

Wodonga newcomers' guide



Congratulations on choosing Wodonga as your preferred place of residence.

Wodonga is one of Victoria's fastest-growing regional cities, strategically located on the Hume Fwy between Melbourne and Sydney. Albury-Wodonga has a combined population of approximately 90,000 with a further 80,000 people living within a 100km radius.

Situated on the Murray River with the surrounding hills, rich agricultural valleys, adjacent wineries and historic towns, Wodonga is beautifully placed for lifestyle and investment.

The information in this booklet has been provided to assist you in getting to know your new city. If you require any additional information on any of the services listed, please contact Wodonga Council's customer focus staff or direct your enquiry via email (contact details are listed on page 3).

We wish you every happiness in your new home.

Yours sincerely
Mayor, councillors and staff of Wodonga Council



Interesting information

Wodonga: An Aboriginal name signifying bulrushes.

Population: Approximately 37,000.

Area: 433sq km

State floral emblem: Pink heath

State fauna: Leadbeaters possum

Wodonga Shire was created in 1876 when the colonial government agreed to ratepayers' petitions to have their part severed from the Yackandandah Shire and form a new municipality.

In 1973, the Wodonga Shire was granted rural city status and was officially named the Rural City of Wodonga by the Governor of Victoria, Sir Rohan Delacombe.

In 1994, the council sought to retain the name in a new authority, and so, the Wodonga Rural City Council was born. However, the commissioners decided in 1995 that, to give the city a fresh image, the term 'rural' be dropped from use except where there was a legal requirement.

In 2004, the council applied to rename the council, removing the term rural, and it is now legally Wodonga City Council. The marketing name for the council is City of Wodonga.



Wodonga Council contact details

Customer focus staff

Phone: (02) 6022 9300

Customer focus operates from 8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday and handles all enquiries. Closed public holidays.

Street address: 104 Hovell St, Wodonga, VIC 3690.

Postal Address: PO Box 923, Wodonga, VIC 3690.

Fax: (02) 6022 9322

Emergency after-hours: (02) 6022 9300

Email: info@wodonga.vic.gov.au

Website: wodonga.vic.gov.au

Facebook: facebook.com/WodongaCouncil

Twitter: twitter.com/WodongaCouncil

Instagram: [@wodongacouncil](https://www.instagram.com/wodongacouncil)

E-newsletters: wod.city/wodenews



Abandoned vehicles

Any car that is unregistered and left on a road is considered an abandoned vehicle. These cars may also be in a state of disrepair. The council has a procedure for dealing with abandoned vehicles, which will ultimately result in the car being towed. Contact customer focus to report an abandoned vehicle.

Aged services

Home and Community Care (HACC)

HACC services are provided through Westmont Aged Care Services and aim to keep you living at home and in your community as independently as possible for as long as possible. To make an assessment appointment, please phone Westmont Aged Care Services on (02) 6043 9867 to speak to a community care officer.

Senior Citizens' Centre

The Wodonga Senior Citizens' Centre is located at Havelock St. Vehicle parking is available via Havelock St.

For details of regular activities, contact the co-ordinator on (02) 6024 2865.



Animals

For more information visit the 'animals' section of the council's website.

Birds

If you have a permit enquiry, please check with customer focus as to permit requirements and conditions in regard to caged poultry, turkey, geese, ducks or pigeons.

Cats

Animal registration in Victoria is on an annual basis, with the registration year commencing on the 10th of April each year. All cats three months or older must be registered with the council. Cats must be microchipped and desexed prior to registration. A copy of the sterilisation certificate is required for all registrations. The owners of a cat who fail to register their animal may be liable to a fine.

Registration forms are available from the council's website or from customer focus. Or you can register your animal online <https://eservices.wodonga.vic.gov.au/ePathway/Production/Web/Animals/NewAnimal.aspx>

You can keep up to two cats and two dogs, over three months of any on any premises (with the exception of properties classified as Rural 1). If you wish to keep more than this number, you must apply for a permit.

Wodonga Council has a cat curfew. Cats must be confined to their owner's property between 7pm and 7am, seven days a week.

Barking dogs

Dogs can bark for a number of reasons - movement of people, animals or vehicles near the property, the dog becoming bored or lonely and sometimes for no apparent reason.

If a dog is causing a nuisance by barking it is recommended to try and notify the owner verbally or by letter to resolve. If unresolved a detailed complaint must be received in writing to enable the council to take action.

Dangerous dogs

What is a dangerous dog? A dog may be declared dangerous if it attacks and seriously injures a person or another animal. There are special rules for dogs declared dangerous. Further information is available from the council's civic services team on request. The council has determined that any dog declared dangerous by the council is not welcome in the community. The council will not register or renew the registration of a Wodonga Council declared dangerous dog.

Dogs

Animal registration in Victoria is on an annual basis, with the registration year commencing on the 10th of April each year. All dogs three months or older must be registered with the council. All dogs are required to be microchipped prior to registration. Discounted registration is available for dogs which are desexed, a copy of the sterilisation certificate is required to receive the discounted rate. The owners of a dog who fail to register their animal may be liable to a fine.

Registration forms are available from the council's website or from customer focus. Or you can register your animal online <https://eservices.wodonga.vic.gov.au/ePathway/Production/Web/Animals/NewAnimal.aspx>

You can keep up to two cats and two dogs, over three months of any on any premises (with the exception of properties classified as Rural 1). If you wish to keep more than this number, you must apply for a permit.



