

WATERFOWL

in the Blue Mountains

Feeding Waterfowl

Waterfowl are web-footed birds, such as ducks and geese, which live at our waterways – particularly places like Glenbrook Lagoon, Wentworth Falls Lake and Blackheath Memorial Park. Waterfowl are great wildlife to watch and many people feed them on a regular basis.



Native ducks

Unfortunately, the good intention of feeding the waterfowl has disturbed the delicate ecological balance by: Causing an explosion in numbers; Increasing the risk of sickness and nutritional problems in the bird populations; Resulting in the hand fed birds becoming aggressive; and, Causing water quality problems and increasing health risks.

Non native duck



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Introduced waterfowl

DON'T JUST DUMP WATERFOWL!

Introduced waterfowl such as ducks and geese make great additions to our homes but do not belong in our natural wetlands and public waterways. If you want to know more about keeping waterfowl or need a home for birds that you can no longer care for contact your local RSPCA www.rspca.org.au

Or other useful websites such as www.backyardpoultry.com

NEVER JUST DUMP unwanted waterfowl in our waterways!

Always remember that the cute little chicks today will grow up to be adult birds that will require your commitment to care for them for life!

- Lots of introduced waterfowl means lots of faeces in and around our water – making it unhealthy.
- Increased competition of resources between introduced and native ducks.
- Introduced Mallard ducks crossbreed with native Black Ducks.
- Introduced ducks feed on bankside plants, causing bank erosion and muddied water.
- They make a mess of our picnic areas and water with feathers and faeces.



Commonly seen introduced species

Visions of improved water quality

We all want to safely enjoy our wetlands, whether they are a place to relax or to gather for fun in the water.

Not feeding the waterfowl is the first step to minimising pressures and improving water quality at our favourite water places.

Even the ducks say its true... a great way to show that you care about our wetlands and wildlife is by not feeding them!

