

Mandatory portable toilets required to camp at Pelican Bay and Dorrigo South camping areas, Inskip Peninsula Recreation Area

Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) have implemented a waste management plan to protect the natural environment, your coastal camping experience and visitor health.

This includes purpose-built toilet facilities across five of the seven Inskip Peninsula Recreation Area (IPRA) camping areas and the introduction of mandatory portable toilets for campers in Pelican Bay and Dorrigo South camping areas.

All campers in the Pelican Bay and Dorrigo South camping areas must now bring and use a portable toilet during their stay.

Even if you are only camping for one night, you are still required to bring and use a portable toilet.

Why make portable toilets mandatory?

Pelican Bay and Dorrigo South are the only camping areas within the IPRA that do not have toilets facilities. High levels of bush toileting in these camping areas have the potential to contaminate this fragile coastal environment and poses an unacceptable risk to the health and safety of campers and visitors. Human waste can alter nutrient levels in the sand and the ground water and may carry harmful bacteria such as *E. coli* (*Escherichia coli*) and *Salmonella* (*salmonellosis*) which could cause serious illness in some people.

What if I don't bring a portable toilet?

An on-the-spot fine of over **\$518 (from 1 July 2026)** applies to any camper who fails to bring and use a portable toilet when camping at Pelican Bay or Dorrigo South camping areas. The penalty amount will increase each financial year from July 1.



Benefits of portable toilets

Portable toilets will:

- reduce human waste entering the environment.
- improve public health and hygiene for all campers.
- protect the environmental, cultural heritage and amenity values of the site.
- ensure camping is sustainable at the current capacity.
- improve waste disposal practice.
- reduce pollution and protect underground water reserves.



Portable toilet requirements

- Toilets must have a sealed waste holding tank and be transportable and suitable for emptying into a portable toilet waste facility.
- Bag and bucket style toilets are not permitted.
- Minimum requirement of one portable toilet per camping permit holder.



Open bucket style portable toilet



Bag style portable toilet



Manage your waste sustainably

- Empty your waste into the purpose-built toilet waste disposal facility. It is illegal to bury a noxious substance, such as portable toilet waste. On-the-spot fines apply.
- For your convenience, the Gympie Regional Council portable toilet waste disposal facility is located at Clarkson Drive, Rainbow Beach.
- After use wash down the toilet waste disposal facility with the hose provided.



Friendly reminder

- Do not empty your portable toilet waste into any toilets in the recreation area as it creates a risk to human health. On-the-spot fines apply.
- Do not dispose sanitary items, disposable nappies and toilet wipes into the toilet waste disposal facility as these items will block the system. Bag these items and take them home for disposal.

Further information



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