

Looking After Our Beaches

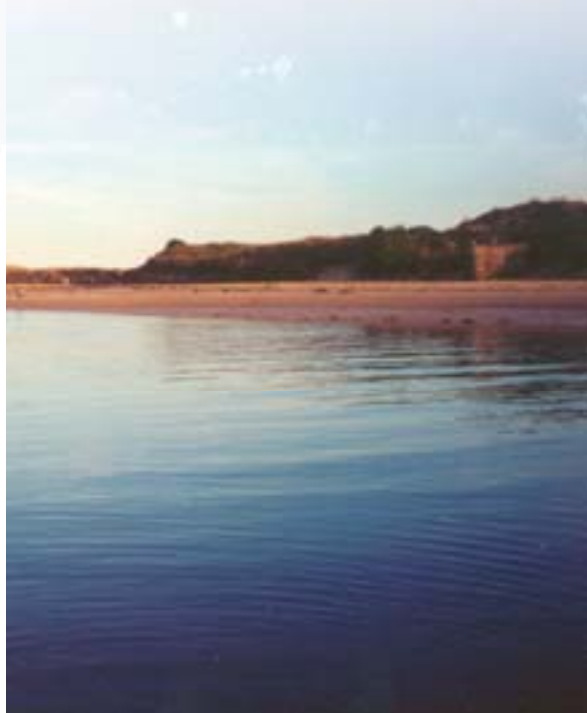
In 2008, Surf Coast Shire banned cigarette butts and glass from our beaches. Local Laws Officers will be enforcing the No Butts, No Cuts regulations stringently this year with patrols to be stepped up during peak periods. If you see people with glass or cigarettes on the beach, contact Council's customer service on 5261 0600.

If you see alcohol being consumed...

Surf Coast Shire's Local Law Number One prohibits drinking in public places. Local Laws Officers and the Victoria Police are authorised to issue penalty infringement notices to anyone caught consuming alcohol or with an open alcohol container on public land or a road.

If you see a fire...

This busy peak period is around the beginning of the designated Fire Danger Period. Severe penalties will be applied to anyone lighting fires in the open – including on beaches – during this time. Contact 000 to ensure fires are extinguished.



A HUGE thanks....

to the organisations that have helped co-ordinate the harm minimisation measures.

Surf Coast Shire

Youth Central

Red Frogs

Youth Substance Abuse Service (YSAS)

Victoria Police

Great Ocean Road Coast Committee

Victorian Government

headspace Barwon

Student Life

Torquay Commerce & Tourism Association

Residents for Residents' Rights (Torquay)

Lorne Community Association

Lorne Business & Tourism Association

Rural Ambulance Victoria

CFA

Lorne Hotel

Torquay Hotel

Accommodation Providers

Lorne Hospital

Red Cross "Save a Mate" (SAM)

Barwon Safe Parties

Surf Coast Shire

25 Grossmans Rd (PO Box 350), Torquay Vic 3228

Phone: 1300 610 600

Email: info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au

Website: www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au



Community information

SURF COAST SUMMER 2010

**GOOD TIMES
GREAT BREAKS**
RESPECT THE PLACE, LOOK AFTER YOUR MATES



Young people from Victoria and interstate travel to Torquay and Lorne in increasing numbers to celebrate their achievement – finishing secondary school. They typically start visiting the Surf Coast from mid November until early December as their exam period ends.

A number of local groups, emergency services, licensed venues, accommodation providers and youth organisations work with the Surf Coast Shire each year to help ensure celebrations are safe and to minimise the impact of this period on our local communities and our environment.

This brochure provides important information on what is done to manage the start of the busy summer tourist season.

A Co-ordinated Effort

A lot of planning goes into community efforts to prepare for the arrival of these young people. Surf Coast Shire Council leads a regional working group that includes residents' groups, emergency services, accommodation providers, volunteer groups and youth organisations.

The group oversees activities like the annual registration process, which helps with management and data collection, implements a Harm Minimisation Program and helps manage "toolies" – people who come to the Surf Coast end of school celebrations with the intention of causing trouble.

Council also increases local laws patrols and rubbish collection during this period, while additional Victoria Police resources are provided. A number of organisations on the working group also provide activities, chill-out zones, health support and on the ground support to assist our visitors and help ensure they respect the place they're in.

Our communities and young visitors are dependent on the efforts of these groups – all of which make an important contribution towards ensuring these end of year celebrations are safer and have a lower impact on our community. These groups include Victoria Police, the Youth Substance Abuse Service (YSAS), CFA, Lorne Community Hospital, Great Ocean Road Coast Committee, the Munday Group (Lorne and Torquay Hotels), Red Frogs, accommodation providers, Torquay and Lorne Tourism and Trader Associations, headspace Barwon, Lorne Community Association, Residents For Residents' Rights, Red Cross, Rural Ambulance Victoria, Barwon Safe Parties and Student Life.



Accommodation Code of Practice

Surf Coast Tourism encourages accommodation providers to register if taking bookings from young people celebrating the end of school. This helps ensure accommodation providers receive relevant information, that young people are aware of accommodation providers that are taking bookings and that accommodation providers endorse a recommended code of practice.

These guidelines help accommodation providers ensure our visitors enjoy their stay with less disruption to our community.

Have Your Say

Each year, debriefs are held to discuss issues arising during these celebrations. This is an opportunity to discuss what is working well and what needs to be attended to in 2011.

Debriefs will be held in Lorne on Thursday 9 December from 10-11am at Fig Tree Community House and in Torquay on Wednesday 8 December from 2.30-3.30pm at Surf Coast Shire's Torquay office.

Handy Tips...

If you see someone in trouble...

If you identify a person who is injured, heavily intoxicated or otherwise in trouble, please contact relevant emergency services on 000 as soon as possible to ensure they receive the appropriate care.

If you have young people staying near you...

It might be a good idea to introduce yourself so they can appreciate that you live and work in your town and need their consideration. It's important for all visitors to know they are sharing our community with friendly residents!

If you know who is managing the property - usually owners or real estate agents – you will be able to notify them of any issues that arise during end of school celebrations.

If you see an emergency or need police attention

Dial 000. Police stations in Lorne and Torquay also have extra staff to cope with demands at peak times. These stations are manned 24 hours a day. Provide officers with specific information to help ensure they can address any concerns you might have.

If you're concerned about noise...

You must register your concern at the time and provide specific information so the police can act! Noise complaints should be raised by dialling 000.

Prohibited times for noise including musical instruments, any electronic amplified sound equipment and appliances like lawn mowers include:

Monday to Thursday – before 7am and after 10pm

Friday – before 7am and after 11pm

Saturday and public holidays – before 9am and after 11pm

Sunday – before 9am and after 10pm.

Note: noise can be an issue outside these hours. See the EPA website for more information – www.epa.vic.gov.au/noise

If you see littering...

Police and Council Local Laws Officers will issue penalty notices to litterers. Community members are urged to contact the police if they see this behavior. Cigarette butts and glass are prohibited on Surf Coast beaches under local laws. Police and Local Laws Officers can enforce these restrictions. Between 8:30am and 5pm you can contact Council in relation to littering, or the EPA's litter hotline, **1800 352 555**.