


COUNCIL POLICY

Victoria Park	Adopted By Council:	24/07/22	
	Date/s Revised: 08/23, 04/2025		
	Next Review Date:	04/2029	
	Document No:	CP054	
	Directorate:	Executive	
	Responsible Officer	Chief Executive Officer	

CONTEXT

Victoria Park is located on land in the township of Queenscliff. Victoria Park was reserved for Public Gardens and Recreation purposes on 20 January 1868. Camping in Victoria Park commenced in 1937.

A storm event on 29 October 2021 caused significant damage to vegetation within Victoria Park requiring the removal and lopping of many trees, including remnant indigenous Moonah's. In response, Council committed to revegetating and restoring Victoria Park. This policy supports this commitment by setting out a framework for managing Victoria Park for future use.

PURPOSE

This policy sets out the principles Council will use to manage Victoria Park to protect the environmental values and enhance the amenity of Victoria Park for all users. These principles seek to both:

- (a) deliver on Council's commitment to improving the management of Council-operated tourist parks for the benefit of the whole community, specifically, by bettering dual use areas for community and visitors alike; and
- (b) uphold Council's core value of sustainability, the protection of the environment including wildlife and its commitment to delivering environmental regeneration actions under the Climate Emergency Response Plan.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions will apply:

- **Vegetation Reserves:** areas within Victoria Park permanently reserved for vegetation
- **General Camping:** all other areas within Victoria Park that are not vegetation reserves

These areas are identified in the Victoria Park Plan 2025 (CP054 Appendix 1).

POLICY

It is policy that the following principles underpin the ongoing management and future use of the park:

Park Management

- a. Victoria Park will remain a dual use asset, a public park and place for campers with distinct areas for vegetation.
- b. Camping will be permitted in the General Camping areas from 1 September to 30 April
- c. On weekends between 30 April and 1 September where there are home football games on the Recreation

Reserve the lower parts of Victoria Park can be used to manage conflicts.

- d. No camping will be permitted in Vegetation Reserves.
- e. Council will look to establish means to ensure equality of access to the camping sites within the park.
- f. Council's management of the park will comply with relevant state legislation, policies and guidelines, including but not limited to improving equity of access to Crown Land, Caravan and Camping parks 2011, and Crown Land Caravan Park Policy update 2019.

Environmental Management

- a. Council will complete all necessary revegetation works within 5 years from the date of this policy.
- b. Revegetation will include an appropriate mix of indigenous and exotic plants, recognising and extending Victoria Park's unique and ecologically diverse history. These will include Moonahs and significant tree and shrub species.
- c. There will be a strong focus on increasing tree canopy and density, creating a cooling atmosphere, maintaining biodiversity and increasing habitats at the site over the long-term.
- d. Initiatives will be undertaken to attract and return birdlife to the site.
- e. Action will be taken to enhance the restorative appeal and amenity of the site.
- f. Vegetation management in the park will be consistent with Council's vegetation policies and strategies.

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

This policy will be reviewed on a continuous basis, every four years, consistent with other Council policies. Each review will entail:

- (a) the incorporation of any relevant new key plans and policies which impact the park, such as the Vegetation Management Policy.

OTHER REFERENCES

Borough of Queenscliffe Climate Emergency Response Plan

Wadawurrung Healthy Country Plan

Policy Statement - Improving Equity of Access to Crown Land Caravan and Camping Parks 2011

CP057 Vegetation Management

END