Pound - dog and cat

The pound is located in Kane Rd adjacent to the Waste Transfer Station. Lost animals can be viewed online. If you believe your animal has been impounded please contact customer focus. Enquiries for adoption of animals need to be made through Wodonga Dog Rescue.

Wodonga Dog Rescue has a memorandum of understanding with the council to provide animal care and pound cleaning services, and for any unclaimed animals they assess their suitability for rehoming and adoption.

Restricted breed dog

There are five breeds of dogs that are banned from being imported into Australia — the Dogo Argentino, the Japanese Tosa, the Fila Brasileiro, the Perro de Presacanario and the American Pit Bull Terrier, commonly called the Pit Bull Terrier. The Victorian Government has determined that these breeds are not permitted in the community. A restricted breed dog, new to the area, will not be registered.

Snakes

Snakes are protected and removal is NOT a council role. Our staff do not remove snakes. Local contractors are available (these are not council contractors). No preference is given to the order of the following contractors and we aim to keep this as up-to-date as possible.

- Tristan Hamilton - 0431 530 057; and
- Noel Crossman from Pest Control - 0412 576 541.

Charges may apply when using these contractors.

If the snake is on council land, please phone Wildlife Victoria on 1300 094 535. For further information regarding protection of snakes and removal, please contact the Department of Sustainability and Environment on 136 186.

Swooping birds

Magpies and plovers are the most common swooping birds in Wodonga and are both protected species. We do not capture or remove swooping birds, however, we will publicise locations of known swooping birds on council land through our website and social media.

For further information, please contact the Department of Environment and Primary Industries on 136 186.

Arts Space Wodonga

Corner Lawrence and Hovell streets, Wodonga

Wodonga Council values art and culture and the contribution it makes to a dynamic, diverse and holistic community. Arts Space Wodonga is one way the council seeks to support a range of cultural practices, community development and entertainment opportunities.

Arts Space Wodonga offers the community a vibrant and accessible venue for the showcasing, presentation and intimate performance of local, regional and imported cultural works. Arts Space Wodonga can be hired for exhibitions, workshops, presentations, performances, recitals, arts-related meetings and forums.

For further information, phone co-ordinator Arts Space Wodonga on (02) 6022 9600.

facebook.com/ArtsSpaceWodonga
wod.city/wodenews



Awards

Eagle Awards

The Wodonga Eagle Award program recognises people within the community who are making someone's life better by getting involved in the community. Community members can submit nominations for the monthly award. The achievements need to be now achievements rather than historic.

Good Neighbour Awards

The annual Good Neighbour Award encourages all residents to reach out and help others in their neighbourhood.

Citizens of the Year

Citizen of the Year Awards are held at Australia Day celebrations around the nation. The council hosts an event every year and a Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and a community organisation are recognised.

RED Carpet Youth Awards

The RED Carpet Youth Awards are held annually with the winners announced at an awards dinner around August each year. The awards aim to recognise local young people achieving great things in the community. There are different award categories including a community service award, sustainability award, sports volunteer award and performing arts award.

YASS awards

The Young Achiever Support Scheme (YASS) recognises and supports young people (under 25) who display an outstanding commitment to and/or achievement in their chosen endeavour. The scheme provides financial assistance to young people to participate, develop skills, compete, perform or represent Wodonga in their chosen endeavour at a state, national or international level.

Nomination forms can be obtained from customer focus or via the council's website.

Building

Wodonga Building Services

Wodonga Building Services' team of skilled professionals is available to help you with your requirements for building approvals, inspections and advice. With many years of experience, the dedicated staff can give you advice on innovative solutions for all your domestic and commercial building needs.

The team's focus is on customer service, and Wodonga Building Services continues to ensure its customers are assisted throughout the building approval's process. Fully documented applications can normally be turned around within a week.

Any enquiries should be directed to Wodonga Building Services on (02) 6022 9300 or email info@wodonga.vic.gov.au. Further information can be obtained from the building section of the council's website.

Building permits

Domestic swimming pools - Applications and fencing

A building application is required for all swimming pools. This includes spas and wading pools (portable and fixed). Further details can be obtained by phoning customer focus.

Fences

Neighbours should reach agreement in writing prior to the commencement of construction of any dividing fence. The agreement should cover all aspects such as height, costs and financial contribution by both parties. The *Fences Act 1968* is administered by the Attorney-General's office. The Act sets out the requirements for construction, maintenance and repair of dividing fences by landholders. Further enquiries should be directed to the Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria on 1800 658 258.

Cemetery

The cemetery is located on the corner of Melrose Drive and Sangsters Rd. For all enquiries and appointments, please phone Cemetery Trust Wodonga on (02) 6024 0422, Monday to Friday 10am to 3pm.

Children

Service directory

A service directory for children and their families in Wodonga is available on the council's website under children's services in the documents and publications section or from customer focus.

Preschools

A list of preschools is located on the documents and publications section on the council's website under children's services or from customer focus. Wodonga Council offers preschool programs at eight Wodonga Council-managed centres. The council's preschool centres operate as a community based, non-profit service where all funds are used to provide and improve the quality of the program. A centralised enrolment system is provided and all applications are made through customer focus.



Childcare

Felltimber Children's Centre and Southern Rise Children's Centre provide childcare services. Felltimber Occasional Care is an early learning environment that supports families by providing flexible care options. Southern Rise Children's Centre operates a full-day care space.

