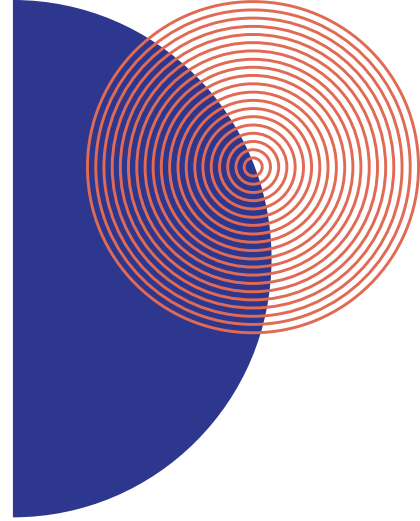


Our Healthy Environments



Rocky Hole, Mount Mee.



Our Healthy Environments

Our Goal

By 2033, our Moreton Bay will be renowned for its healthy natural and built environments that enhance our identity, support biodiversity and our sustainable lifestyles.

Our Outcomes

- 01 Our special natural areas and wildlife habitats are connected, protected and enhanced.
- 02 Our coasts and waterway catchments are used sustainably, and environmental values are protected and enhanced.
- 03 Our neighbourhoods, buildings and infrastructure support sustainable living.
- 04 We understand and proactively respond to climate change and natural hazard risks.
- 05 We enable our materials and resources to be used cleverly and recycled to avoid waste and pollution.
- 06 Our communities and businesses practice sustainability in the choices they make every day.





2022-23 marked a pivotal chapter for City of Moreton Bay, characterised by a commitment to environmental preservation and thoughtful urban planning.

In December 2022, Council set an ambitious target to protect 75% of its landmass from development. Our commitment to 'going green as we grow' has led to an overhaul of planning strategies and the introduction of the inaugural Environment and Sustainability Strategy.

By June 2023, Council exceeded the 100-hectare milestone for our environmental land buyback program to help ensure habitat is retained for our local wildlife, and we have increased our commitment to the program in the 2023-24 budget.

Further strategic steps were also made towards the introduction of a food organics, garden organics (FOGO) program. Recognising that over 50% of emissions originated from waste, these measures are intended to divert a significant portion of waste from landfills and elevate the recycling rate by 70% by 2040.

Council is committed to preserving essential rural areas, green spaces, and wildlife habitats and reducing our environmental impact through initiatives that balance growth and environmental responsibilities. Council announced a net-zero target based on science to be achieved by 2039 on council operations.

2022-23 Deliverables



Waste Management Initiatives

Engaged more than 2,453 students, 17 schools and 41 early learning centres in our award-winning waste education program, improving recycling and long-term sustainable waste management change.

Delivered 199 waste education activities, reaching 7,474 residents including sessions at local shopping centres.

A total of 1,962 residents attended 63 free rethink waste education, recycling and composting workshops at a range of local venues, including environment centres, libraries, and museums.

Provided kerbside waste collection services for 183,285 properties, completing over 12.5 million kerbside waste and recycling collection services, processing 129,674 tonnes of domestic waste and 28,295 tonnes of recyclables.

A total of 995,072 customers visited our 12 waste facilities, recycling 57,192 tonnes and disposing 156,902 tonnes of waste to landfill. A further 1,858 tonnes of reusable items were sold at the Dakabin and Caboolture treasure markets.

Promoted responsible waste practices through Clean Up Australia Day, International Composting Awareness Week, Plastic Free July, Trash to Treasure Tour at Dakabin waste facility, Garage Sale Trail, and National Recycling Week.

Achieved record Clean Up Australia Day participation, with 169 sites registered and over 3,000 volunteers cleaning up littered and illegally dumped materials in beaches, parks and reserves.

Engaged approximately 1,327 residents at 17 local events and show days with our waste education van, discussing waste services, planning for an organics bin collection service, and sustainable living.

Released a tender for a kerbside garden organics (GO) collection service with a December 2024 target start date (Stage 1) and food organics garden organics (FOGO) collection service targeted to start when FOGO processing capacity is available.

