

# Indian Myna Birds

Indian Mynas, also known as Common Mynas, are introduced birds considered as a local pest species. They can have a negative impact on biodiversity by competing with local wildlife for nesting sites and hollows.

They are often viewed as a social nuisance as they can have noisy communal roosts, favour nesting in roofs of houses and can foul outdoor eating areas.



## To help reduce Indian Myna birds in your area:

- Ensure that all holes in roofs and eaves are blocked off to prevent Indian Mynas nesting in your home
- Ensure food scraps and pet food are not accessible to Indian Mynas. Don't feed native birds as this can also encourage Indian Mynas
- Avoid planting exotic palms and other non-native trees that the Indian Myna birds prefer for roosting
- Reduce the amount of area dedicated to lawn, as this is where Indian Mynas like to feed. Replace lawn and exotics plants (noting Councils Tree Management Order Guidelines) with native plants that are local to the Shellharbour area. This will help encourage native birds and help prevent Indian Myna birds from becoming dominant in the area.



Sightings of Indian Myna birds can be reported using the free FeralScan app, available at [www.feralscan.org.au](http://www.feralscan.org.au).



Results from the impact of Indian Myna bird trapping programs are varied, however if residents wish to consider trapping Indian Myna birds traps can be obtained from:

**Albion Park Men's Shed**

253 Tongarra Road, Albion Park

0431 387 022

Open Tues, Wed, Thurs - 9am to 3pm

Council does not supply traps to the community. Plans for Indian Myna Bird traps can also be obtained from [www.indianmynaaction.org.au](http://www.indianmynaaction.org.au).

Council advises that any trapping of Indian Myna birds requires adherence to the animal welfare code of ethics (Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979). Euthanasia is the responsibility of the trap operator and must be carried out in accordance with the codes of practice and standard operating procedures produced by the NSW Department of Primary Industries. Trappers must read and be familiar with the procedures outlined in Methods of Euthanasia (GEN001) and Trapping of Pest Birds (BIR002), prior to conducting any control activities; these documents are available at <https://pestsmart.org.au>.

There are many other ways you can help improve our local biodiversity such as:

- Using safe, organic gardening techniques and avoid using pesticides and herbicides
- Creating a habitat garden for wildlife with layers of local native trees, shrubs, ground cover plants and mulch, building a frog pond, and learning about ways to attract our local wildlife into your garden
- Keeping your pets in at night and walking your dog on a lead
- Learning about local weedy plants and making sure you don't plant them in your garden
- Responsibly disposing of grass and garden clippings by composting them or placing them in your green waste bin. Don't dump green waste in reserves, as this can spread weeds
- Joining a local bush restoration group. Bushcare, Landcare and Parkcare Groups are all active in the Shellharbour Council area.

Phone Council on 4221 6111 for more details.

For more information about Indian Myna control visit:

[www.indianmynaaction.org.au](http://www.indianmynaaction.org.au)  
<https://birdsinbackyards.net>  
[www.feralscan.org.au/mynascan](http://www.feralscan.org.au/mynascan)

For more information about local biodiversity and how you can help our local environment visit:

[www.shellharbour.nsw.gov.au/environment](http://www.shellharbour.nsw.gov.au/environment)  
<https://blog.growingillawarranatives.org>  
<https://australianmuseum.net.au/bugwise>  
[www.backyardbuddies.net.au](http://www.backyardbuddies.net.au)



For residents without internet access, Shellharbour City Council libraries provide both internet access and a range of books regarding the environment and sustainability.

[www.shellharbour.nsw.gov.au](http://www.shellharbour.nsw.gov.au)