For more details, contact:

Felltimber Occasional Care

Phone: (02) 6059 6244 between 8.30am and 5pm.

Southern Rise Children's Centre

Phone: (02) 6024 5867 between 8.30am and 5.30pm.

Refer to the online community guide for a further listing of privately operated childcare centres.

Playgroups

A list of playgroups is located on the documents and publications section on the council's website under children's services or from customer focus. Playgroups are groups of parents, carers and their young children that meet together regularly in a fun, informal environment. They are low cost and not-for-profit for all local Wodonga families who wish to join.

The council runs facilitated playgroups which are free and are for families with children aged one to three years. Young and older siblings are welcome to attend. The smalltalk playgroups are funded by the Victorian Government. If you would like to be a part of these or have further enquiries regarding times/locations, please phone the smalltalk co-ordinator on (02) 6022 9300 or 0411 989 205.

Maternal and child health

The maternal and child health (MCH) service is a free universal service available to all families with children from birth to school entry age. It provides services that offer families with young children support, information, health promotion, early identification of health concerns and appropriate intervention. Centres are located in six areas in Wodonga.

For more information, visit the children's services section of the council's website.

To make an appointment phone customer focus on (02) 6022 9300.

Story Time

Story Time is a project funded by the Wodonga Council. It is an early intervention, community-based literacy initiative designed to support families in their role of providing children from zero to five years with the best start for learning. The program involves families, MCH professionals, librarians, early childhood educators, local businesses and early years' agencies working together to improve early childhood literacy levels. Story Time promotes 10 minutes a day spent sharing stories and building a love of literacy through reading, talking, singing and dancing, drawing and playing together. Wodonga Council also films Story Time with Mrs Mac, uploading readings to YouTube. To watch Story Time with Mrs Mac visit [youtube.com/user/wodongacouncil](https://www.youtube.com/user/wodongacouncil). For more information, contact customer focus.

Wodonga Children's Fair

For more information refer to community events in this booklet or go to the council's website.

Churches

For a full listing of churches within the city of Wodonga refer to the online Albury-Wodonga Community Guide.

Citizenship

Initial enquiries to take out Australian citizenship are to be made to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC), phone 131 881. Application forms can be obtained from any post office. When an application is approved, the department advises the council, which arranges for the person to attend a formal ceremony.

CityLife

CityLife is a free publication which is issued to every household in the Wodonga municipality monthly. It advises of coming events, news and highlights of the council calendar. If you do not receive your issue, contact customer focus.

Citylife is also available as an e-newsletter delivering timely and latest news straight to your inbox. To sign up, visit wod.city/wodenews

The Cube Wodonga

118 Hovell St, Wodonga

The Cube Wodonga is the new arts, community and entertainment centre for Wodonga and is situated in the heart of the city. The Cube Wodonga features a large auditorium, a landscaped courtyard with a grassed area and LED screen, an 80-seat cafe and large open foyer and community lounge.

The Cube Wodonga has the capacity to host diverse events and deliver exciting programs. This includes touring bands and theatre shows, local community performances, film screenings, conferences, weddings and much more.

Further information is available by contacting The Cube Wodonga box office on (02) 6022 9311 or by visiting thecubewodonga.com.au
[facebook.com/TheCubeWodonga](https://www.facebook.com/TheCubeWodonga)
twitter.com/TheCubeWodonga
wod.city/TCW-eNews



Community events

FReeZA events

FReeZA is a Victorian Government initiative that partners with local communities to fund all ages, smoke, alcohol and other drug-free events. Wodonga Council is funded to stage five of these events a year. Check out the council's website for up-to-date information on youth services activities and events.

Neighbourhood Barbecues (October to March)

Residents can nominate their street for a free neighbourhood barbecue. Neighbourhood barbecues will be held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays between 6pm and 8pm during daylight saving. This is a great opportunity to meet up with your neighbours. Nomination forms are available from the Wodonga Council offices, Felltimber and Baranduda community centres, Wodonga Library or you can download a form from the council's website.

REDFest (April)

REDFest is an annual event that has been implemented for all young people in Wodonga. The event is also run by young people. The council holds the festival in conjunction with National Youth Week which is in the first week of April every year. National Youth Week allows the council to promote the festival and highlight the contribution that young people make in the community. The event is free and the only cost is food and drinks and any purchase made at the markets.

Wodonga Children's Fair (October)

Wodonga Children's Fair celebrates children and families in the community. Attendance exceeds 12,000 with contributions from more than 80 community groups. Wodonga Children's Fair is held at the Wodonga Showgrounds. Sites are provided at no cost to community groups and local businesses on the proviso that a free, interactive children's activity is offered.

Information is made available about the many local services available to children and families. Entertainment is provided through a wide range of amusements and performances. Historically, Wodonga Children's Fair has taken place in October to coincide with Children's Week. It remains the biggest celebration of children in the community.

More information is available on the council's website.

Wodonga Senior Celebrations (October)

Wodonga Senior Celebrations is a month-long event run by Wodonga Council in conjunction with organisations throughout the city to celebrate the rich contributions made by the local senior community. The event coincides with the Victorian Seniors Festival.

More information is available on the council's website.



Community centres

Wodonga has three community centres catering for preschool, maternal and child health, community rooms for playgroups and parents' support groups. The centres also offer a variety of courses for community members and rooms are available for hire.

