

# Mordialloc Creek Wetland at Aspendale Gardens

Update March 2009

## Plans to create the Mordialloc Creek Wetland between Waterways and the Wells Rd / Boundary Rd bridge at Aspendale Gardens are progressing.

In November last year, we displayed and distributed community information about the construction of the wetland. Approximately 50 people, mainly local residents, attended sessions and showed strong support for the proposed works. Feedback indicated that local people appreciated the benefits the works would have on creek health, native habitat and local amenity.

A number of people expressed a desire to have tree screenings on the north side of the creek to mask the industrial area. Others expressed a wish to be able to access and cross the wetland. As the main purpose of the wetland is to improve flood management and water quality, we've referred concerns regarding screening and access to the City of Kingston.

In March this year, we lodged a planning application with the City of Kingston. They are currently assessing it and will provide advice before the project can begin. Once the planning process is complete, a construction program will be prepared and we will be able to provide details about the construction of the wetlands.

The proposed wetland will help to re-establish waterbird habitat along the creek, improve drainage of this former swampland area and filter stormwater from the Dandenong Valley catchment. It will also look more attractive.

We've built over 40 wetlands across Melbourne since 2002 and the \$7 million Mordialloc Creek Wetland will be one of the largest.



See over for more information.

**What is the planning application for?**

It's to remove vegetation so that we can commence construction of the wetland.

**What will happen about preserving the existing vegetation?**

We're investigating collecting and reusing any existing vegetation that is considered valuable. Where possible, we will avoid removing significant vegetation. This will be considered as part of the planning application.

**How long does the planning application take to be assessed?**

The City of Kingston is currently assessing Melbourne Water's application. The assessment will take some months.

**What works would be done?**

The work would involve:

- removing the levee bank on the Braeside side of the creek;
- removing soil and silt from the flood plain and placing it on land on the Braeside side of the creek; and
- planting the wetland and the areas around it.

**When would the works begin?**

The earthworks are planned to start soon after the planning process is complete.

**How long would the works take to complete?**

Earthworks are expected to take six to twelve months, depending on weather and site conditions. Planting will occur after earthworks are complete. Details will be available once a constructor is engaged and a construction program is prepared.

**Why are we proposing the work?**

The land on the north side of the creek in Braeside, between the creek and Canterbury Road is subject to flooding. The works would enable the creek to carry more water after heavy rain and reduce the risk of flooding. We're also helping to reduce the amount of nitrogen getting into Port Phillip Bay. Nitrogen in stormwater runoff causes damage in marine waters. The new wetlands will stop about 1.7 tonnes of nitrogen every year from entering the bay.

**Would trees be planted to screen the industrial area from the wetland?**

The trees we are proposing to plant as part of the project will provide some screening. We've referred the community's desire for more screening to the City of Kingston.

**Would there be public access into the wetland?**

The wetland has been designed to allow for potential, future public access. We have referred residents' suggestions about this to the City of Kingston.

**For more information** please contact:

David Reginato on 9235 2188 or [david.reginato@melbournewater.com.au](mailto:david.reginato@melbournewater.com.au)

Michael Keough on 9235 2121 or [michael.keough@melbournewater.com.au](mailto:michael.keough@melbournewater.com.au)