# Frequently Asked Questions



August 2023

#### Noosa Woods '10pm - 4am No Parking Zone' Trial

### Why is Council trialling a '10pm - 4am No Parking Zone'?

In response to growing community frustration, Council is conducting a 10pm-4am No-Parking Zone trial at Noosa Woods to curb illegal camping, which is having a significant impact on amenity, community safety, and the environment.

Council received 434 complaints about illegal camping in 2022. This year complaints have already surpassed 400 with five months still to go.

Carparks and streets aren't intended for camping, nor set up with suitable toilet and shower facilities, and cooking facilities/areas.

By trialling the 10pm-4am No Parking Zone, this strategy will not only direct campers to appropriate facilities that meet their needs, but also enable more people who wish to get a parking spot near the beach and access local businesses in the morning a chance to do so.

The overnight 'No Parking' strategy, which is inline with the approach other local government areas are adopting to address illegal camping, will give Local Laws Officers additional avenues to generate compliance with local laws. Police will also be able to enforce the 'No Parking' signs if they are called to Noosa Woods to deal with anti-social behaviour during the night.



Image: Illegal campers at Noosa Woods

#### Where will the trial be implemented?

The trial will be rolled-out along Claude Batten Drive. However, the first two carparks will be unaffected and remain open for 24/7 parking.



Image: Noosa Woods 10pm - 4am No Parking Zone

#### When does the trial start?

The trial 10pm-to-4am No Parking Zone along Claude Batten Drive will commence August 28, with an initial two-week transition period where enforcement will focus on education to allow the community time to adapt to the changes.

Council will review the trial arrangements after two months, considering factors such as the number of illegal camping/parking infringements issued, and community feedback.

Local Laws Officers will continue to conduct illegal camping patrols throughout the shire, including Noosa Woods. At times these patrols will be carried out in conjunction with Queensland Police.

#### Why did you choose 10pm - 4am?

These hours are consistent across other local government areas, including the Sunshine Coast Council area, and have been adopted to limit confusion among residents and visitors.

The 10pm-4am no-parking arrangements are also consistent with those used in other areas across Australia where illegal parking is an issue.

### I work in Hastings Street and finish after 10pm, where should I park?

To minimise the impact on residents, Hastings Street staff and visitors to the precinct at night, the first two carparks at the Hastings Street end of Claude Batten Drive are excluded from the 10pm-4am No Parking Zone.

Local Laws officers will increase night-time patrols of these two carparks to ensure they're not being used by campers moved on from the Spit.

Additional parking options for individuals after 10pm include:

- Noosa Heads Main Beach
- Noosa Heads SLSC 3P control signs end at 5pm
- Lions Park 4P control signs end at 5pm
- Bay Village
- Maze carpark 3P control signs end at 5pm
- Street parking The 2P signs in Hastings St end at 5pm.
- Parking along bus route 620 (Noosa Junction/Tewantin), which leaves Hastings Street on the hour until 11 pm.
   See the Translink <u>website</u> to plan your trip.

#### Where can I legally camp?

Noosa has various low-cost camping areas that cater for vans and offer access to appropriate toilet and bathroom facilities as well as cooking facilities, so there is no need for people to camp in vehicles in parks, streets, and carparks.

For those looking to camp legally, the following facilities are available:

- Noosa North Shore Beach Campground
- Noosa River Holiday Park
- Ingenia Holidays Noosa North
- Big 4 Ingenia Holidays Noosa
- Boreen Point Campground
- Upper Noosa River Camping Area
- Habitat Noosa Everglades Eco Camp
- Pomona Caravan Park
- Cooroy RV Stopover

For budget camping options, visit <a href="https://www.anycamp.com.au">www.anycamp.com.au</a> for more great campsites.

People in genuine need due to housing issues who may be living in cars are not the target of this enforcement effort. Local Laws Officers are trained to assist people in need with referrals to services that may be able to support them to find accommodation.

## Will I get fined if I collect my vehicle from the 'No Parking' area after 10pm?

The focus of the trial is to target illegal campers who abuse the free parking areas. However, if you park in the areas signed 'no parking' after the stated time, you may receive an infringement notice. We therefore encourage you to please use alternative parking as outlined above and help us set a good example.

## If the trial is successful, will other areas become no-parking zones at night?

If the trial is deemed successful, the Council may progress to stage 2 of the initiative and allocate other areas for overnight 'no parking' trials.

#### What if the trial isn't successful?

If the trial is deemed unsuccessful, Council will consider alternative options, or whether changes can be made to improve the effectiveness of overnight 'no parking' zones to deter illegal camping.

#### **Further questions**

If you have any further questions or would like to provide feedback regarding this trial please contact Noosa Council.



Image: Beautiful Noosa Spit Recreation Reserve

We appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and enjoyable environment for all community members and visitors.

Thank you.

#### Stay Updated

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#### **Contact Us**

07 5329 6500 mail@noosa.qld.gov.au (Subject line: Noosa Woods '10pm-4am No Parking Zone' Trial)