

# Lake Macdonald



## Play it safe

Our rangers regularly patrol our lakes, parks and recreation areas. However, they can't be everywhere to help you so it is important to plan ahead and play it safe when visiting.

### Before your visit, please:

- check our recreation and safety notices at [seqwater.com.au](http://seqwater.com.au)
- know what activities are permitted and where
- buy permits and carry the right safety equipment
- familiarise yourself with our access rules and policies.

### Protect our water supply

Our lakes are also our water supply. To protect our drinking water please:

- leave the facilities as you found them. Do not damage any property, wildlife or plants
- place litter in the bins provided
- leave your pets at home or if permitted, keep them within the designated areas - dogs and other domestic animals can disturb the wildlife that live in our natural areas.

Serious aquatic weeds like water hyacinth, salvinia and cabomba are very invasive and are able to reproduce from even the smallest of fragments or seeds. Help protect our

waterways from damaging weeds by:

- cleaning and drying anything that came into contact with the water, especially any visible mud or plants
- eliminating water from all equipment before transporting it anywhere, as the water may contain plant fragments or seeds
- not placing plants, fish or other animals into a body of water they did not come from.

# Visit Lake Macdonald

## What to do at Lake Macdonald

Lake Macdonald, part of South East Queensland's drinking water supply, is located near Cooroy on the Sunshine Coast. The lake has a catchment area of 49.0km<sup>2</sup> and holds 8,018 megalitres of water at full supply.

We are one of the few bulk water providers in Australia that manages open catchments, allowing the community to enjoy recreational activities on the dams and lakes that supply our drinking water.

Lake Macdonald provide a range of outdoor recreation facilities for you and your family to enjoy. The dam and recreation facilities are open to the public seven days a week, from 5:30am to 6:30pm (September – April) and 6:00am to 5:30pm (May – August).

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters around Lake Macdonald and Elders both past and present.

### At Lake Macdonald, you can enjoy:

- BBQs and picnics
- boating (non-powered)
- canoeing
- kayaking
- sailing
- rowing
- fishing
- bird watching

There is no swimming, motorised boating or water skiing allowed at Lake Macdonald.

### BBQs and picnics

Mary River Cod Park, located off Collwood Road, allows visitors to access the lake via the boat ramp and pontoon. The park also has a wash down facility, picnic table and toilets.

Jabiru Park, located off Grange Road, is a natural setting, allowing visitors to watch the wildlife from the bird hide.

Lake Macdonald Park, the Botanic Gardens, Kookaburra Park and Tinbeerwah School Park are provided and maintained by the Noosa Council.

### Boating

Boating is a popular activity at Lake Macdonald for fishing and nature lovers. Electric powered watercraft, sail craft and paddle craft are permitted on the lake. For your safety and to protect the riparian areas around the lake, boats and vessels are only to be operated from the designated launch points located at:

- Lake Macdonald Park (Lake Macdonald Drive)
- Mary River Cod Park (Collwood Road)
- Jabiru Park (Grange Road) – paddle craft only

Note that motorised watercraft, water skiing, jet skiing, wakeboarding and tubing are not permitted on Lake Macdonald.

Please be courteous to our neighbours. Much of the land surrounding the lake is private property. Do not launch, retrieve or beach on land around the lake, other than at signed, designated recreation areas.

All activities on Seqwater lakes are covered by the Boating Regulations set by Maritime Safety Queensland ([www.msq.qld.gov.au](http://www.msq.qld.gov.au)).

### Camping

There is a campground near Lake Macdonald. The site is run by private operators. For all enquiries and bookings please contact the campground directly.

### Fishing

Fishing is permitted on Lake Macdonald from vessels, as well as from the shoreline of designated recreation areas.

Please be courteous to our neighbours. Much of the land surrounding the lake is private property. Accessing private land to fish is not permitted. Remember the lake is also home to an abundance of wildlife. It's very important to ensure that all rubbish, especially fishing line and hooks, is disposed of properly to avoid serious harm to wildlife.

### Fishing permits

A fishing permit is required at Lake Macdonald.

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries controls the fishing rules and regulations in Queensland and administers the Stocked Impoundment Permit Scheme (SIPS). Please visit [www.daf.qld.gov.au](http://www.daf.qld.gov.au) to purchase a SIPS permit or for a list of outlets in SEQ that sell permits.



### Tracks and trails

Lake Macdonald is one of the starting points for access to the Noosa Trail Network, which caters for walkers, runners, horse riders and mountain bike riders. Trail maps and information are available from the Noosa Council website – [noosa.qld.gov.au](http://noosa.qld.gov.au)

### Blue-green algae and recreation

Cyanobacteria (commonly known as blue-green algae) are naturally occurring bacteria that live in lakes and waterways. Most of the time algae exist in low numbers, however, under certain conditions algae can grow rapidly, called an algal bloom, and sometimes produce toxins that can harm your health if you swim, boat or fish in algae-affected lakes.

You can check blue-green algae levels on our website at [seqwater.com.au/recreation/blue-green-algae-and-recreation](http://seqwater.com.au/recreation/blue-green-algae-and-recreation).

### Download our public safety app

Our public safety app combines dam release notifications, dam levels information, recreation, safety and lake closure updates and weather alerts. Search 'Seqwater' on the App Store or Google Play.

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