

Lake conditions remain rubbish

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Tuggeranong Community Council president Darryl Johnston said he was continually being approached by residents concerned about the condition of the lake.

Mr Johnston said while lake closures due to blue green algal blooms was an annual event, the filthy condition of the water was more common. He said every heavy downpour of rain brought rubbish and filth into the lake.

"If they're dumping their waste into our water courses it's going to flow into our lake," he said. "It's going to damage our lake and it's going to damage our environment."

The council will speak about the problem at the next meeting on February 7.

TAMS Road Maintenance Services manager Ken Marshall said the gross pollutant traps for Lake Tuggeranong were cleaned twice a year as part of the network schedule for the Territory's traps. He said the traps would also be cleaned if the area recorded a significant amount of rain, usually 25mm.

"The gross pollutant traps are useful and vital and we remove an enormous volume of material from them," Mr Marshall said.

The traps were set up to block the passage of large items such as shopping trolleys and litter but leaves and grass would generally flow through the filters.

However, Mr Marshall said the traps were an "imperfect cure" in keeping the lake clean and preventing garden waste and litter from entering the drains in the first place was a far better option. He said the Lake Tuggeranong traps had been scheduled for a clean out this week but this would likely be delayed due to the predicted rainfall.