

## Draft Housing Strategy

As reported in last month's newsletter, the Friends of Damper Creek, in conjunction with the Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve, have expressed concern over the simplistic methods that have been proposed for increasing urban density. Comment has been delivered in a number of formats including a formal response to the City of Monash Draft Housing Policy, meetings with Sue Wilkinson, Director of City Development for Monash and by way of a formal response to Ms Wilkinson summarising that meeting.

The May meeting of FODCR was addressed by Cr Brian Little on this subject.

The key points which FODCR and FOSC&VR will continue to emphasise are:

1/ The strategy takes no consideration of environmentally sensitive areas in the vicinity of Mount Waverley and Jordanville stations.

2/ Areas currently covered under the VPO (Vegetation Protection Overlay) should be granted category 6 protection which preserves the character of the area while allowing for modest housing growth and diversification.

3/ Stormwater runoff needs to be addressed for higher density developments by retaining water on properties and not simply removing it to be handled by creeks and downstream municipalities. This can be done by retaining vegetation, minimising hard surfaces, storage of water on the premises and incorporating water retaining landscaping features such as raingardens, swales and water tanks into both private developments and Council works

4/ .New developments should include a landscape plan with indigenous plant stock to

complement the bushland reserves. (i.e. that no weed varieties are permitted).

## May Guest Speaker

Councillor Little addressed the May meeting on the subject of the Draft Housing Policy for the City of Monash. Cr. Little was accompanied by Cr. Bill Pontikis and April Williams, waste services project officer with the Monash Council. Cr. Little's presentation was followed by a spirited Q&A session. Cr. Pontikis remained after the meeting to continue discussion on the subject.

Cr Little also presented information on the Monash City Council's recycling achievements, policies and future goals. Information on mulching, composting and worm farms was also shared. It was a revelation to see how sophisticated the waste management system had become, with an extensive mulch processing facility at Dingley and high tech. landfill which maximises recovery of methane for power generation. Plans are also in place for collecting compostible waste for separate processing.

Note that the Council currently provides discounted compost bins and worm farms for ratepayers.

## Model Rules for an Incorporated Association

Please be advised that all members are notified that the Friends of Damper Creek Reserve Inc. will vote to adopt the Model Rules for an Incorporated Association 2012 at its AGM on 27 August 2014. The Model Rules 2012 can be viewed or downloaded from a link to be found at

<http://www.consumer.vic.gov.au/clubs-and-not-for-profits/incorporated-associations/running-an-incorporated-association/rules>

The FoDC will also vote on new **By Laws** which will be attached the Model Rules document and a copy of the By Laws can be obtained from

[secretary.dampercreek@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.dampercreek@gmail.com)

The Model Rules 2012 and the attached By Laws will replace the original Constitution.

Comments and/or feedback are welcomed but must be received by Wednesday 20 August 2014.

The Model Rules 2012 and our draft ByLaws and Mission statement are also available on the DC website. Go to

<http://www.friendsofdampercreek.org.au/>

Click on "About Us" and then go to link "Whats New"

## Guest Speakers

We have a possible guest speaker for our June meeting.

July – Natural habitats

August AGM Don Bladier on Lightning Ridge.

September- Birds of Mount Waverley

We also expect Prof Tim Fletcher to return when the results of his funding application for the "Talking Tanks" programme are known.

## What to plant?

As an organisation we are passionate about planting the right things. This is not always easy, with nurseries selling designated weeds, native plants turning into weeds and many loved, easy to propagate plants that have become staples of traditional gardens

becoming a pest in the reserve. The accompanying links will give you somewhere to go. To find out more:

Re. Weeds in City of Monash go to

<http://www.monash.vic.gov.au/environment/weeds/>

Indigenous Plants City of Monash

<http://www.monash.vic.gov.au/city/indigenousplants.htm>

Create an urban refuge

<http://www.monash.vic.gov.au/environment/garden/nurture-conserve.htm>

Knox Environmental Society - lots of links and information on plants etc.

<http://www.kes.org.au/articles/articles.html>

#### Gardens for Wildlife Knox

It is so successful in Knox that they have just celebrated 500 residents who are in the scheme. Go to:

<http://www.knox.vic.gov.au/g4w>

They also have a great nursery located behind the Ferntree Gully library.

#### Working Bees

June 29<sup>th</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup> are designated Community Planting Days and will be followed by a Sausage sizzle.

The July 27<sup>th</sup> working bee will be at Fairway Reserve in conjunction with FOSC&VR. Fairway Reserve is located at Melways 70E5 by the Scout halls. Note that starting time is 9-00am and a BBQ will follow. Car pooling may be advisable.

#### Important dates to remember:

	June	Notes
<b>Meeting:</b>	Wed 25th - 7:30 pm	Alvie Hall
<b>Working Bee</b>	Sun June 29th 10-00 am to 12-30pm	Park Rd carpark)
July		
<b>Meeting:</b>	Wed 23rd- 7:30 pm	Alvie Hall
<b>W-Bee</b>	Sun June 27th 9-00am to 12-30 pm	Fairway Reserve (Scout Halls)

#### ADDRESSES & TELEPHONE NUMBERS

<b>President:</b> Helen Clements	<b>0401813502</b>
<b>Secretary:</b> Maryann Hawthorn	<b>0400877229</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b> Kevin Ryland	
<b>Editor:</b> Doug Scott	<b>0417300866</b>
Please email material for the newsletter to <a href="mailto:dougscott3@bigpond.com">dougscott3@bigpond.com</a> .	

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Damper Creek Reserve Inc is a member of 'Landcare' and 'Land for Wildlife' Volunteer Nature Conservation.

***Damper Creek Bushland Reserve: part of the Yarra Catchment.***

Please address all mail to: The Secretary  
PO Box 2063  
Mount Waverley 3149  
email: [secretary.dampercreek@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.dampercreek@gmail.com)

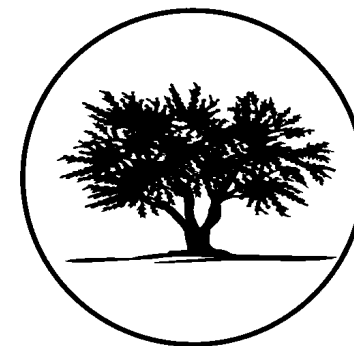
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<http://www.friendsofdampercreek.org.au>

P.O. Box 2063 Mount Waverley

# DAMPER CREEK DOINGS



June 2014