This is being achieved by surveillance and containment of plant populations, manually removing plants from the water and herbicide treatments using a registered herbicide.

If you identify Frogbit or need assistance with weed identification and management please contact Council on 1300 36 2170.

Frogbit (*Limnobium laevigatum*) © Terry Inkson  
Close up of frogbit leaves forming a dense mat in a waterway  
Photo courtesy of NSW Department of Primary Industries

## PROTECT WHAT WE LOVE

### Have you seen a red-eared slider turtle?

They have been listed in the world's 100 most invasive species and don't belong in Australia.

Originating from the southern United States and north-eastern Mexico, populations of wild-living red-eared slider turtles (*Trachemys scripta elegans*) now occur worldwide due to the species being extensively traded as both a pet and a food item.

It is considered an environmental pest because the species competes with native turtles for food, nesting areas and basking sites. They can take hold of new areas quickly, out-compete and spread disease among our native wildlife. These turtles also eat threatened plants, fish and insects.

The red-eared slider turtle has a distinctive, broad red or orange stripe behind each eye, while narrow yellow stripes mark the rest of the animal's head and legs.

If you have seen or caught a red-eared slider turtle:

- take a photo (if you can);
- record your location; and
- complete the online reporting form at [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurityreport](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurityreport)

Visit [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/REST](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/REST) for full details and a downloadable fact sheet.



Red-eared slider turtle (*Trachemys scripta elegans*)  
Photo courtesy of NSW Department of Primary Industries

# WATERING DURING LEVEL 1 WATER RESTRICTIONS

With much of New South Wales battling through drought or drought-affected conditions, Level 1 water restrictions for Sydney began on Saturday June 1, 2019. Water restrictions apply to both residents and businesses.

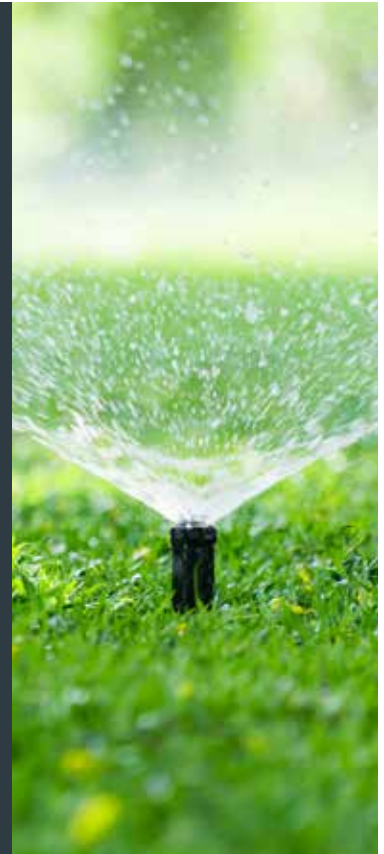
The restrictions include:

- No hosing of gardens without a trigger nozzle between 10am and 4pm;
- No use of sprinklers;
- No hosing of hard surfaces such as paths unless for health, safety or emergency reasons;

- No hosing of vehicles and buildings without a trigger nozzle; and
- No filling of new pools that hold more than 10,000 litres without a permit.

If we all do our bit and save a little, it will make a big difference across Greater Sydney.

For specific information about what is allowed under Level 1 water restrictions and what is excluded, visit [www.sydneywater.com.au/SW/water-the-environment/what-we-re-doing/water-restrictions/index.htm](http://www.sydneywater.com.au/SW/water-the-environment/what-we-re-doing/water-restrictions/index.htm)



We all need to do our bit to save water during the current NSW drought conditions. You may save thousands of litres of water each year by fixing leaks and installing water efficient devices.

Residents can have up to three minor indoor tap leaks repaired for free and get an inefficient showerhead replaced at a subsidised cost. When you book a WaterFix plumber, they will check for leaks in appliances such as toilets, taps and showers.

To qualify for the WaterFix program, you must own residential property – this includes strata units, villas, houses and townhouses.