Baranduda Community Centre

3 Sage Crt, Baranduda

Office open Monday to Friday, 9am to 3pm

Phone: (02) 6020 8643

facebook.com/BarandudaCC

wod.city/wodenews

Belgrade Avenue Community Centre

13 Belgrade Avenue, Wodonga

The office is unattended and all enquiries should be directed to Felltimber Community Centre on (02) 6043 4550

Felltimber Community Centre

189 Melrose Drive, Wodonga

Office open Monday to Friday, 9am to 3pm

Phone: (02) 6043 4550

facebook.com/FelltimberCC

wod.city/wodenews

Albury-Wodonga Community Guide

The Albury-Wodonga Community Guide is a listing of services being provided in Wodonga and Albury. The guide demonstrates the diversity of services and assets available to residents in Wodonga and Albury. The guide is available online at awcommunityguide.com.au

Council meetings

Council meetings are held on the third Monday of each month beginning at 6pm in the Council Chamber, level two, city offices. The date, time and location of all ordinary and special council meetings are advertised in *The Border Mail* prior to each meeting. Copies of meeting agendas and minutes are available on the council's website, the city offices or the library. Public attendance is welcome, with seating available in the public gallery.

Enquiries should be referred to executive services on (02) 6022 9300.

Economic development

The placement of business in the Wodonga area provides investors with distinct commercial benefits including:

- Strategic location on the main Australian transport and communications corridor;
- An established transport sector with national operations;
- A highly skilled and productive workforce with low levels of labour turnover and industrial disputes;
- Access to world standard telecommunications and information technology structures;
- Capital city services and infrastructure at much lower regional rates;
- Significant operational economies;
- Excellent education and training facilities;
- Synergies with other locally based industry;
- Excellent quality of life for employees;
- Potential regional assistance incentives; and,
- A supportive and proactive council.

For more information, contact the economic development team on (02) 6022 9300.

Emergency numbers

Emergency (for life threatening or time critical emergency) - Dial 000 for police, fire or ambulance.

PLEASE NOTE: Ambulance services - people who do not hold a Pensioner Concession Card or a Health Care Card, or who are not insured against the cost of ambulance services are liable to pay the full cost of ambulance treatment and/or transport.

The Ambulance Member Subscription Scheme is offered as a cost effective way for Victorians to ensure against user fees. Membership enquiries should be directed to Ambulance Victoria phone: 1800 648 484 or email membership@ambulance.vic.gov.au or visit ambulance.vic.gov.au

Environment

Baranduda and Felltimber Landcare groups

Baranduda and Felltimber Urban Landcare are groups of dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers working to regenerate areas of their local environment. It's a great way to spend a sunny Wodonga day, meeting new people, getting some exercise and doing something great for the environment.

For more information, visit baranduda.com/landcare or email felltimberlandcare@yahoo.com.au

Parklands

Parklands Albury-Wodonga is focused on providing opportunities for people to access and experience the extraordinary range of bush parks in and around Albury-Wodonga. Parklands is a cross border, community-based, not-for-profit organisation, undertaking conservation, recreation, cultural heritage and tourism projects for the benefit of the regional community.

For more information, phone (02) 6023 6714 or email info@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au

Exhibition centre

The Wodonga Exhibition Centre is a multi-purpose venue that hosts events such as national cattle show and sales, equestrian events, cutting horse events, pony club events, operas, trade shows and exhibitions. It is also available for casual hire. For further information, phone Wodonga and District Turf Club on (02) 6056 1214.

Fires

Burning off

Wodonga Council supports a clean and green environment. While the council does not actively encourage burning off, it is understood that circumstances arise where burning off is required.

- If your allotment is less than 2000m² (half acre) you cannot burn off - the council will not issue a permit
- If your allotment is greater than 2000m² and not zoned rural - a permit is required
- If you live on land zoned rural, you can burn off without a permit (except in the declared fire season)

You must advise the Country Fire Authority (CFA) in advance. Permit applications can be obtained from customer focus.

Footpaths/bike paths

Maintenance

Requests for improvements to paths can be made by contacting customer focus or online wodonga.vic.gov.au/help/online-services.asp

Wodonga Council has a pro-active inspection and repair program in accordance with the provisions of its *Road Management Plan*. Potential hazards are identified and given a risk rating and referred for attention by whatever treatment is deemed appropriate, which could be by grinding, placing pre-mix wedges to take out the trip hazards or replacement of whole bays.

Wodonga pathway maps

Whether taking a leisurely stroll, going for a jog, getting on your bike or taking a power walk, Wodonga's pathways offer something for everyone. They are an important part of the community, taking workers to work, shoppers to shop and children to school. They enhance quality of life. They can improve health, conserve resources, provide close-to home recreation, as well as providing an environmentally-friendly transport options. The Wodonga Pathways booklet gives you information on how to access more than 80km of bike/walking pathways in and around Wodonga. Copies of the Wodonga Pathways booklet are available from the Wodonga Sports and Leisure Centre, Wodonga Council offices, Wodonga Library and the Wodonga Visitor Information Centre or can be downloaded at wodonga.vic.gov.au/walk-cycle



Immunisation

Wodonga Council provides free immunisation to all members of the public for vaccinations on the Australian Standard Vaccination Schedule (ASVS). No bookings are required. Session days and times are available at wodonga.vic.gov.au/immunisation

If the client to be vaccinated is under 18 years, consent for vaccination must be given by a parent or legal guardian. Clients being vaccinated must wait at the venue for 15 minutes after vaccines have been administered.