Developed a business case to establish a Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) processing, with continued advocacy for funding support from the Queensland Government.

Residents collected 107 tonnes of free mulch during compost week in May 2023.

Issued a quarterly Rethink Waste and Environment newsletter, offering recycling information, free events, and handy waste tips to around 400 residents.



Healthy Natural Environment Initiatives

Delivered the Habitat Trees Project in partnership with the Kabi Kabi Traditional Custodians. This project was a finalist for Local Government Managers Australia Awards.

Advanced the remediation of approximately 20 hectares at the former Orora water treatment ponds, including filling with soil and planting koala habitat. These works fulfil the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC) commitment.

Invested \$200,000 in the environmental management of over 80 hectares of The Mill, facilitating the regeneration of koala habitat and supporting the local koala population.

Progressed the revegetation of 26 hectares at The Mill, anticipated to be complete by the end of 2023.

Continued to plant over 90,000 koala habitat and food trees at The Mill in accordance with our koala conservation commitments.

Partnered with over 250 Bushcare volunteers, across 36 Bushcare sites, planting over 9,300 plants and removing weeds from over 173 hectares.

Conducted 375 Bushcare sessions for weed identification and contemporary treatment techniques.

Planted over 5,000 plants on 3 sites for National Tree Day with volunteer support.

Partnered with 614 landholders to restore and protect 6,822 hectares of bushland as part of the Land for Wildlife program. This is 3.3% of all the land within the city.

Supported 15 landholders to protect over 190 hectares of high-value ecological habitat in perpetuity through the Voluntary Conservation Agreement program.

Awarded 52 Voluntary Conservation Program grants to the value of \$52,000 for revegetation, weed management, erosion control, and monitoring of threatened species across Land for Wildlife and Voluntary Conservation Agreement program.

Supported local wildlife carer groups with financial assistance.

Protected 280 hectares of koala habitat under the Queensland Nature Conservation Act 1992, including weed maintenance and infill planting of Whiteside Road Koala Nature Refuge and Brian Burke Koala Nature Refuge.

Environmental Monitoring

Monitored 48 Australian white ibis colonies, overseeing 7 colony sites.

Managed 12 flying fox colonies at 51 roost sites in accordance with Queensland Government legislation.

Maintained two koala food tree fodder plantations ensuring carers have eucalypt tips for koalas in care.

Established a new 86 tree fodder plantation of koala food trees and 321 flowering shrubs for possums and gliders, for use by wildlife carers.

Installed roadside signage and billboards to promote koala conservation awareness during koala breeding season.

Implemented a koala monitoring program at The Mill to ensure the health and viability of the local koala population. The program uses tracking devices and drone-mounted thermal camera technology.

Environmental Engagement

Developed a turtle education campaign for Woorim Beach residents and visitors, urging light reduction during turtle season

Developed a shorebird education campaign to raise resident and visitor awareness about roosting shorebirds and minimising disturbances.

Showcased the Agents of Discovery educational app, engaging over 1,200 users in Explore Council's Environment Centres and at Bribie Island with the 'Share the Shore with Shorebirds' mission.

Conducted 25 environmental education workshops with over 1035 participants. The workshops focused on sustainable living, environmental awareness, and conservation.

Hosted special event days, including Earth Hour, World Wetland Day, World Bee Day and Bushland Fairy Day at our environment education centres.

Welcomed 33 schools to our 3 environment education centres over 62 days, with over 2,417 students participating. An additional 24,657 general community visitors also attended the centres throughout the year.

Supported 67 volunteers to deliver 11,000 hours of visitor engagement at our 3 environment education centres. A further 71 volunteers worked over 17,000 hours to maintain the centre gardens and support local community plant nurseries.

Collaborated with Younity Community Services, educating 16 young adults in conservation and land management practices and maintaining the natural areas surrounding our environment centres.

Coastal Planning and Policy

Implemented CoastSnap, a community-based coastal photo monitoring station at nine Moreton Bay sites. Submitted photos aid real-time beach monitoring, identifying needs, and managing coastal environments.

