Reimagining Your Moonee Ponds Creek

February 2024

We're transforming Moonee Ponds Creek into a more natural looking waterway and enjoyable community space.

Melbourne Water is leading the delivery of the project on behalf of the Chain of Ponds Collaboration Group, and in partnership with Merri-bek City Council, Moonee Valley City Council, Department of Energy, Environment & Climate Action (DEECA), and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.

Project update – what's the latest?

It was a very rainy start to the year, with one of the wettest January's on record. This meant that we weren't able to do some of the big activities as we had planned, and it caused some delays to our schedule.

Creek naturalisation and rockwork: While we had some hold ups with the weather and high flows in the creek, we were able to complete the rockwork on the concrete base of the creek this month. Works to put the 'pond' back into Moonee Ponds Creek are now in progress, along with works to create stepped terracing (like a natural amphitheatre) on the creek banks. This is an exciting part of the project where we're making better use of open space by creating public gathering spaces for the community to enjoy.

Did you know?

We have a timelapse camera set up for the project, which is capturing snapshots of progress over time. Watch our updated video from September to December 2023, as we replaced the concrete walls of the creek and covered the bottom of the channel with rockwork. Check it out on our web page.







Reimagining

Your Creek







Shared paths: We'll be installing safety fencing along some sections of the new concrete shared path along Brosnan Crescent over the coming months. A new gravel path along the southern bank of the creek is now complete, however we need to keep this closed until the earthworks in this area are complete. Similarly, the shared path on the Merri-bek side (northern side of the creek) will be one of the last activities to be completed, after the pond and terracing works are finished (approximately April 2024).

Revegetation: We planted almost 200 aquatic plants on the bottom of the creek channel in December 2023. The remaining plants will be installed in early Autumn.

Updated timing of project activities

| What | When |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Stage 1: Moonee Valley Council shared paths | Completed (excluding safety fencing) |
| Stage 2: Channel rockwork | Completed |
| Stage 3: Revegetation | May 2023 – June 2024 |
| Stage 4: Construction of new bridge | April 2024 (during school holidays) |
| Stage 5: Construction of Merri-bek shared path | March 2024 - April 2024 |
| Stage 6: Construction of pond, channel bank terracing, and new stairs | December 2023 – June 2024 |

Cultural immersion trail

Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation are currently working with design consultant Kelp Creative to create an experiential trail along the banks of the creek. This trail will highlight the cultural and natural values of the waterway, and celebrate Moonee Ponds Creek as a place owned, lived in and celebrated by Wurundjeri people.

Using a mixture of signage, art and digital media, the project will invite trail users and the community to learn from Elders and knowledge holders about aspects of Wurundjeri culture and history, and encourage people to become better connected and care for Country. The Cultural Immersion Trail is scheduled to be completed in July 2024.

This project is supported by the Department of Energy, Environment & Climate Action (DEECA) through the Port Phillip Bay Fund.

Keep up to date with what's happening

For more information about this project, visit the project web page at:

www.melbournewater.com.au/RYMPC

Email: mooneeponds.creek@melbournewater.com.au

Phone: 1800 952 911



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