The following vaccines are not on the ASVS for some individuals but may be purchased from the council:

- Hepatitis B vaccine
- Influenza
- Hepatitis A vaccine
- Combined Hepatitis A and B vaccine
- Chicken Pox vaccine
- Pneumococcal vaccine

Latest projects

If you want to keep up to date on the latest projects happening in the city of Wodonga, visit the latest projects page on council's website.

Land/overgrown land

It is the responsibility of owners of vacant land to keep their properties free of long grass and weeds, which could harbour vermin. If no action is taken to clear an overgrown property, the council will carry out the work and charge the landowner.

Library

Wodonga Library is located at 126 Hovell St, Wodonga

Phone: (02) 6022 9330

Hours: Monday to Friday - 10am to 5.30pm

Saturday: 9am to noon

Open for programs as scheduled.

Closed public holidays.

Facilities: Photocopier, public access internet (please phone to make a booking), family/local history research room.

For more information visit the library's website at wodongalibrary.com.au

facebook.com/WodongaLibrary

twitter.com/WodongaLibrary



Local laws

For a full listing of local laws for Wodonga refer to the council's website.

Markets

Albury Wodonga Farmers Market

The Albury Wodonga Farmers Markets are the place to spend your Saturday morning. Shop for the best seasonal fare while supporting local growers and producers of freshly prepared foods - all sources from North East Victoria and Southern NSW regions. Alternate weekends: Gateway Village, Lincoln Causeway, Wodonga and Hovell Tree Reserve, Albury. For more information visit alburywodongafarmersmarket.com

Mobility map

The mobility map is a fantastic resource that makes it easier to access Wodonga's central business district and the Baranduda and Birallee shopping centres. The map details a range of facilities such as car parks, bus stops, banks, public toilets, traffic lights with an audio cue, tactile ground markers, pharmacies and taxi stands.

There is a comprehensive list of emergency and essential phone numbers from the police, ambulance and fire brigade to the number for the *Disabled Persons' Parking Scheme*. The map is available from customer focus, the Wodonga Post Office, Wodonga TAFE, Wodonga motels, the Disability Advocacy and Information Service and the Visitor Information Centre. It is also available from the council's website.

Multicultural

Settlement assistance

Funded by the Australian Government's Department of Immigration and Citizenship, the Settlement Assistance Program provides settling-in assistance and advice to migrants and refugees who have come to live in Australia in the past five years and have limited English. This service is undertaken by the Multicultural Council of Wagga Wagga who have an office based in Wodonga.

Assistance in developing Australian life skills includes connecting with government agencies such as Medicare, Centrelink and the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), providing advice and support in finding a job, a place to live, a place to worship and establishing links with community groups and networks. The program also assists ethnic community groups in developing and strengthening their networks, and works with settlement service providers and the greater community to foster multicultural acceptance and understanding.

For more information, please contact settlement officer on (02) 6024 1545, or email carol.pineros@mcww.org.au

Albury-Wodonga Ethnic Community Council

The Albury-Wodonga Ethnic Communities Council is a community not-for-profit organisation and peak representative body for local ethnic communities. Its aim is to link, empower and support these communities and their members, so they can participate fully in all aspects of life on the border. Phone (02) 6024 6895 or email contact@awecc.org.au

Neighbourhood houses

For a full listing of neighbourhood houses within the city of Wodonga refer to the Albury-Wodonga Community Guide, awcommunityguide.com.au

Neighbourhood watch

Neighbourhood Watch programs operate across Wodonga. Refer to the Albury-Wodonga Community Guide for contact details at awcommunityguide.com.au

Newsletters

Council's newsletter *CityLife* is available as an e-newsletter delivering timely and latest news straight to your inbox. To sign up, visit wod.city/wodenews

You may also wish to subscribe to the following newsletters.

- Arts Space Wodonga
- Baranduda Community Centre
- Bonegilla Migrant Experience
- Economic Development
- Felltimber Community Centre
- Healthy Together Wodonga
- Latest projects
- The Cube Wodonga
- Wodonga Building Services

Noise control

Residential noise

Unless you live near a commercial zone or in a rural area, the basic rule is that neighbours must not interfere with each other's health and wellbeing or make unreasonable noise. Specifically, loud music should not be played after 10pm from Sunday to Thursday, or after 11pm on Friday and Saturdays. Lawn mowers, power tools and other loud electrical equipment should not be used before 7am on weekdays or 9am on weekends.

If you have concerns about loud or excessive noise in a residential area, you should first raise the issue with your neighbour and try and resolve it. If this is not possible, you can complain to your local council or if the matter is urgent, contact police.

For more information about residential noise, visit the Environment Protection Authority website, epa.vic.gov.au/your-environment/noise/noise-publications

Residential construction noise

Contact customer focus on (02) 6022 9300

Factory noise

(Major industries)

Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) - Wangaratta phone on (03) 5721 7277

Entertainment noise

(control of music from public premises)

EPA enforces the policy for large outdoor music events. For indoor venues such as hotels, restaurants and nightclubs, enforcement of these rules should be referred to the police.

Motor vehicle noise

Reports about noise from general traffic flow should be directed to VicRoads, phone (03) 9854 2666.

