

Main Yarra Trail Restoration

Factsheet August 2023



Starting this month, we'll be undertaking important restoration works along the Main Yarra Trail in Warrandyte. The Main Yarra Trail is much-loved by our community and an important environmental asset to the area.

As this is a restoration project focusing on repair and rejuvenation, our works won't drastically change how the trail looks. We're committed to returning it to its original state as much as possible, in line with Warrandyte's beloved semi-rural feel.

Why are the works needed?

The trail has suffered from heavy rainfall in recent years, resulting in significant damage to its structure and the surrounding plants. If not restored, the trail is at risk of long-term damage. The restoration project aims to address the issue of flooding that limits community access and causes erosion. The goal is to maintain the trail's original look and feel.

Where will the works be?

The restoration process will occur in eight sections between Everard Drive and Tills Drive in Warrandyte. The extent of restoration work in each section will vary based on the extent of damage. Please refer to the details provided on the back of this sheet for more information.

What will the works include?

For most of the trail, we are simply levelling out the path, adding more gravel, weeding and planting. Some small sections will need more extensive structural work, including:

- Cement stabilisation under some sections of the path (covered by rock to look the same as the remainder of the trail).
- Retaining a small section of the trail adjacent to Police Street, to stop the trail from eroding into the river.
- Due to severe path erosion, a boardwalk will replace the trail under the oak tree east of the Kangaroo Ground – Warrandyte Road Bridge.

Will cement stabilisation impact the environment?

It is important to restore the trail with a more durable surface to avoid the path becoming unpassable due to rutting and erosion caused by concentrated water flow and flooding.

The sections of the trail where we will use cement stabilisation already have a compacted surface, so the ground's permeability will only be slightly affected. Our experienced engineers and arborists have determined that this minor change will unlikely harm nearby tree roots, as they've already adapted to the compacted surface.

Will there be any additional works?

We're taking the opportunity to make some additional improvements to the trail at the car park near Kangaroo Ground Bridge. We'll improve the drainage to reduce flooding from stormwater. We'll also upgrade the path to improve accessibility for wheelchairs, cyclists, and prams. The path design will complement the aesthetic of the surrounding area. Please refer to the back of this factsheet for details.

When will the works occur?

The project is scheduled to commence in August. We expect to conclude at Tills Drive by the end of the year, subject to weather and site conditions.



Interpreter service **9840 9355**

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Will the trail be closed during restoration?

Sections of the trail will need to be temporarily closed during the week but will reopen for the weekend. We'll have detour signage in place to support you in enjoying the trail as normally as possible during the works.

For more information:

 [manningham.vic.gov.au/
main-yarra-trail-restoration](https://manningham.vic.gov.au/main-yarra-trail-restoration)

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Summary of works along the Main Yarra Trail

All sections will include weeding of invasive species and planting of native plants to encourage new growth. The trail will be refreshed with a new earthy coloured rock and graded to support better drainage.

Please note that the works may change depending on the path's condition during construction.

Section 1: Everard Drive to Police Street

This part of the trail will be levelled out with rock, weeds will be removed, and new planting will be done to encourage growth. Some minor drainage improvements will also be made, including new drainage pits at Stiggant Street carpark and Police Street carpark.

Section 2: Police Street to 81 Yarra Street

This section of the trail has experienced severe erosion, so retaining works will be installed to prevent further damage and ensure that the trail remains usable in the future.

Section 3: 83 to 119 Yarra Street

To prevent severe erosion and ensure that this section of the trail stays usable, it will be stabilised with a cement base and covered with gravel to visually blend in with the rest of the trail.

Section 4: 'The Beach' adjacent to 141 Yarra Street and Webb Street carpark

The lower path will not be touched, but the upper path will be stabilised.

Section 5: 141 to 177 Yarra Street

This section of the trail will be levelled out with gravel, weeds will be removed, and new planting will be done to encourage growth. Additionally, extensive weeding and planting will be done in the Rainwater Garden opposite 177 Yarra Street to improve its ability to clean storm water and reduce pollution in our waterways.

Section 6: 183 Yarra Street to the Bridge Street carpark

Similar to section 3, this part of the trail will be stabilised with a cement base and covered with rock to prevent erosion and reduce water ponding.

Section 7: The carpark on the public toilet side of Kangaroo Ground Bridge

Various improvements will be made at this location, including upgrading the drains in the carpark, removing the gate and adding bollards for better pedestrian access, fixing any damaged structures (including the memorial), stabilising the trail with a cement base and rock, and replacing the existing asphalt path with a new path that is wheelchair, cyclist, and pedestrian friendly.

Section 8: 284 Yarra Street to Tills Drive

To address severe erosion, a boardwalk will be installed under the Oak Tree, and certain sections of the trail will be widened from 1.5 to 2+ metres to improve the trail connection to and from Warrandyte State Park. This will make it easier for users travelling to Tills Drive, the Stonehouse, and Warrandyte State Park.