

MANAGEMENT OF TOCUMWAL TOWN BEACH IN PEAK TIMES

Tocumwal Town Beach is a designated Primitive Camping Area that attracts many “Free Campers”

The Beach camping area is managed by the Tocumwal Foreshore Committee a 355 committee of the Berrigan Shire. Through the Shire there is a contractor appointed who collects the camping fees on a daily basis and within this contract the contractor cleans the toilet block daily and when busy twice daily.

The contractor also maintains the cleanliness of the area and notifies the rubbish removal contractor when the bins need emptying so the Town Beach camping area maintains its integrity and reputation throughout Australia.

After a survey in 2016 and again in 2019 prior to COVID-19 it was estimated that the campers at Tocumwal Town Beach spend \$100 a day for 2 people in a caravan and this contributes \$1,200,000 annually to the Tocumwal town economy.

The area has facilities of:

- Male and Female toilet facilities
- Unheated showers
- Many potable, town water taps throughout the area
- General rubbish collection with 24 bins
- Recycle collection facility for glass and aluminium cans
- 700 metres walking distance to Tocumwal shops and supermarket
- Frontage to a 300m x 80m sandy Murray River beach

Licence

Tocumwal Town Beach has a licence for 65 camps.

Being a very popular public access area there are times at Christmas, Easter and the Melbourne Cup long weekend that the town has an influx of people and the Tocumwal Town Beach sometimes has in excess of the licensed 65.

How do we manage this excess above 65 camps?

- Being a public access area that is managed by the Foreshore Committee and the collection and maintenance contractor there is no person of authority on site to “count in” the number of camps. When the contractor goes down to the Beach to collect the Fees and clean the ablution block he is sometimes faced with an area that has in excess of 65 camps already set up and no way of knowing who was the 66th camp that arrived.
- The contractor or the Foreshore Committee has no authority to, “move people on”
- So, we determine that the ablution block needs extra attention and cleaning 2 or 3 times every day.
- We also manage the excess rubbish disposal.
- The contractor usually notifies the President of the Foreshore Committee who offers some hands on assistance and who also monitors the situation.
- The contractor and the Foreshore President, whose phone number is on the information board so any camper can contact us at any time, receive quite a few phone calls prior to these peak times of people enquiring as to how busy the camping area may be. We have started to tell people that we have limited space available when we are able to make a guesstimate of a likely influx.

When the grey water collection system is installed in the near future the camping area will have yet another advantage for the campers.

Between the contractor and the Foreshore Committee we do a pretty good job of managing the Town Beach Primitive Camping area and collectively we are very proud of the asset that it is to the town of Tocumwal and the job that we do in managing the area.