To book a WaterFix plumber, call **1800 807 475**. For more details, go to [sydneywater.com.au/waterfix](http://sydneywater.com.au/waterfix).

## SUSTAINABLE HOUSE DAY



For more than 19 years Sustainable House Day has provided a great opportunity for hundreds of thousands of people to visit some of Australia's leading green homes – including houses in Sydney, the Blue Mountains and the Illawarra region that are not only environmentally friendly, but cheaper to run and more comfortable to live in.

Sustainable House Day gives visitors a chance to inspect firsthand houses that have been designed, built or renovated with sustainability design features including;

- Renewable energy;
- Passive heating and cooling;
- Active heating and cooling;
- Water harvesting and water saving;
- Solar and energy efficiency measures; and
- Water-wise gardens

For more information on **Sustainable House Day** on **Sunday 15 September 2019**, go to [www.sustainablehouseday.com](http://www.sustainablehouseday.com)



## REDUCING LITTER IN WATERWAYS

Liverpool City Council recently installed three net type gross pollutant traps at stormwater outlets within the Local Government Area to prevent gross pollutants from entering waterways. These nets trap large pollutants such as bottles, cans, cups, organic matter and other litter while allowing water to flow through. The nets will be cleaned quarterly to ensure ongoing water quality improvement.



Net trap installed at a stormwater outlet in Warwick Farm.

## NATIONAL WATER WEEK

*National*  
**WATER  
WEEK**

21-27  
OCTOBER  
2019

Water is something that we use every single day for many parts of our lives. National Water Week is an opportunity to remind ourselves of how precious this resource is.

This year's National Water Week theme is *'It's time to change the world'* and campaigns to unite young people all over the world to take action.

**For more information, visit:**

National Water Week [www.awa.asn.au/nationalwaterweek](http://www.awa.asn.au/nationalwaterweek)

Water saving tips [www.smartwatermark.org/NSW-saving-water-home](http://www.smartwatermark.org/NSW-saving-water-home)

## NATIONAL WATERBUG BLITZ SPRING 2019

In spring, we are all encouraged to become 'citizen scientists' and investigate how healthy our local waterways and wetlands are.

Waterbugs (also called 'freshwater macroinvertebrates') are small animals like mayfly nymphs and shrimp that live in fresh water. The type and number of waterbugs found in a waterway can tell us a lot about how healthy that waterway is.

For more information and resources, visit [www.waterbugblitz.org.au](http://www.waterbugblitz.org.au)

Come join us for a **waterbug blitz** on **Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 October** at the **Streamwatch activities in Liverpool** – event details are on page 11.

Participants will use a mix of basic tools (hand lens, ice-cube tray and plastic spoon) and the Waterbug app to identify live waterbugs and upload the information to a national waterbug database.



### THE WATERBUG APP



The Waterbug app helps you identify waterbugs from south-eastern Australia. Use the key to answer questions that help you identify your waterbug, learn more about them, and look through the gallery if you are simply interested in browsing pictures that demonstrate the diversity of waterbugs.





# NATIONAL RECYCLING WEEK

National Recycling Week will be celebrated from Monday 11 to Sunday 17 November. It is a time to promote our recycling practices and try our best to recycle right. Recycling can be a tricky process, but with a little bit of knowledge and effort we can all work to recycle right.

Visit [planetark.org/campaigns/nrw.cfm](http://planetark.org/campaigns/nrw.cfm) for more details.

Below are some common questions people ask about recycling:

#### **Can I leave the lids and labels on containers or bottles?**

Lids and labels can remain on items as the recycling process will remove these. The only time you should remove a lid is if it is made from a completely different material like a jam jar which is glass and has a metal lid.

#### **Do I need to clean all containers/bottles?**

Containers and bottles do not need to be washed but should be emptied first.

#### **What is the best way to dispose of electronic waste?**

E-waste along with paint, cardboard, polystyrene, batteries, oil, gas bottles and more can be taken to Liverpool's Community Recycling Centre. See Council's website for details.

