

# Illegal camping

**Darebin has many open spaces, parks and playgrounds for everyone to enjoy. These have been set up for visiting only and not for camping. There are many safety issues caused by staying or sleeping in a non-dedicated camping area.**

Illegal camping does not always take place in parks or open spaces. It is also known to happen on building sites and in streets or areas where people sleep in cars. It poses safety risks for the individuals involved and can create issues for neighbours.

## **Our approach to illegal camping**

Our priority is to work with the community and resolve issues around illegal camping in a proactive way. If you are having any concerns about your accommodation please contact us and we can either connect you with relevant organisations for assistance and support or help you work through other options.

If you are travelling or passing through Darebin there are several dedicated places along the Hume Highway to stop and rest.

These places are very close to the Darebin local area and are mostly at service stations or service centres where there is access to parking, food, water, toilets and in some cases showers and phones.

Those rest places are located at:

- Hume Hwy and Cooper Street, Somerton
- Hume Hwy and Stanley Drive, Somerton
- Hume Hwy and Truck City Drive, Campbellfield
- Hume Hwy, north of Fabio Court, Campbellfield
- Hume Hwy and Mahoneys Road, Cambellfield
- Hume Hwy, north of Patillos Lane, Craigieburn

The Coburg Caravan Park can also be found nearby. It is a popular spot for travelers, backpackers and sightseers and is close to shops and other facilities. The Coburg Caravan Park is located at 265 Elizabeth Street Coburg.



## Local law

The local law prohibits illegal camping on a road, building site or in a public area unless it is within an area licensed as a caravan park. This includes camping in any moveable or temporary form of accommodation such as:

- tents
- caravans
- motorhomes
- vehicles
- shipping containers
- sleeping bags or swags



Council officers regularly patrol the local area and respond to issues and concerns raised by the community in relation to illegal camping.



## Possible penalties

Although our first priority is to work with the community on this issue, the local law enables Council to take further action if required. This means Council can issue fines for people who are illegally camping in the local area.

**\$ Illegal camping fine - \$200**

## Reporting illegal camping

If you have concerns about illegal camping please contact Council by:

- ✓ calling **8470 8888**
- ✓ emailing [mailbox@darebin.vic.gov.au](mailto:mailbox@darebin.vic.gov.au)

For more information contact our Local Laws team:

 **8470 8888**

 [www.darebin.vic.gov.au](http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au)

### CITY OF DAREBIN

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