



MEDIA RELEASE | 14 August 2023

Swap your opera house yabby nets for free!

Residents in the City of Victor Harbor can swap their opera house style yabby nets and replace them with wildlife-friendly nets for free this September.

From 1 July 2023, opera house style yabby nets were banned in all South Australian waters (including both public and private waters).

The ban, implemented by the South Australian Government, aims to help protect native aquatic fauna at risk from the use of the enclosed style nets. It also brings South Australian laws in line with the majority of other Australian states.

The ban is relevant to both recreational and commercial fishers who are still able to use pyramid nets and drop nets for yabby fishing.

To assist residents, the Council is offering to replace old yabby nets with wildlife-friendly alternatives for free.

City of Victor Harbor Deputy Mayor, David Kemp, said the offer is available to all residents in the City of Victor Harbor.

“Opera house style nets are a risk to air-breathing aquatic animals such as platypus, freshwater turtles and native water rats,” said Deputy Mayor Kemp.

“We want to support our local fishing community to make this important change. Don’t miss this opportunity to swap your net over, free of charge!”

The opera style yabby nets can be swapped at the City of Victor Harbor Depot (21 – 37 Greenhills Road, Victor Harbor) at the following days and times:

- Tuesday, 5 September 2023 – 9am to 4pm
- Wednesday, 6 September 2023 – 9am to 4pm.

A maximum of two yabby nets per person can be swapped. Only available until stocks last.

For more information about the yabby net swap program, contact the City of Victor Harbor at (08) 8551 0500 or email localgov@victor.sa.gov.au.

For more information about permitted fishing gear in South Australian waters, visit the Department of Primary Industries and Regions website at www.pir.sa.gov.au.