



Local Law No.6 & Subordinate Local Law No.6 (Bathing Reserves) 2011

Local Law and Subordinate Local Law No. 6 provides the framework for council to designate bathing reserves in its region and to manage the behaviour of users in bathing reserves

What is the intent of the local law?

The local law enables council to—

- designate safe, supervised bathing areas within bathing reserves
- manage the conduct and use of aquatic equipment within bathing reserves
- assign life-saving clubs to manage bathing reserves on its behalf
- appoint authorised persons to manage conduct in bathing reserves

How does the local law affect you?

If you use a bathing reserve, you will be subject to any rule or direction of a Surf Life Saving Queensland (SLSQ) lifeguard or authorised person of a life saving club.

Bathing reserves and bathing areas

Bathing reserves have boundaries set by the State government and are under council's control.

A bathing reserve will generally have a bathing area marked out by two patrol flags. The area established by SLSQ's lifeguard or other authorised person, must be situated in safest and most suitable position for bathing in view of the prevailing conditions.

The local law provides for an outer boundary which is 400 metres seaward of the patrol flags.

Signs indicating bathing reserve

Signs will be installed by council to mark the boundary of a bathing area it intends to patrol.

Closure of a bathing reserve

An authorised person may close a bathing reserve by placing a red flag in a prominent position on the foreshore.

Under no circumstances should you enter the water when the red flag is flying.

Reservation of a bathing reserve

A part of a bathing reserve may at any time be set aside for life-saver training on a non-exclusive basis.

An application must be made under *Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011* for the exclusive use of a bathing reserve or part of a bathing reserve for lifesaver training, competitions or other special occasions.





Use of aquatic equipment in bathing reserves

Aquatic equipment is prohibited within bathing areas except in certain circumstances (i.e. the use of a rubber float or board that does not pose a risk of injury).

An authorised person may temporarily set apart a particular part of the bathing reserve for the use of aquatic equipment.

Behaviour in bathing reserves

The local law requires users of bathing reserves to behave in an appropriate manner and respect other users. There are some things that cannot be carried out or behaviours tolerated in a bathing reserve, they include—

- taking a dangerous object into the facility (i.e. spear gun)
- demonstrating dangerous and/or anti-social behaviour
- using prohibited equipment (i.e. jet ski)
- sounding a false alarm (i.e. shark alarm)
- obstructing an authorised person
- interfering with life-saving equipment

Life-saving clubs

Council may appoint a life-saving club with the responsibility for patrolling a particular part of a bathing reserve.

SLSQ lifeguards and surf life-saving patrol members wear a distinctive uniform, generally consisting of—

SLSQ Lifeguard

- red/yellow shirt (Lifeguard printed on the front and reverse)
- red shorts

- red/yellow hat

Surf life-saving patrol

- yellow/red shirt (Surf Rescue printed on the front and reverse)
- red shorts
- red/yellow hat

Where can I get more information?

A copy of the Sunshine Coast Council local laws and subordinate local laws may be viewed at—

- www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/locallaws
- Council's Customer Service Centres
- Libraries
- www.dlqp.qld.gov.au
- Alternatively, you may wish to contact council by telephoning (07) 54757272 during normal business hours, or alternatively by e-mail at mail@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

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