

HUT NEWS

"Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow's People"



AMENDMENT

We apologise that there was an error on Page 1 of November *Hut News*. The correct information is on the right →

WHAT WAS WRONG ...

In the box on the bottom left hand corner of Page 1 we said that we would be holding meetings about a "Draft Vegetation Management Order 2002" which was on display at Blue Mountains City Council offices and libraries. This of course should have said Draft Local Environment Plan 2002.

DRAFT LEP 2002 IS IMPORTANT.

It is our best chance to protect our natural environment and stop urban sprawl and overdevelopment of the Blue Mountains.

Please take the time to look at Draft Local Environment Plan 2002 before 13 December and make a submission.

LEP 2002 is long overdue. Council voted to prepare it in 1984. The first half was completed in 1991. Council planners have now put in a huge amount of work to identify what needs to be protected within the city area and what needs to be done to reduce impacts of urban development on the surrounding World Heritage Area.

We expect that there will be loud opposition to the plan—there has already been some. Unfortunately some residents will see any restrictions on land use as a contravention of their 'rights'. We need to understand that, as a community living in a World Heritage Area surrounded by National Parks, we have 'responsibilities' to look after the land. Having a good environment plan in place will stop urban sprawl and over-development of the Blue Mountains.

It is up to us to support the good aspects of the Draft LEP by sending individual submissions to Council. We also need to inform Council of any problems. Please read the information presented in the newsletter, visit the exhibitions and ask questions of the planners, fill out a form (available at the exhibition), and make a submission to Council.

And don't hesitate to contact the Land Use sub-committee through Monica Nugent 4784.1631 or email monican@bigpond.com.au if you need any help in identifying how the Plan will affect your locality or in writing a response. We are happy to bring the maps to small groups at your home or to the bushland you are worried about.

The closing date is Friday, 13 December, 2002, at 5 pm.

Draft Local Environment Plan 2002

will be on Display until 13 December at Blue Mountains City Council Offices (Katoomba and Springwood) and at all Blue Mountains City Council Libraries (except Wentworth Falls)

We have organised a series of meetings for members and friends to discuss the DLEP2002. The meetings will be held in the Lower, Mid and Upper Mountains to discuss environmental issues in each sector.

Meeting venues and dates are:

KATOOMBA Council building
6pm Thursday Nov 14th
(notify us if you may be late to arrange access).

SPRINGWOOD Neighbourhood Centre
7.30 pm, Friday Nov 8th
organised jointly by SWAG and BMCS

BLAXLAND Neighbourhood Centre
7.30pm, Tuesday Nov 12th
organised jointly by RAID and BMCS

A Council planner will attend and be able to answer questions.

Please read the information in the newsletter and visit the exhibitions to become familiar with the Draft LEP.

(If you would like child care to be arranged, please contact us asap)

Contact Monica Nugent on **4784 1631**, or email monican@bigpond.com.au for more information