Delivered the Living Coast Plan following a city-wide risk assessment of storm tide, tidal inundation, and coastal erosion impacts projected across multiple timeframes to the year 2100. The project assessed all coastal communities and enables Council to proactively manage the impact of climate change and predicted coastal hazards.

Delivered the Beachmere Shoreline Management Project, an innovative plan to manage shoreline erosion. The project was also awarded numerous accolades, including:

- winner of the International Association of Public Participation Infrastructure Planning and Design award
- winner of the Planning Institute Australia (Queensland) Awards for Planning Excellence (Improving Planning Processes)
- winner of Planning Institute Australia (Queensland) Awards for Planning Excellence (Stakeholder Engagement)
- a commendation at the Planning Institute Australia (National) Awards for Excellence.

Pest Management

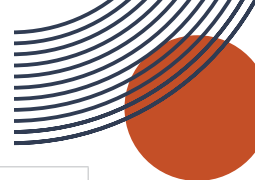
Treated more than 21,000 hectares as part of the Aerial Saltmarsh Mosquito Control Program and completed ground-based treatments within parks and reserves to mitigate the impact of mosquitoes.

Worked with Biosecurity Queensland to monitor and treat 11 Fire Ant nests, and implement surveillance and controls for the movement of specific organic materials, to help prevent the spread of fire ants throughout Moreton Bay and beyond.

Partnered with Queensland Health to include arbovirus surveillance alongside Council's mosquito surveillance program, to help identify the presence or absence of exotic mosquito species which transmit mosquito-borne diseases, including Ross River fever, Barmah Forest virus, and Japanese encephalitis.

Partnered with Queensland Institute of Medical Research-Berghofer (QIMIR) and the Mosquito and Arbovirus Research Committee (MARC) to investigate midge impact on residential areas and determine if vegetation barriers are effective.

Monitored and managed approximately 200 bodies of water, including removal of aquatic weeds via weed harvesters in 20 high-profile lakes.



Conducted 350 kilometres of roadside weed treatment for restricted plants targeting fireweed, groundsel, giant rats tail grass, annual ragweed, and mother of millions.

Continued targeted feral pig management, successfully removing 42 feral pigs from the environment.

Continued monitoring and trapping programs for foxes, deer, and wild dogs, with 74 restricted species removed from the environment.

Continued monitoring and control of rabbit infestations in Neurum, Woodford, Delaneys Creek, Mount Delaney and Stony Creek.

Coordinated a 1080 wild dog baiting program in partnership with landholders, covering 43,702 hectares.

Collaborated with the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries to monitor and trap invasive red-eared slider turtles, successfully removing 4 turtles from the environment.

Environmental and Sustainability Policy and Planning

Adopted science-based, net zero greenhouse gas emissions target (by 2039) for Council operations as part of the Environment and Sustainability Strategy 2042.

Completed a second greenhouse gas inventory for Council's operations, ready for peer review.

Purchased 519 Bunya Road, Bunya, and 114 Collins Road, Everton Hills, under Council's Land Buyback for Environmental Purposes Program. Nearly 104 hectares have been acquired as part of the program.

Commenced development of our first Biodiversity Plan, guided the new Environment and Sustainability Strategy 2042 and identified as a key focus in the Corporate Plan 2022-2017.

Conducted 554 environmental due diligence assessments to guide Council projects, ensuring legislative obligations and our vision and goal for our healthy environment.

Commenced finer-scale vegetation mapping, completing the first stage for Caboolture and Narangba.

Initiated the development of an Environmental Offset Land Supply Analysis Tool to evaluate capacity to accept offsets and ensure we are going green as we grow.

Continued ongoing projects to assess current and future natural hazard risks, their impact on the city's settlement pattern and how new land use and development can be planned in a way that increases our communities' resilience to natural hazards and climate change.

Reviewed the 2016 MBRC Planning Scheme's bushfire hazard policy settings and development provisions.

Completed a reliability assessment of the draft 2023 state bushfire-prone area mapping, in accordance with the State Planning Policy. This mapping contributes to the bushfire hazard risk assessment project also underway.

