

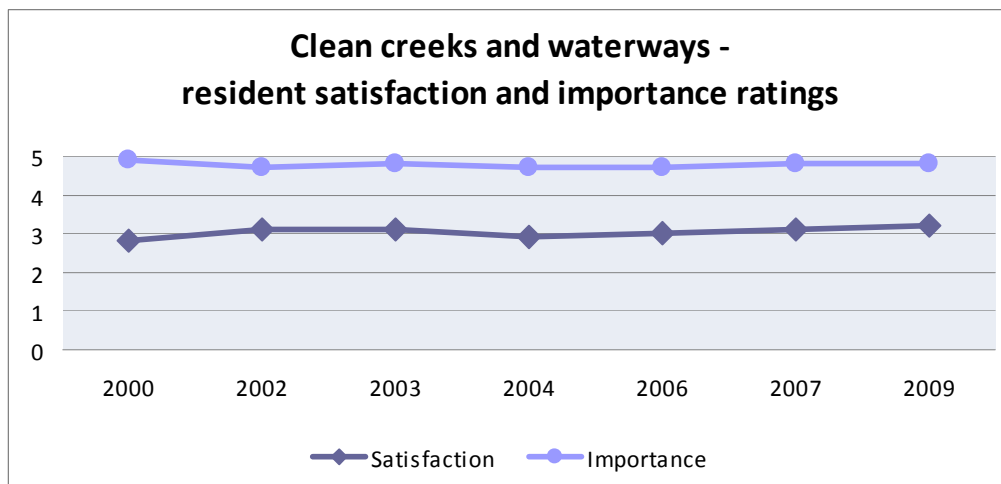
Water – water quality

What are we monitoring?

The difference between resident satisfaction with and their importance rating for clean creeks and waterways

What is the trend?

Residents' rating of importance for clean creeks and waterways decreased slightly from 4.9 in 2000 to 4.8 in 2009 while their satisfaction increased from 2.8 to 3.2 in the same period. However, a significant gap between importance rating and satisfaction continues to exist.



CLEAN CREEKS AND WATERWAYS							
Satisfaction ratings							
Year	2000	2002	2003	2004	2006	2007	2009
Rating	2.8	3.1	3.1	2.9	3	3.1	3.2
Importance ratings							
Year	2000	2002	2003	2004	2006	2007	2009
Rating	4.9	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.8

Why is monitoring this trend important?

Clean creeks and waterways are an important part of protecting the environment, preserving biodiversity and enhancing people's enjoyment of this natural asset. Resident perceptions of clean waterways relate to observable amounts of rubbish, silt and urban run off in creeks and streams. This issue is of very high importance to residents with 95.1% rating it of high importance in 2009. Satisfaction has consistently rated well below the importance of this issue, indicating that further improvements need to be made in keeping urban pollution out of waterways.

Source: Blue Mountains City Council, Blue Mountains Community Surveys: 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2009. The Survey is conducted every one to two years. Ratings are given on a 1-5 scale, with 1 the lowest level of importance and satisfaction and 5 the highest. www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/yourcommunity/communitysurvey