#### **What symbol should I look for to find out if an item is recyclable?**

There are many symbols that people look for when recycling. Planet Ark has recently launched its Australasian Recycling Label campaign which is a good indication of whether an item is recyclable. Council's website provides an A to Z of Recycling to help residents. If in doubt though, leave it out.

#### **Can all plastic go in the recycling bin?**

No. Plastic bottles and containers can be recycled in your kerbside bin. Soft plastics cannot be placed in your recycling bin, but can be returned to Coles and Woolworths and placed in specially marked "Redcycle" bins. Hard plastics like toys and plastic furniture cannot be recycled in your kerbside bin. These should be placed in your red garbage bin or disposed of through a booked Council pickup.



## RESIDENTIAL ASBESTOS REMOVAL PROGRAM

The Asbestos Program allows residents to dispose of up to 10m<sup>2</sup> of bonded asbestos products free of charge.

The program will be running from **Monday 4 November to Friday 8 November 2019.**

Registrations are required with limited places available. Eligibility criteria and terms and conditions apply.

For more information or to register, please contact Council 1300 36 2170.

# DATES

FOR YOUR

# Diary

## Buy Nothing New Month

1 – 31 October



Join the one-month challenge to buy nothing new (with exceptions like food, hygiene products and medications). It's about thinking where our stuff comes from (finite resources), where it goes when we're done with it (often landfill) and what alternatives are out there to extend the life of our 'stuff'. For more tips and information, visit [www.buynothingnew.com.au](http://www.buynothingnew.com.au)

## Australian Pollinator Week

10 – 17 November



Did you know we have about 200 species of native bees in the Greater Western Sydney area? Bees and other insects are very important for our food production and biodiversity. Pollinators drive biodiversity and more than 75% of the world's flowering plants rely on insect pollinators to reproduce. This is a designated week in spring when the community can come together to raise awareness of our important and unique insect pollinators and support their needs. For more information, visit [www.australianpollinatorweek.org.au](http://www.australianpollinatorweek.org.au)

## National Mental Health Month

1 – 31 October



There is a growing body of evidence that connections to the natural environment have therapeutic effects and improve our health and wellbeing. This awareness month encourages all of us to think about our mental health and wellbeing. For more information, visit [mentalhealthmonth.wayahead.org.au](http://mentalhealthmonth.wayahead.org.au)

## Wild Pollinator Count

10 – 17 November



Australia has lots of wild pollinators that often get overlooked. European honey bees get lots of attention because they are adaptable but many native insects also contribute to pollination in crops and gardens across the country. Help us build our understanding of wild pollinator ecology and activity – all you need to do is watch any flowering plant for 10 minutes and submit your observations at [wildpollinatorcount.com](http://wildpollinatorcount.com)

## Aussie Backyard Bird Count

21 – 27 October



Join the Aussie Backyard Bird Count and keep an eye out for birds in your backyard or local area. By participating you will be helping BirdLife Australia find out about the common species that live where people live. All you need to do is observe your green patch for 20 minutes and record the results using the Aussie Bird Count app. There is a field guide built into the app to help you identify birds. For more information, visit [aussiebirdcount.org.au](http://aussiebirdcount.org.au) or join the conversation with [#aussiebirdcount](https://twitter.com/aussiebirdcount).



## Save the Date Environment Volunteer Recognition Event

5 December 2019

This is an annual event to thank and recognise the work of volunteers who are restoring the natural environment of Liverpool through Council's Environment Volunteer Program. Regular volunteers will receive an invitation to this event in the mail. If we haven't seen you in a while, there are still plenty of opportunities to get involved in our activities.

# WHAT'S ON

Join our enthusiastic volunteers who beautify their local parks and bushland by removing weeds and litter and planting native plants. Meet like-minded people, increase your knowledge of the environment and create habitat for local wildlife. Don't have any experience? Don't worry – our qualified staff are happy to provide training. All equipment is supplied.

