

Voluntary Conservation Programs Update



May 2019

Upcoming workshops

Erosion and Sediment Control Workshop

Thursday 23 May 2019
9:00am - 11:30am
Yuraba Conference Centre
240 Church Road, Eatons Hill

This workshop will be presented by an industry leader in erosion and sediment control and management. The workshop will include examples of common erosion issues that may occur on your property and techniques to manage these issues over the short and long term.

To attend, please RSVP your contact details and dietary requirements to esmailbox@moretonbay.qld.gov.au by Thursday 16 May 2019.

Bushfire Management Information Session

Thursday 6 June 2019
6.30pm - 9.00pm
Beachmere Community Hall
5 Progress Avenue, Beachmere

This information session explores bushfire management and planning. Presenters include the Queensland Rural Fire Service, South East Queensland Fire and Biodiversity Consortium, Moreton Bay Regional Council and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service. This session is a mandatory prerequisite for landholders attending the *Bushfire Property Management Workshop* (see below). No RSVP is required.

Bushfire Property Management Workshop

Saturday 15 June 2019
9.00am - 4.00pm
Main Hall, Beachmere State School
24-58 James Rd, Beachmere

Following on from the *Bushfire Management Information Session*, this workshop explores how to plan, prepare, and manage bushfire risks and hazards on your property as you develop a Bushfire Management Plan. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP your contact details and dietary requirements to esmailbox@moretonbay.qld.gov.au by Friday 7 June 2019.

A mandatory prerequisite is the *Bushfire Management Information Session* (Thursday 6 June 2019).

Richmond Birdwing Butterfly Workshop

Sunday 9 June 2019
11.00am - 2.00pm
Samford Parklands
Located on Mt Samson Rd, Samford
(Behind Netball Courts)

The Richmond Birdwing Conservation Network and Samford Eco-Corridor are hosting a workshop to educate residents on the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly, its host vine and how you can assist in re-establishing a habitat corridor for this threatened species. To attend, please register for the workshop at the link [here](#).

National Tree Day 2019

Sunday 28 July 2019
From 9:00am at:

1. Platypus Creek Environmental Reserve, 12 Julie Drive, Caboolture South;
2. Seacrest Park, 157 Duffield Road, Margate; and
3. Sylvia Gibbs Park, 68 Nyora Street, Everton Hills.

Moreton Bay Regional Council and Planet Ark invite residents to plant a tree for National Tree Day at one of the three planting locations across the region. The aim is to plant over 4, 800 trees and shrubs across all three sites with help from our local community.

Everyone is welcome to come along and join in the fun - make sure to bring a drink bottle and wear enclosed shoes, long-sleeved shirt, long pants, hat and sunscreen.

To register your interest, please visit the Planet Ark website at the link [here](#).

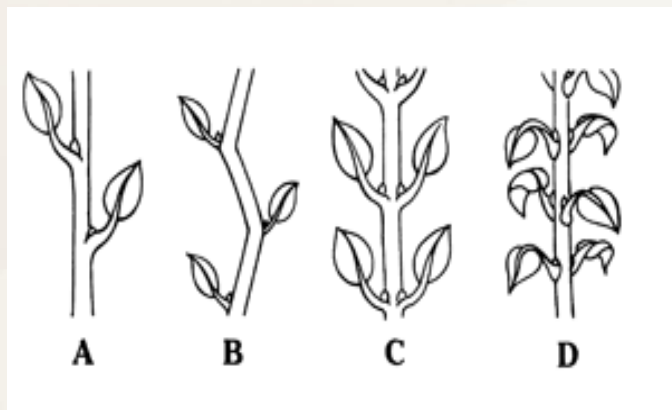
Weed Management Workshop

Council's Voluntary Conservation Program (VCP) team recently held a Weed Identification and Management workshop at Yuraba Conference Centre, Eatons Hill. The purpose of the workshop was to assist members in improving their weed identification skills and work through best practice management techniques.

Attendees worked on their identification skills, observing physical features such as leaf arrangement which are key to the identification of weed species (see image below). Where a successful identification cannot be achieved, collection of plant material and images is often required. Ensuring that the correct methods and standards are followed is important for a successful identification. The Queensland Herbarium's specification for specimen collection ([here](#)) clearly defines the ideal standards for the collection of this material.



Attendees taking part in discussions around samples and the displays.



Examples of leaf arrangement: A alternate; B 2-rank alternate; C opposite; and D opposite and decussate

Managing weeds is more than just the action of removing them. A weed management plan is often the start of any good weed management project. Weed management plans consist of the identification of species present, where they are situated using aerial imagery or a hand-drawn map and categorising the priorities for the property. The priority of weed management may be defined by: identifying zones, and/or by species reproductive capacity, and/or plant density. On the day, attendees were also shown practical demonstrations of common weed control techniques by VCP team members, including cut and paint, foliar spraying, and crowning amongst others. More information on weed control techniques can be found in the South East Queensland Ecological Restoration Framework Manual at the link [here](#).

Australia Day Environment Award - Richard and Carole Green

In January 2019, the annual Australia Day awards were handed out with the Environment Award going to Richard and Carole Green. They have been recognised for their tireless work over the last 30 years at John Oxley Reserve.

Carole Green has been the Team Leader for Bushcare volunteers, helping to control the weeds and restore the vegetation at this Reserve for the local wildlife and the amenity of the people who use it.

Richard Green has been a valued member of the Pine River Koala Care Association since the 1990s, helping to provide education and advocacy for this important species within our region. He has also worked with wildlife carers by assisting rescue services and the collection of fresh food for koalas in care.



