

Morrisset and Peninsula Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan

For residents and friends of Morrisset, Balcolyn, Bonnells Bay, Brightwaters, Mirrabooka, Morrisset Park, Silverwater, Sunshine, Windermere Park and Yarrowonga Park

Lake Macquarie City residents have a strong commitment to their environment and community. In response, Lake Macquarie City Council has established the Sustainable Neighbourhoods Program. The program encourages active citizenship by enabling residents to:

- protect and care for their environment and place;
- reduce resource consumption;
- respond effectively to environmental threats; and
- participate in public life and decision-making.

This plan contains a vision for the Morrisset and Peninsula neighbourhood and was developed to inspire, empower and lead our community to a more sustainable future. Around 260 local residents have contributed to the development of this plan.

This plan documents the features that residents and friends of the wider Morrisset and Peninsula area love and value about their community and want to protect or enhance. It also identifies opportunities for change and outlines potential areas for a variety of local community-led projects.



Our residents value:

- our lifestyle that combines country living and peace and quiet with access to a range of facilities, services, and opportunities;
- the affable people that foster community spirit and our connections with friends and family;
- our natural environment, which includes bushland, wildlife, proximity to the lake, mountains and open space; and
- our outdoor lifestyle and opportunities for recreation.

Did you know:

- Our neighbourhood contains important wildlife corridors connecting wetland and bushland areas, as well as providing refuge for a range of important local flora and fauna such as the Common Sugar Glider and the threatened plant *Tetratheca juncea*.
- The Morrisset and Peninsula area has on average, an older population than other areas of NSW.
- Early industries of the area included fishing and timber cutting. Timber was historically taken to the sawmills at Morrisset or by water to other towns around Lake Macquarie.
- ‘Mere’ is an Old English word meaning lake. During the 1924 subdivision, Windermere Park Estate was given its name, honouring the largest lake in England.
- Our neighbourhood has many culturally and environmentally sensitive places including the Koompahtoo Aboriginal area, which is a unique bushland area.
- The Norfolk Island pines at Shingle Splitters Point, Balcolyn are a landmark today and are thought to have been planted by early settler Alfred Sara in 1920.
- Morrisset is an important town centre providing services for residents from Toronto to Wyee and beyond.

Our vision for a sustainable Morrisset and Peninsula 2025

*A vibrant, friendly and attractive neighbourhood:
where everyone is valued and supported;
where we care for the natural environment; and
where we strive to be responsible and caring global citizens.*

We want Morrisset and Peninsula to be a place where:

- neighbours support each other and there is a sense of pride in the community;
- everyone has access to our natural environment which is valued and protected;
- people connect in vibrant, well-designed and eco-friendly public spaces;
- people choose to use less private transport, limit their waste and reduce their energy and water consumption; and
- public spaces are clean and safe.



Action Plan 2015 - 2025

Our goals to help make Morisset and Peninsula more sustainable:

Reduce our ecological footprint

- Repair, share and reuse our goods and resources
- Encourage the reuse of green and organic waste
- Reduce our waste and the consumption of energy and water

Protect our natural environment

- Increase our awareness and understanding of biodiversity issues, and encourage improved environmental behaviours
- Encourage participation in Landcare, bush regeneration and catchment management activities
- Reduce littering

Connect our community

- Encourage friendly communications and interactions
- Ensure our group is open, inclusive and reflective of the multicultural community by promoting positive communication with each other and the wider public
- Focus on reducing anti-social behaviour to create a safe and clean neighbourhood

Create vibrant public spaces

- Encourage a pedestrian and cycle friendly neighbourhood
- Encourage and support group activities in public places
- Investigate options to rejuvenate or create public spaces

Engage in local planning

- Encourage integration of sustainability principles into urban planning, design and construction
- Engage with relevant agencies and businesses to improve the area including public, pedestrian and cycle transport services and infrastructure in the area

Get involved!

- Be a part of something positive;
- participate in projects and activities;
- share your ideas; or
- simply find out more.

Morisset and Peninsula Sustainable Neighbourhood Group	www.sustainableneighbourhoods.org.au/morisset--peninsula
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Sustainable Neighbourhoods is an initiative of Lake Macquarie City Council

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Developed by residents of Morisset, Balcolyn, Bonnells Bay, Brightwaters, Mirrabooka, Morisset Park, Silverwater, Sunshine, Windermere Park and Yarrawonga Park

