



## **LE FEVRE PENINSULA**

### Community information

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The Le Fevre Peninsula is the heart of Adelaide's thriving port, with a diverse range of industrial activities co-existing with residential land uses.

The Port River has a rich maritime history and the Osborne Maritime Precinct is a world-class import and export hub for South Australia.

The area is also a place of strong cultural and spiritual values for the Kaurna Aboriginal Nation.

#### **Caring for our environment**

Le Fevre residents enjoy and value the environment and are actively involved in its protection and enhancement. The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) licences activities of environmental significance in the area and monitors water, air and noise pollution.

The EPA's role includes ensuring that all reasonable and practicable measures are taken to protect, restore and improve the environment and safeguard people's health and wellbeing.

In undertaking its responsibilities, the EPA works closely with communities, industry, local councils, universities and other government agencies to enable innovative and sustainable environmental practices.



# Licensing industry and regulating compliance

The EPA licenses around 80 sites on the Le Fevre Peninsula that undertake activities of environmental significance. Many of these industries have been in operation for some time, with homes already existing in close proximity.

One way the EPA manages the environmental impacts from these industries is by setting licence conditions. Licence conditions are developed with the licence-holder to ensure that all reasonable and practicable measures are taken to prevent or minimise environmental impacts.

The EPA conducts regular inspections of licensed facilities and reviews emissions data to ensure compliance with licence conditions. Other regulatory tools used by the EPA include: environment improvement programs, environment management plans, expiations, environment protection orders, and prosecution.

Major licensees and industrial activities regulated by the EPA in the area include:

- Cement works
- Fuel and bitumen storages, including site contamination assessment and monitoring
- Bulk shipping and grain loading operations
- Power stations

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## Air quality monitoring

The EPA conducts air quality monitoring around the state and has two permanent air quality monitoring stations on the Peninsula - one at Birkenhead (Le Fevre 1) and one at North Haven (Le Fevre 2).

Monitoring results are available on the EPA website ([www.epa.sa.gov.au](http://www.epa.sa.gov.au)) through quarterly summary reports, and an Air Quality Index is updated hourly, reporting against the National Environment Protection Measure (NEPM) standards.



Air monitoring assists in improving our understanding of pollution patterns and trends, along with the long-term impact on communities. Air monitoring stations on the Le Fevre Peninsula record ozone, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and PM<sub>10</sub> (particles 10 micrometres or less in diameter).

On an annual average, Le Fevre Peninsula generally sits within the 'Good' spectrum above.

Air quality measured by particle size and composition is an indicator used to measure particles which are visible and may cause a nuisance, but are not necessarily a health concern. Long-term average concentrations of PM<sub>10</sub> are generally higher than other areas of Adelaide but are still within national environmental standards.

Air quality on Le Fevre Peninsula is influenced by both local sources (those located in the area) and regional sources (that which enters the area).

The EPA works closely with several licensees on the Le Fevre Peninsula to reduce the level of dust, noise and odour emissions. Environmental improvements have been achieved at many licensed sites on the Le Fevre Peninsula including Adelaide Brighton Cement.

Exhaust fumes from high traffic volumes and industrial activities also contribute to the air quality in the area and the EPA provides technical advice to the Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) about these issues.

## Noise monitoring on Le Fevre Peninsula

The Le Fevre Peninsula contains a large range of noise sources, ranging from industrial noise to freight and passenger train movements.

The EPA has been working with the City of Port Adelaide Enfield on a joint noise monitoring program. A network of nine noise monitoring stations was deployed around key locations to identify major noise sources and their impact on the surrounding area (please see locations on the map on page 4).

The results will be used to inform noise management and urban planning decisions.

## Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016

Littering and activities that cause nuisance such as noise, smoke and dust impact on our enjoyment of local areas. The introduction of the *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016* helps communities resolve local environmental complaints more efficiently through their local council.

The new Act gives councils increased powers to deal with issues in their areas, such as unsightly premises and illegal dumping.

The Act formalises the role of local government in managing local nuisance issues to provide consistency of services across all councils, create better tools for enforcement and more effectively deal with localised minor environmental complaints.

The EPA assists the City of Port Adelaide Enfield, under the Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016, in managing local nuisance such as:

- noise from fixed and non-fixed domestic machines such as air conditioner compressor, swimming pool pumps, lawnmowers and power tools
- dust and activity noise from development and construction sites
- smoky wood heaters.

# EPA licensed sites, air quality monitoring stations and noise monitoring sites



# Water quality challenges and improvements

Since the early 1990s the EPA's focus has been on improving discharges into the marine environment and Port River.

The EPA manages water quality legislation such as the *Environment Protection (Water Quality) Policy 2015* as well as the *Adelaide Coastal Water Quality Improvement Plan (ACWQIP)* to improve the quality of Adelaide's coastal waters and rivers.

Environmental programs have resulted in a substantial reduction in nutrient discharges from most of the metropolitan wastewater treatment plants and the now closed Penrice Soda Holdings, as well as a reduction in algae.

Improvements in the Port River have been linked to an increase in the local dolphin population (Bossely *et al* 2016) and community monitoring is also showing the recovery of seagrass in the Port River near Torrens Island.

Current priorities are focused on understanding the characteristics of fine sediment in the waters close to the coast. Work is being undertaken to develop a program to reduce the impact of fine sediment, such as reducing stormwater discharges. The EPA is also working closely with other government agencies to develop strategies to further protect our coastlines through the state government's 'New life for our coastal environment' program.



*The EPA has worked with Alberton Park Primary School to create a rain garden, providing water retention for plants and diverting stormwater runoff from the school car park.*

## Water Sensitive Urban Design: rain gardens

Rain Garden 500 was part of the Catchment to Coast Project, funded through the Australian Government National Landcare Programme.

The three-year grant project provided the opportunity for local councils, community groups, schools, sports clubs, or a group of motivated individuals to apply for funding to build a rain garden in the Adelaide region.

Rain gardens improve the quality of stormwater from our streets and other hard surfaces such as car parks, before it travels to our local creeks, rivers and the sea.

Rain gardens are one of the many ways local residents can improve our environment around the house and garden. A rain garden can reduce the volume of nutrients, sediments and surface water runoff leaving our properties.

As well as creating habitat for local fauna such as birds, insects and butterflies, they can lower temperatures in urban areas and help improve the health of Adelaide's coastal waters by diverting stormwater runoff.

Small changes in the way we manage our households, such as collecting rainwater and washing your car on the lawn, are simple ways to help improve the health of Adelaide's coastal waters.

Alberton Primary School was successful in gaining funding through the Rain Garden 500 and the Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges NRM, to build a rain garden as part of 'The Nest' nature play upgrade to the grounds near their preschool (see picture on page 5).



## Community engagement

The EPA has a dedicated community engagement team that always welcomes the opportunity to hear from local residents.

You can contact a member of the team on phone: (08) 8204 2004 or by emailing: [engage.epa@sa.gov.au](mailto:engage.epa@sa.gov.au)

Please let us know how you would like us to engage with you.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

For **further information** please contact:

Environment Protection Authority  
GPO Box 2607, Adelaide SA 5001  
Telephone: (08) 8204 2004  
Email: [engage.epa@sa.gov.au](mailto:engage.epa@sa.gov.au)  
Website: [www.epa.sa.gov.au](http://www.epa.sa.gov.au)

For **health related information** please contact:

Scientific Services Branch  
Public Health Services, SA Health  
11 Hindmarsh Square, Adelaide SA 5000  
Telephone: (08) 8226 7100  
Email: [public.health@health.sa.gov.au](mailto:public.health@health.sa.gov.au)  
Website: [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au)