Mayor Sutherland, Cr Houghton, Carole and Richard Green, and Cr Hain

Seen some interesting plants or animals? Not sure what it is? Ask us! All you have to do is send an email to esmailbox@moretonbay.qld.au with the title "VCP Newsletter Question". If your query is chosen, we will answer the question in our next newsletter!

Bushcare Groups Saying Goodbye

Mary Ring Bushcare Group

The Mary Ring Bushcare group was founded in February 2010 in Arthur Williamson Park, Samford. The site is part of the Samford Habitat Corridor and is popular with residents who use the nearby walking path.

Works over the last 9 years have included hundreds of hours of weeding and planting that has resulted in a corridor of healthy, established vegetation which supports a range of native fauna. In addition, the long-term management of this area has resulted in diverse natural regeneration of canopy, shrub and groundcover species which will lead to less weed dispersal downstream and will enhance existing habitat for wildlife and ecosystem health.

A special thank you to Wendy Neilsen, who was a founding member who continued to work up until the closure of the group.

Warwick Spencer Garden Bushcare Group

After 23 years of Bushcare, the Warwick Spencer Garden Bushcare Group have hung up their gardening gloves and rakes. In 1996, Warwick Spencer encouraged a number of locals to gather on a weekly basis to work in the gardens, located at 193 Sunderland Drive, Banksia Beach. Under the guidance of Warwick, the gardens became a spectacular showcase of different varieties of mixed flowering plants. A few years later the garden was renamed in his honour.

When Warwick Spencer resigned, Richard Millar became the group leader. The group planted extensively and incorporated a variety of native plant species into the gardens to create nooks and installed seating areas where people could enjoy the gardens.

Richard Millar resigned in 2017 and a commemorative plaque was placed in the shelter that he petitioned the council to build. Early this year the remaining members of the group decided they had completed works in the gardens. We thank them for their time and dedication in creating and maintaining the beautiful Warwick Spencer Gardens.

Kabultur Eastenders Bushcare Group

Kabultur Eastenders Bushcare Group (KEBG) was founded in 2002, previously working with Friends of Lagoon Creek Group (FOLC) and the PCYC. The group's leader, Dick McKean, lead the restoration and regeneration within areas surrounding Lagoon Creek, primarily in W. G. Buckle Reserve, at the end of Wallace Street North, Caboolture.

KEBG have conducted weed control and revegetation along Lagoon Creek, during this period and were instrumental in recovering and restoring an old steam locomotive boiler that was found in the creek by the group in 2000. It was placed onsite in 2005 in a secure shelter within W.G. Buckle Reserve to commemorate the sites history as a water pump supply facility for the Caboolture Railway Station.

Over the years KEBG have been involved in community projects involving Caboolture East State School, Caboolture High School, Caboolture PCYC and other members of the community. During these projects Dick gave lectures of the history of the pump site.

The group is retiring from working in this area and will be finishing up as of May 2019. We recognise the hard work and dedication of this group and thank them for their tireless effort since 2002.



The inaugural Mary Ring Bushcare working bee 2010



Warwick Spencer Garden



Dick McKean leading a community planting day at W.G. Buckle Reserve.



Wild about Wildlife Workshop: Glossy Black Cockatoo

Council is hosting a series of free workshops to highlight native priority species within our region. On 18 May 2019, the Glossy Black Cockatoo workshop at 2 Ogg Road, Murrumba Downs will highlight this species found within our region. Guest speaker Eric Anderson, from the Glossy Black Cockatoo Conservancy, will speak about the importance of the species, how to identify signs of foraging in your area and identify the call in the beautiful John Oxley Reserve before conducting a walk through its preferred habitat.

Whilst the Glossy Black Cockatoo workshop is booked out (you can find information about this species from the Glossy Black Conservancy [here](#)), don't worry if you missed out on this one as Council is holding monthly workshops on other species for the rest of the year. Workshops coming up include species such as Powerful Owl, Sugar Glider, and Frilled Neck Lizard amongst many others.

All workshops include a guest speaker with knowledge of the highlighted species, a short walk through the habitat of the species, are free and include a morning tea. So, come along and learn about some of the amazing species in our region. To book, go to the What's on page ([here](#)), search 'Wild about Wildlife', select the species you're interested in and click *book now!*



Natures woodchipper: Yellow Tailed Black Cockatoo - *Calyptorhynchus funereus*

Wendy Nielsen (Bushcare Volunteer)

These beautiful, graceful birds are regularly seen leisurely flying over paddocks and homes around Samford Valley and surrounds. They prefer to inhabit eucalypt woodlands and pine plantations and feed in flocks on seeds of native trees, pinecones and the seed of grasses and other low growing plants.

There are also sightings of these cockatoos 'wood chipping' trees looking for witchetty grubs to feast on. They use wood chip to line their nests high up in hollow tree trunks.

This female was spotted recently ripping into the base of a tree. Presumably she was looking for witchetty grubs for junior who sat in a tree nearby endlessly complaining that her intense work was not fast enough!



Bushcare Call to Arms

Do you enjoy being outside, meeting new people and looking after the bush and wildlife? Are you keen to expand your knowledge about plants, weeds and bush regeneration techniques? Do you have two hours a month to spare? It could be time for you to join a bushcare group. The bushcare groups work with Council carrying out weed control, planting and restoration in a diverse array of habitats including creeks and rivers, rainforests and sand dunes. There are thirty-six scheduled Bushcare groups throughout the region from Mango Hill to Samford Valley, Petrie up to Wamuran and across to Bribie Island. There's bound to be one near you! To register apply online at the link [here](#).

