

ALCOHOL FREE ZONES & ALCOHOL PROHIBITION AREAS IN MOSS VALE, BOWRAL AND MITTAGONG

File No. 5402

The Services and Infrastructure Committee of Wingecarribee Shire Council, has at their meeting on 5 December 2007, declared the streets and carparks listed below as Alcohol Free Zones for a three-year period from December 2007 to December 2010. This is the maximum period allowed under the Local Government Act (1993) although the Alcohol Free Zones can be re-established every three years.

Bowral

Bong Bong Street (Bowral Street to Bundaroo Street)
Bendooley Street (Bowral Street to Bundaroo Street)
Station Street (Bowral Street to Bundaroo Street)
Bowral Street (Bendooley Street to Station Street)
Banyette Street
Boolwey Street (Bendooley Street to Station Street)
Wingecarribee Street (Bendooley Street to Station Street)
Merrigang Street (Bendooley Street to Station Street)
Bundaroo Street (Bendooley Street to Station Street)
Wattle Lane
Argyle Lane
Lamond Lane
Oxley Mall Carpark
Woolworths Carpark
Cinema Carpark
Merrigang Street Carpark
Banyette Street Carpark

Moss Vale

Argyle St (Waite St to Valetta St)
Clarence St
Kirkham St (Argyle St to Elizabeth St)
Valetta St (Argyle St to Elizabeth St)
Elizabeth St (Kirkham St to Valetta St)
Lackey Road (Argyle St to Railway pedestrian over pass)
Tuckerbag Carpark
Elizabeth St Carpark
Kirkham St Carpark

Mittagong

Main St (Pioneer St to Albion St)
Bowral Road (Main St to Pioneer St)
Pioneer St (Main St to Bowral Road)
Albert St (Alice St to Pioneer Rd)
Regent St (Albion St to Princess St)
Bessemer St (Bowral Rd to Old Hume Hwy)
Memorial Hall Carpark
Main St Carpark

Council has also resolved to prohibit the consumption of alcohol between 9pm and 6am in the following parks and reserves (noting that the Police can enforce this type of Council signage under Sec 632 of the Local Govt Act 1993 – Acting contrary to notices erected by councils):-

Bowral

Corbett Gardens
Memorial Park
Loseby Park
Settlers Park
Cherry Tree Walk

Mittagong

Lake Alexandra
Ironmines Oval
Winifred West Park

Moss Vale

Leighton Gardens
Bevan Badgery Park

The declaration of the Alcohol Free Zones reflects concern that there is anti-social and irresponsible behaviour arising from the consumption of alcohol on the streets and carparks listed. The Alcohol Free Zones will be operational from 19 December 2007 and/or when the Alcohol Free Zone locations are adequately signposted.

Council has resolved that these Alcohol Free Zones be reviewed annually.

The Police advise that they will be able to provide enough resources to enforce the proposed Alcohol Free Zones on Streets and carparks and the alcohol prohibition signs on parks and reserves.

Excluded from the provisions of the Alcohol Free Zones are tables or chairs on any existing or future footpath areas licensed by Council for the purpose of food and alcohol consumption.

The legislation states that Alcohol Free Zones should primarily be located adjacent to outlets supplying alcohol where drinkers congregate. In the absence of such an outlet, a zoning should be considered only in exceptional circumstances. Public places that are public roads or car parks (on public or Crown land) can be included in an Alcohol Free Zone. Parks and reserves are NOT eligible to be signposted as Alcohol Free Zones, hence Council's resolution to erect signs prohibiting the consumption of alcohol between 9pm and 6am in a number of parks and reserves.

The maximum fine for drinking in an Alcohol Free Zone is 0.2 of a penalty unit (\$22) after an initial warning by Police. The maximum penalty for drinking of alcohol in a park or reserve where drinking is prohibited by signposting, is ten penalty units (\$1100).