Further information can be obtained from the EPA Victoria website epa.vic.gov.au

Off-leash dog park

There is an off-leash dog park located at Belvoir Park accessible by Reuss Rd off Church St, Wodonga. The park has two dog agility runs. Waste bags are provided however you will need to bring water for your dog as there is no access to clean water at the park.

Parking

Parking is regulated within the Wodonga central business district and patrolled by the council's civic service officers. There are several public car parks and on-street parking, please observe parking signage prior to leaving your car. Parking maps are available on the Parking section of council's website.

Parking in a disabled parking bay without a clearly visible permit will incur a parking fine. Disabled parking permit applications may be obtained from customer focus and the application forms section of the council's website.

General rules governing parking include obeying the relevant parking signs, parking within marked bays, not obstructing traffic or pedestrians and allowing adequate space for other vehicles to pass. In addition to clearly marked no parking zones, vehicles are not to be parked on a bike path, footpath, shared path or dividing strip. There is also no parking on nature strips next to roads in built-up areas, or across lanes or private driveways.

Parks and playgrounds

For a full list of parks, playgrounds and their facilities within the city of Wodonga refer to the Albury-Wodonga Community Guide at awcommunityguide.com.au

Poisons Information Centre

Phone 131 126 for 24 hour advice on all exposures to poisons, medicines, plants, bites/stings.

Hospital - Albury Wodonga Health

Phone: (02) 6051 7111.

Refer to the Albury-Wodonga Community Guide for other emergency service numbers

Public transport

Bus

Dysons Wodonga

Phone: (02) 6056 3100

Taxi

Wodonga Taxis

Phone: (02) 6024 3444

Train

V/Line

Phone: 136 196

Rates and charges

Rate revenue helps fund the services that the council provides to ratepayers and residents. This revenue is collected through charging rates to the owner or occupier of rateable properties in the municipality. In setting rates to cover expenditure on services to the community, the council aims to charge ratepayers equitably - by using property values to fairly distribute rates charges.

Property values are assessed by a general valuation of the municipality. A general valuation — the process of assessing the value of all properties on the same date — is conducted by qualified valuers on a regular basis for councils throughout Victoria.

The Municipal Group of Valuers, the leadership group of municipal property professionals within Victoria, has prepared a brochure to explain how valuations are made and how rates are calculated. A copy of this brochure is available from customer focus.

Schools

For a full list of pre, primary and secondary schools within the city of Wodonga refer to the Albury-Wodonga Community Guide at awcommunityguide.com.au

Skate parks

Wodonga Council has two public skate parks in operation. James Scott Memorial Skate Park, located at Willow Park, has successfully catered for the community for many years. The facility provides activities for a range of skill levels from the beginner to advanced, and the facility is rated highly within the national skate park fraternity.

Baranduda Bowl, built in 2004, is adjacent to the Baranduda Reserve. This facility includes two grind rails, sub-box and bowl with shallow and deep sections. The Baranduda Bowl focuses on intermediate to advanced users.

Sewerage

The bulk of the municipality is sewered. Any enquiries or concerns should be directed to North East Water on (02) 6022 0555. North East Water is located at 83 Thomas Mitchell Drive, Wodonga.

Signs (Temporary)

Temporary signs and billposting are not permitted on Wodonga Council structures without permission. Contact the council for information regarding permits.

Sport and recreation facilities

For bookings or information on a particular facility listed contact the council's recreation team on (02) 6022 9300. To contact a listed club please refer to the Albury-Wodonga Community Guide at awcommunityguide.com.au

Baranduda Recreation Reserve - Sage Crt, Baranduda Facilities

Set in the rural community of Baranduda and located adjacent to the Baranduda Community Centre, this reserve includes two cricket ovals, two tennis courts and the Baranduda Skatebowl. General amenities include a barbecue area, public toilets and playground.

Resident clubs

Baranduda Tennis Club, Baranduda Rangers Cricket Club, Wodonga Storm Rugby League Club, Baranduda Auskick Club



Birallee Park - Marshall St, Wodonga

Facilities

Birallee Park hosts a range of sporting activities and is the home of the Wodonga Raiders Sports Club. The oval with lighting and netball court provides facilities for football, netball, cricket and various community events. The facility includes amenities for the club as well as a function room available to the public for hire.

Resident clubs

Wodonga Raiders Sports Club, Wodonga Raiders Junior Football Club, Wodonga Raiders Cricket Club.

Diamond Park - Lincoln Causeway, Wodonga

Facilities

Diamond Park is the home of motorcycles, radio controlled cars and model trains. The motorcycle facility includes pavilion, dirt track and motorcross track which is only accessible to members. There are two radio control car tracks which provide club competitions and are open for public use. The Lake Hume Model Engineers reside at the model train track. This group maintains the track providing rides to families on regular occasions.

Resident clubs

Albury-Wodonga Motorcycle Club, Lake Hume Model Engineers, Albury Wodonga Remote Control Car Club.

Emerald Oval - Emerald Avenue, Wodonga

Facilities

Emerald Oval is an open space features a sporting field with a football ground/synthetic cricket wicket, flood lights and a public toilet block.

Resident clubs

Belvoir Cricket Club, Wodonga Raiders Junior Football Club, Wodonga Raiders Youth Girls Football Team.

Gayview Park - Serpentine Ave, Wodonga

Facilities

Gayview Park provides public toilets and a playground for passive recreation users. The facility is also the home of baseball and softball in Wodonga and provides a full size baseball diamond.

