

Vaucluse and Diamond Bay Ocean Outfalls

April 2017

Sydney Water recommends people avoid fishing, swimming, or coming into contact with the water near three ocean wastewater outfalls in the Vaucluse and Diamond Bay area.

Three outfalls, shown on the map over the page, collect wastewater (sewage) from Watsons Bay, Rose Bay North, Vaucluse, Diamond Bay and parts of Dover Heights. Built between 1916 and 1936, they are part of our early wastewater system.

The outfalls discharge untreated wastewater, which can pose a risk to public health.

We recently learned that some members of the public are accessing the areas near the outfalls for activities such as diving, fishing and abseiling. **We encourage the community to consider doing these things away from the outfalls.**

Sydney Water recently installed signs along the cliffs above the affected water and rock platforms. We've advised recreation groups that they should avoid the areas near the outfalls. We are also developing more permanent ways to inform individuals who may occasionally pass through the area.

Managing the outfalls

These outfalls are licensed by the EPA. Sydney Water is working with the EPA and NSW Health to better understand the health and environmental risks from these outfalls, to determine appropriate future actions to minimise these risks.

Beachwatch recommends people avoid swimming near stormwater drains and sewage outfalls. To know more about this, visit the Beachwatch website:

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/beach

To know more

To know more, visit sydneywater.com.au, or call our Community Relations team on 1800 645 466 or email

vauclusediamondbay@sydneywater.com.au



Cliff-face outfall locations

