

Campsite Maintenance Know-How



Talking about toilet paper

It's interesting, the things walkers talk about.

Take the topic of toilet paper. The standard line is that walkers should carry their own and not expect it to be provided – see www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au/the-track/. As a maintenance volunteer, you are not obliged to provide replacement rolls – although I know that some like to, as a way of making their campsite more welcoming.

However, at some campsites the PaWS District officers arrange for toilet paper, as well as buckets of disinfectant with brushes, to be provided. A good example of this is Donnelly District, where Bibbulmun Track toilets might have commercial style loo paper dispensers with the large rolls! They also like to provide chopped firewood for walkers' use – which is helpful in the wet forests.

This inconsistency understandably confuses walker expectations.

The difference comes down to the mindset and opportunities of the District officer with regards to their responsibility for the Track. There seems to be diversity between the Districts in their workload on other recreational assets and fire management; how oriented they are to visitor services vs. asset management; and simple personal attachment to the Bibbulmun Track therefore the desire to support walkers. The section in DBCA which does have oversight of the whole Track (and may therefore be able to implement some consistency) doesn't usually get involved in operational management.

So if you happen to engage in a conversation on this topic – whether out on the Track or on social media – you might feel able to explain things using the perspective provided here.