Resident clubs

Wodonga Warriors Baseball and Softball Club.

Hockey/BMX Facility - Silva Drive, Wodonga

Facilities

Silva Drive is the location of the BMX track and the hockey field. These facilities are accompanied by a sports pavilion and car park.

Resident clubs

Hockey Albury Wodonga, Border BMX, Wodonga Hockey Club.



Kelly Park - Lawrence St, Wodonga

Facilities

Kelly Park is a significant sporting precinct. The open space area includes a playground, public toilet and sporting pavilion. The area has a dedicated turf wicket oval for cricket during summer and provides two soccer pitches with training lights during winter. Kelly Park also includes a 12 court netball facility that includes lighting for training and night games and a sporting pavilion. Tennis is also catered for at Kelly Park. There are 30 grass courts, eight synthetic grass courts and 10 plexi cushion courts. The tennis pavilion allows the facility to cater for large tournaments and has a function room available for public hire.

Resident clubs

Belvoir Cricket Club, Netball Wodonga, Twin City Wanderers Football Club, Wodonga Tennis Club, Mid-week Ladies Tennis Club, Wodonga Croquet Club.

La Trobe University Soccer Facility - University Drive, Wodonga Facilities

The La Trobe University Soccer Facility was completed in 2004. This quality regional facility includes a pavilion with four distinct change rooms, fully-equipped canteen, gallery/reception area, public toilets, extensive car parking, two full size soccer pitches, and a junior pitch all fully lit. The facility is a feature in the picturesque La Trobe University grounds.

Resident clubs

Murray United Football Club, Wodonga Diamonds Football Club.



Martin Park - Gordon St, Wodonga Facilities

Martin Park is the home of the Wodonga Football and Sports' Club providing activities for football, netball and cricket. The facility consists of two football/cricket ovals, netball court and cricket nets. The senior oval has changing facilities, canteen facility and a function room that is available for public hire. The area is open to the public throughout the week.

Resident clubs

Wodonga Bulldogs Football and Netball Club, Wodonga Saints Football and Netball Club, Wodonga Cricket Club.

Parklands Tennis Facility - Hedgerow Crt, Wodonga Facilities

The Parklands Tennis Facility is the home of Parklands Tennis Club. The facility includes 10 courts located between Catholic College Wodonga and Wodonga Middle Years College Felldoona Campus. The facility has public access to two of the courts.

Resident clubs

Parklands Tennis Club

Pat Parker Athletics Park - Pearce St, Wodonga Facilities

The athletics complex provides full facilities for athletics track and field, including a grass 400m track, and is specifically used for club and school activities. A pavilion caters for the clubs at the venue. Public access is available; however, there are no public toilets located at the facility.

Resident clubs

Wodonga Athletics Club, Wodonga Little Athletics Club

Willow Park - Pearce St, Wodonga Facilities

Willow Park is well loved by the Wodonga community for providing a great space for passive recreation. The park has a wide network of cycle paths, barbecue areas, playgrounds, public toilets and the Wodonga Skatepark. Willow Park also provides for soccer and cricket with a senior and junior oval available during cricket season and two senior soccer pitches during winter.

Resident clubs

Cricket Albury Wodonga, Wodonga Heart Soccer Club.

Wodonga Racecourse Recreation Reserve - Hamilton-Smith Drive, Wodonga Facilities

The Wodonga Racecourse Recreation Reserve has a variety of different infrastructure to provide for a range of activities.

The race track provides for horse racing activities throughout the year and includes six junior football ovals, with sporting pavilion, in the centre of the track to cater for the Auskick football program during winter.

The facility also caters for pony club activities at the Bob Pritchard Arena. The reserve is available for large scale events such as the Wodonga Show and Wodonga Children's Fair.

Resident clubs

Wodonga Auskick, Wodonga and District Turf Club, Wodonga Pony Club, Wodonga Show Society.



Wodonga Sports and Leisure Centre

The Wodonga Sports and Leisure Centre is operated by YMCA which provides a range of activities for community health and fitness. The centre aims to engage the community in healthy activity and to improve the quality of life for its members and the local community.

The excellent facilities provide a broad range of activities that will help people to become fit, healthy and live their lives to the fullest. Facilities include heated swimming pools, a five-court sports stadium and fully equipped fitness centre including spin classes and group fitness program.

The leisure centre is fully accredited with Fitness Australia, Council Of The Ageing (COTA), Eco Recycle Victoria, Heart Foundation, Swim Australia and Active Australia. The centre is open all-year round, except Christmas Day and Good Friday, and is located in Hedgerow Crt, Wodonga.

Opening hours are:

Monday to Thursday, 6am to 9pm;

Friday, 6am to 8pm;

Saturday and Sunday, 8am to 6pm; and

Public holidays, 10am to 5pm.

Please note the pool area closes 15 minutes before the centre.

For more information or any enquiries please phone (02) 6058 2555 or check out the council's website.

Personal training

Personal training is available. For more information, please phone (02) 6058 2555.

Public swimming pools

Wodonga Aquatic Venue and Exercise Space (WAVES)

WAVES is located within the White Box Rise Estate at 8 Mactier Avenue. It features:

- Amenities and administration building;
- 50m x 25m heated outdoor pool with access ramps;
- Splash pad area with interactive play facilities;
- Interconnected toddler pool with the splash pad;
- Cafe and retail area;
- Community multipurpose room available for hire; and,
- Car park area.

