



Are you ready for the storm season?

Living in the Mackay region is beautiful, but it comes with responsibilities.

Over the last two years, our region has felt the brunt of floods, cyclones and unseasonal rain and council is urging residents to ensure they are adequately prepared for the upcoming summer storm season.

Mayor Col Meng said a few hours spent preparing an emergency kit and securing your home could mean the difference between life and death.

"After the events of 2010 and 2011, Cyclone Ului and Cyclone Yasi, we can ill afford to become complacent about the dangers of these events."

"Council's Emergency Action Guide provides valuable information on how to best prepare for the storm season and also includes information on cyclones, floods, storm surges and bush fires."



In preparation, residents and businesses are urged to tidy up their yards, check roofs, clean out gutters and make sure all the building structures around the home and in the community are safe and secure.

If you happen to spot a neighbouring structure that looks unsafe please lodge a request with council. Council will be visiting known problem areas, areas that are known to accumulate rubbish, in an effort to address these problems before the wet season commences.

To find out if all the building structures on your property have council approval please contact council.

>> A copy of council's Emergency Action Guide is available at council's Customer Service Centres.



Tis' the season to be jolly...

One and all are invited to celebrate Christmas with Mackay Regional Council at a variety of Community Christmas Tree celebrations and Carols in the Gardens.

At each event there will be plenty of food and drink stalls for carollers, an exciting line-up of local and visiting performers, an appearance by Santa Claus and the magical lighting of the Christmas tree.

Council's Christmas tree celebrations are at the following locations:

- > Calen - Saturday, December 3 on McIntyre Street from 5.30pm
- > Walkerston - Saturday, December 3 at Anzac Park from 6.30pm
- > Sarina - Wednesday, December 7 on Broad Street from 5.30pm
- > Mackay - Saturday, December 10 at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre from 5.30pm

The Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens Christmas in the Gardens will be held on Saturday, December 17, at the Gardens from 5.30pm.

>> These events are family friendly and alcohol free.

\$3 Million upgrade to Mirani's water

Mirani residents can look forward to increased water pressure thanks to a \$3.3 million upgrade to the network.

The upgrade involves the installation of new water mains ranging from 150mm to 250mm in diameter from the Marian-Bolden Road reservoir and new equipment including booster pumps and a generator.

Water and wastewater portfolio councillor Deirdre Comerford said the upgrade is a significant step towards providing greater security of water supply for the area.



"The project will increase the water supply to the area providing increased reliability during a period of growth."

Works are due to commence in the coming weeks, with 80 per cent completion expected by late June 2012.

>> For further information please contact council on 1300 MACKAY (622 529).

New waste levy

Waste management is about to change in Queensland with the State Government introducing a \$35 per tonne waste levy from December 1.

Commercial, industrial, construction and demolition businesses will have to pay the new levy, which council is required to collect.

Waste Services portfolio councillor Greg Thomsen said residential customers and waste that is recycled will be exempt from the new charge.



"This is a Queensland Government charge that has been brought in with the aim to reduce waste to landfill."

"Council has no choice but to collect the levy on behalf of the State."

>> For further info visit the State Government's website www.derm.qld.gov.au.

Save on travel expenses



Find out how you can save money on travel costs and help reduce your green house gas emissions at the launch of council's online carpooling website on Tuesday, November 22 at the front of council.

From 7.30am to 8.30am all those who come along will receive a free breakfast, go into the draw to win fantastic prizes and of course be introduced and educated on carpooling.

>> To get started simply visit www.mackayregioncarpool.org and register your details.

Did you know?

Local artists and art organisations have the chance to access funding for future projects through the Regional Arts Development Fund. Submissions close Nov 23. Contact council for more info.