

















Georges Riverkeeper

Words to know

Take these pages for a walk... what can you see?



1. Waterways

A waterway is a place where water flows, such as a river, creek, wetland, or bay. What waterway are you connected to? Find your local waterway on the map.

> "Everything is connected through waterways."

Look for

- the river itself
- nearby creeks
- A drain flowing into the river

---

2. Estuary

In an estuary, fresh water and salt water mix together.

> "The Georges River connects to the ocean."

Look for: how the waterway flows; point upstream to freshwater, downstream to the estuary and ocean.

---

3. Catchment

A catchment is all the land where .rainwater flows into the same waterway

> "All the rain in this area flows to the same river."

Look for:

- roads
- homes
- parks
- roofs
- suburbs

All are part of the river's catchment.

4. Stormwater

Stormwater is rainwater that flows from roads, roofs, and footpaths into drains and waterways.

> "Stormwater flows to rivers without being cleaned."

Look for:

- drains
- gutters
- pipes
- water flowing after rain

---

5. Pollution

Pollution is something harmful entering the environment.

> "Things we drop on the ground can end up in the river."

Look for:

- litter
- plastic
- Cigarette butts
- Chemicals
- Excess soil
- Leaf litter

Georges Riverkeeper

6. Habitat

A habitat is a place where plants and animals live.

> "Healthy waterways create healthy habitats."

Look for:

- birds
- fish
- crabs
- insects
- trees
- muddy edges
- mangroves

---

7. Native Species

Native species are plants and animals that have lived in this environment for a very long time.

> "Native species create healthy habitat"

Look for local plants or birds where possible

---

8. Mangroves

Mangroves are trees that grow in salty water along river and creek edges.

> "Mangroves protect waterways and provide habitat."

Look for

> mangroves, tidal areas,
> mud flats, erosion on the bank

9. Riverkeeper

A Riverkeeper is someone who looks after and protects a river.

The idea is:

> "EVERYONE can help care for waterways."

Possible examples:

- not littering
- picking up rubbish
- respecting habitat
- learning about local waterways
- teaching children
- noticing pollution

REMEMBER

> "The river supports us. We can support the river too."

Take a rubbish bag and some pick up sticks.

- Pick up some litter when you're out enjoying nature.

> **"Be A Riverkeeper.**
> **Pick it up before the water does."**

Georges Riverkeeper

LOVE YOUR WATERWAYS

We all have a role to play in protecting our waterways. Here are five simple actions we can do to help make them clean and safe for everyone to enjoy!

georgesriver.org.au/love-your-waterways



'LOVE YOUR WATERWAYS' IS PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY

Cooks River Alliance · Georges Riverkeeper · Parramatta River Catchment Group · Sydney Coastal Councils Group

Published June 2021