

MEDIA RELEASE



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DO SOMETHING!

Waverley winning the war against plastic litter **Free water available at Bondi and Bronte beaches**

As part of its war against bottled water litter, Waverley Council has installed a number of hi-tech bubblers at its popular beaches in Bondi and Bronte.

In a move that will reduce litter and save people money, thirsty beachgoers can now refill their water containers free of charge at Bondi and Bronte beaches. A water refill station will also be installed at Tamarama Beach in time for summer.

The new bubblers came about because last summer's water bubbler trial was such a success.

Waverley Mayor Sally Betts said the temporary water refill station at Bondi Beach was a big hit.

"Over a nine week period last summer the water trailer at Bondi Beach refilled on average 1,192 500ml bottles each day. The result was so strong that we have now installed permanent water refill stations at our beaches and also at Calga Reserve."

"We have also seen a marked drop in plastic bottle litter on our beaches. In 2007, on one day we found over 300 containers left on Bondi Beach. After the bubbler trial we found just over 40."

"The installation of the permanent water refilling stations is part of Council's wider strategy in its battle against plastic bottle litter."

2010 NSW Australian of the Year and Do Something! Founder Jon Dee congratulated Waverley Council on its efforts to get people to "Go Tap" and reduce bottled water waste.

"One of the key reasons why Australians are spending half a billion dollars a year on bottled water is because there aren't as many water bubblers around any more," he said. "By installing these modern water refill stations, Waverley Council will help people save money and the environment at the same time. It will also keep people hydrated at the beach."

Council has provided a sustainable schools small grant to St Clare's College to help install a water refill station for their students. They have decided to not sell bottled water from their canteen unless the temperature reaches 32 degrees.

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