## Collimore Park Environment Group

Meet in the Collimore Park car park on Collimore Avenue, Liverpool  
**Saturday 8am-11am:**  
 7 September  
 5 October  
 2 November

## Amalfi Park Environment Group

Meet inside the park near the footpath on Riley Street, Lurnea  
**Sunday 9am-11am:**  
 6 October  
 3 November

## Clinches Pond Environment Group

Meet inside the park at the Gloria Taylor Reserve sign on Swain Street, Moorebank  
**Saturday 9am-11am:**  
 14 September  
 12 October  
 9 November

## Weaving Garden Environment Group

Meet at the seats inside the reserve at the end of Casula Road, Casula  
**Saturday 12pm-2pm:**  
 14 September  
 12 October  
 9 November

## Cessna Reserve Environment Group

Meet in the reserve at the intersection of Hemsworth Avenue and Stanley Avenue, Middleton Grange  
**Sunday 9am-11am:**  
 8 September  
 13 October  
 10 November

## Chauvel Park Environment Group

Meet at the park entrance at the end of Sammut Cres, Chipping Norton  
**Saturday 8am-11am:**  
 21 September  
 19 October  
 16 November

## Streamwatch

Come along to investigate the water quality of the Georges River. Meet in the Light Horse Park car park, Riverpark Drive, Liverpool  
**Saturday 8am-9am:**  
 28 September  
 26 October  
 30 November

## Light Horse Park Environment Group

Meet in the Light Horse Park car park, Riverpark Drive, Liverpool  
**Saturday 9am-11am:**  
 28 September  
 26 October  
 30 November

## Voyager Point Environment Group

Meet in the car park at Voyager Park on Orlando Crescent, Voyager Point  
**Sunday 9.30am-11.30am:**  
 29 September  
 27 October  
 24 November

## Streamwatch

Investigate the water quality of Cabramatta Creek. Meet in the Ireland Park car park on Memorial Avenue, Liverpool  
**Sunday 12pm-1pm:**  
 29 September  
 27 October  
 24 November

## Elouera Bushland Reserve Environment Group

Meet in the Ireland Park car park, Memorial Avenue, Liverpool  
**Sunday 1pm-3pm:**  
 29 September  
 27 October  
 24 November

For more information, call 1300 36 2170 or visit [www.liverpool.nsw.gov.au](http://www.liverpool.nsw.gov.au)



# COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING

There will be a free BBQ lunch for all participants after the tree planting.



## GLEN REGENT RESERVE Bushcare Big Day Out

**SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER, 9AM-11.30AM**  
Meet in the park on Tom Way, Casula

## BRINGELLY RESERVE

**SATURDAY 12 OCTOBER,  
9AM-11.30AM**  
Meet in the park on  
Greendale Road, Bringelly



No experience is necessary. Council provides all tools and plants. Make sure you have closed-in shoes, a hat, gloves and long-sleeved shirt.

## LIBRARY WORKSHOP



## Sunset Tai Chi

**Tuesday 10, 17 and 24 September**  
**4.30pm–5.30pm**  
Liverpool City Library

Unwind and align your flow for the week ahead. Experience the health and wellbeing benefits of tai chi. This class is suitable for all skill levels including beginners. This free event will be held outdoors in the library forecourt. Please wear loose clothing and comfortable flat shoes.

**Age suitability:** Adults and Seniors

**Bookings essential:** [mylibrary.liverpool.nsw.gov.au](http://mylibrary.liverpool.nsw.gov.au)

# FREE SUSTAINABILITY WORKSHOPS

Places are limited. To book your place call Council on 1300 36 2170.

## NOMADIC NATURE SAFARI

**Sunday 22 September**  
**8am–10am**

Everyone needs a good home, on this walk we will match the local wildlife to their cosy place in nature and investigate the benefits of having wildlife among our local environments. Suitable for children over 7 years old. No bushwalking experience necessary. Please wear enclosed nonslip footwear and bring mosquito repellent and a hat.



## RAINWATER HARVESTING

**Sunday 20 October**  
**11am–1pm**

Installing a water tank is a great way to save money and reduce your water consumption. In this workshop residents will learn how to choose the best tank size, how to calculate demand for their rainwater tank system, about the different types of tanks and their installation requirements, how to design a system and ongoing maintenance requirements.

