

THE TOP PRIORITIES

The Environment Strategy is our path to the desired outcome of the Natural Environment & Sustainable Living goal area of the Mount Barker District Strategic Plan, which states: The natural environment is celebrated, promoted and protected. Conflicts between development and the environment are managed to minimise impacts and to compensate where significant impacts are unavoidable. The District is known for the commitment of its community to live within sustainable limits.

Our top priority actions are to:

- Install a high-speed electric vehicle charging station in Mount Barker
- Explore potential for Council buildings to be energy neutral
- Increase uptake of lower environmental footprint housing
- Improve public waste management in Mount Barker township, Hahndorf, and at selected events



MOUNT BARKER
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Follow the implementation of the
Environment Strategy and read it in full at
www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au/environment1



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Environment Strategy

A Smaller Footprint for Mount Barker District



PURPOSE

The natural environment is one of the things we love about Mount Barker. Council recognises the importance of taking a leadership role to guide us all in protecting and enhancing our cherished wetlands, trees, wildlife habitat, parks and open spaces.

The Mount Barker Environment Strategy is one of several lead strategies to inform the implementation of the Mount Barker 2035 District Strategic Plan. With a strong understanding of the state of our environment and support from the community, the Strategy provides a framework for all to participate in protecting our environment.

The purpose of the strategy is threefold:

- To align local environmental objectives with broad strategic goals.
- To provide guidance for environmental initiatives that is informed by environmental challenges and opportunities, and a strong understanding of community needs and priorities.
- To provide a framework for monitoring and measuring progress.

THE STRATEGY

	ENVIRONMENT GOAL	ACTION
1. Low-carbon & resilient	To reduce GHGs by 3% per year together with the community, based on the 2017 emissions profile	Develop and implement an action plan to reach GHG reduction target
		Investigate carbon neutrality
		Install a high-speed electric vehicle charging station in Mount Barker township
	To implement adaptive responses to climate change	Complete Council's Local Climate Change Adaptation Plan with implementation strategy
	To increase Council's renewable energy sources and improve energy efficiency	Develop an energy action plan with recommendations of the LGA energy efficiency audit & green economy opportunities
		Explore potential for regional sports hub, wastewater treatment plant & other Council facilities to be energy neutral
Install solar panels on Council rooftops		
2. Biodiverse	To support the implementation of the Biodiversity Strategy	Select priority actions from Biodiversity Strategy each year & ensure they are resourced sufficiently to be implemented
		Undertake an inventory of undeveloped road corridors and reserves
	To work with partners on projects to improve and enhance biodiversity	Raise community awareness of biodiversity values and provide opportunities for people to connect with nature
		Coordinate development of linear parks, greenspace and reserves along watercourses with trails development
3. Livable	To build community awareness and support for best practices in sustainable development in urban and rural settings	Increase uptake of lower environmental footprint housing through demonstration & encouraging homebuyers to choose more energy efficient housing options
		Progress and enable models of sustainable development throughout the district
		Hold events & workshops to raise public awareness of characteristics & benefits of sustainable development in urban & rural settings
	To improve integration of energy efficiency considerations into the development process	Design a future Council building to follow best practices in energy efficiency
		Undertake canopy cover mapping to identify urban heat sinks and guide additional tree planting
	To improve the accessibility of sustainable transport options	Encourage walking & cycling by promoting benefits, enhancing trail amenities & connectivity to greenspaces, residential areas & schools
		Advocate for expanded public transport services and improvements to traffic flow to benefit bus passengers
Support the design of a driverless car community in the district		
4. Water Wise	To reduce household mains water consumption by 10% per capita below 2017 levels by 2023	Provide information and incentives to encourage more water efficiency
	To minimise impacts of development on stormwater runoff and riverbank erosion	Require water sensitive urban design (WSUD) to be presented in development in accordance with Council & regional policy
		Establish local native vegetation in riparian zones to prevent erosion where needed
		Work with neighbouring councils & LGA to lobby State government for more stringent WSUD requirements in new development
	To reuse 100% of recycled wastewater	Identify and implement ways to use more recycled water
5. Resource Efficient	To reduce waste to landfill by 10% per capita	Improve public waste management along Hahndorf Main Street and Gawler Street in Mount Barker and at selected events
		Collaborate with partners to raise awareness about landfill waste, recycling, e-waste, composting & to promote waste reduction
	To improve the waste diversion rate	Develop and implement the Mount Barker Waste to Resources Management Plan

Green = Priority action

Implementation & Monitoring

The Strategy is organised into five topic areas that characterise our reduced footprint: Low-carbon and resilient, biodiverse, liveable, water wise and resource efficient. Each has two or more environmental goals and several actions.

Actions are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-bound (SMART) to ensure implementation. Each action links to one or more District Strategic Plan objectives and identifies a priority level, timeline and outcome measure. Council will monitor projects as implemented and report on progress annually.

A full review of the Environment Strategy will be undertaken after five years.

