

## **HOW TO REPORT A POLLUTION INCIDENT**

### ***Introduction***

These guidelines are designed to help people observe, record and report pollution incidents in the Cooks River. Under the CooksEye Program people are encouraged to:

1. notify the pollution incident to the relevant agency as soon as possible, and
2. report the incident and the notification to the CRVA's Water Quality Co-ordinator

### ***What to record***

#### **Time, date, location**

Your location is important as well as the location of what you saw. For example, you might have been crossing the river on a footbridge and seen a discharge coming from a stormwater drain. The location of the footbridge and the drain are important.

#### **State of the tide, weather**

River level, direction of tidal flow, wind direction, recent or current rainfall

#### **Observations**

- floating pollutants eg oil slick [identity of pollutant, colour, extent and direction of flow]
- suspected source of pollutant, eg drain, broken drum, sewerage inspection chamber
- odour, associated material eg toilet paper
- affected wildlife eg birds, fish [species, numbers, condition]

#### **Photographs**

Photographs can be very useful.

### ***How to notify the relevant agency***

Phone numbers of some relevant agencies are listed below. Keep them in your mobile phone so you can notify immediately. When speaking to the agency, ask for the name of the staff member who deals with you and what action will be taken, eg an investigation, a return phone call to you. Make a note of the time of your call. Send photographs.

### ***Agency contact details***

- **131555** Pollution Hotline – NSW Department of Environment , Climate Change and Water
- **132090** sewage leaks - Sydney Water
- **9789 9300** Canterbury Council
- **9335 2222** Marrickville Council
- **9562 1666**..Rockdale Council
- **9748 9999**..Strathfield Council

### ***How to notify the Cooks River Valley Association***

Notify CRVA by calling CRVA's CooksEye hotline.

- **0401 639 996** CooksEye hotline

Email your report, with your name and contact details, all of the above information and your

photographs to CRVA's Water Quality Co-ordinator – **cookseye.cooksriver@gmail.com**

### ***Other useful numbers***

- **0428 862 852** Australian Seabird Rescue - sick and injured pelicans
- **1300 094 737** WIRES - injured animals
- **131 388** Energy Australia - bats on electricity wires