The facility is open from September to April each year. Opening times and admission prices are available on the YMCA Wodonga's website at wodonga.ymca.org.au



Wodonga Sports and Leisure Centre

Hedgerow Crt, Wodonga

Phone: (02) 6058 2555

The Wodonga Sports and Leisure Centre offers swimmers all round opportunities in the 25 metre eight-lane pool, supported by a warmer exercise pool, sauna and spa.

Trees

Nature strip planting

Trees on nature strips are subject to a master landscape plan for streetscapes. Projects and design (landscape design) has a draft planting strategy for every street and this identifies the type of tree that meets strict requirements for that street: such as width of nature strip, height restriction due to overhead wires, colour, shape and pruning considerations. Residents are invited to discuss their nature strip planting requests with the projects and design team. Planting will be undertaken during winter each year.

Nature strip tree pruning

If a tree is damaged, is overgrown or has died then the council's parks and gardens team will attend its pruning or removal. Under no circumstances should anyone undertake any tree work on public land without first contacting customer focus.



Parks and reserves

All tree maintenance is attended to by the council's parks and gardens' tree maintenance crews. The tree crew invite comment from the public regarding tree related hazardous issues. These will be investigated by the council's qualified arborist. Please notify customer focus of any concerns.

Tree removals on private land

Tree removals on private land are not subject to any restrictions within the normal residential zones, however you will need to check your property title to ensure no restrictions have been imposed. On larger land holdings, there may be restrictions that are under the control of Victoria's *Native Vegetation Framework*. Residents may need to contact the council's planning team to apply for a permit to remove remnant trees. This is then referred on to Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning for comment before any action can be taken or approval granted.

Street lighting

Faults

For all power and street light failures, phone 131 799.

Requests for additional street lighting should be submitted in writing to the council or over the phone to one of our friendly customer focus operators.

Vandalism

Contact customer focus with any reports of vandalism to council-owned land/property.

Graffiti

The council endeavours to remove any graffiti as soon as possible – within 24 hours. Please contact customer focus to report any instances of graffiti to council-owned land/property or online wodonga.vic.gov.au/help/online-services.asp

Visitor Information Centre

Wodonga Visitor Information Centre is located at 69 to 73 Hovell St. For further information, phone 1300 796 222, visit visitalburywodonga.com or follow us.

Facebook: facebook.com/VisitAW

Twitter: twitter.com/VisitAW

Instagram: instagram.com/visitalburywodonga



Waste management

Waste Transfer Station

29 Kane Rd, Wodonga

Hours of operation

Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm; Saturday, Sunday and public holidays from 10am to 4pm; and closed on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Anzac Day and Christmas Day.

For further enquiries please phone the Waste Transfer Station on (02) 6022 9358 or visit wodonga.vic.gov.au/recyclingcentre

For information on an initiative to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill by 50 per cent by 2020 visit halvewaste.com.au

Industry

A range of services are available through private contractors. You will need to check with service providers whether fees apply.

Residential

Wodonga Council contract Cleanaway to provide a waste, recycling and organics service to our residents.

We also provide two free waste transfer station vouchers attached to rates notices each year. Each voucher allows for the deposit of a trailer load of any waste (up to one cubic metre) at the transfer station. If you are in rental premises, you will need to obtain the vouchers from your landlord.

A hard waste kerbside collection service is not offered in Wodonga.

Organics waste collection

Organics (green-lidded bin) waste collection is completed weekly.

Recycling and garbage waste collection

Your recycling and garbage waste is collected fortnightly on the same day as your organics waste collection but on alternate weeks.

Water

Any enquiries and reporting of leaks or faults should be directed to North East Water on (02) 6022 0555 or 1300 361 644. North East Water is located at 83 Thomas Mitchell Drive, Wodonga.

Wodonga Retained Environment Network (WREN)

Wodonga has a wide range of green spaces where you can unwind, exercise or socialise. If you live on the southern edge of the city in the area from Leneva through to Baranduda, chances are that there is a special type of reserve you can access without even getting in the car.

These local reserves form the Wodonga Retained Environment Network and they provide nature to enjoy close to home. They protect threatened native species of wildlife and plants, providing the habitat on which rare and endangered creatures depend. Even the narrow strips of remnant bush along former roads are important.

Most of the reserves are accessible to the public. They offer opportunities for walking, cycling, jogging, nature photography and bird or wildlife-spotting. They are ideal places for introducing children to bushland.

It is essential that the reserves are left untouched so they can be there to benefit future generations. Wodonga Council and community groups monitor them to ensure there is no dumping of rubbish or green waste, removal of fallen limbs or dead trees, or pets roaming uncontrolled.

Volunteer groups help keep the reserves healthy through activities like revegetation and weed control. Contact the council if you would like information on a group near you. For more information visit wodonga.vic.gov.au/local-reserves

Online

The council's website is located at wodonga.vic.gov.au The site is loaded with information and has many useful links. Wodonga Council is also an active user of social media tools.

Follow the council on Twitter via twitter.com/wodongacouncil

Like the council on Facebook via facebook.com/wodongacouncil

Follow the council on Instagram at instagram.com/wodongacouncil

Subscribe to the council's YouTube channel at

youtube.com/user/wodongacouncil

Sign up to the council's many e-newsletters at wod.city/wodenews

