

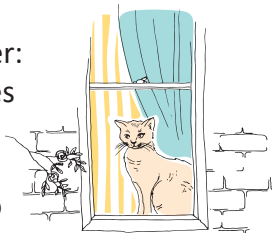
WHAT CAN I DO?

Here are some actions you can do to keep our waterways and lakes healthy for the enjoyment of everyone.



In your own backyard:

- Wash your car and other equipment on the lawn to stop detergents, pollutants and nutrients washing into waterways
- Install silt fencing and keep building materials covered when building or renovating
- Avoid over-watering lawns and use fertilisers in moderation to stop excess nutrients being washed into waterways
- Compost lawn clippings and garden waste or take it to the green waste area at a transfer station
- Plant a buffer inside your own property to further reduce run-off that might flow into a nearby waterway
- Be a responsible pet owner: keep cats inside at all times



In urban waterways:

- Respect Council's policy to retain urban waterway vegetation
- Keep dogs away from wildlife at all times and pick up your pet's droppings
- Collect and properly dispose of rubbish
- Avoid feeding wildlife with unnatural foods such as bread
- Empty fish tank contents on your lawn or garden and not into urban waterways
- Respect no fishing areas.

TAKE ACTION

Join a Council volunteer bushcare or other local conservation group.

Participate in citizen science activities and community environment events.

Contact Council to:

- Report water quality concerns
- Deal with dangerous limbs, fire concerns and many other issues
- Report bad behaviours
- Report cats and foxes
- Find out about local law permissions, such as mowing and clearing vegetation along fence lines.



GET IN TOUCH

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Hervey Bay, QLD, 4655

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Phone: 1300 79 49 29
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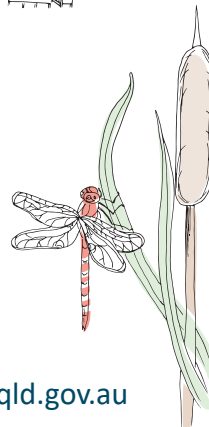
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URBAN WATERWAYS

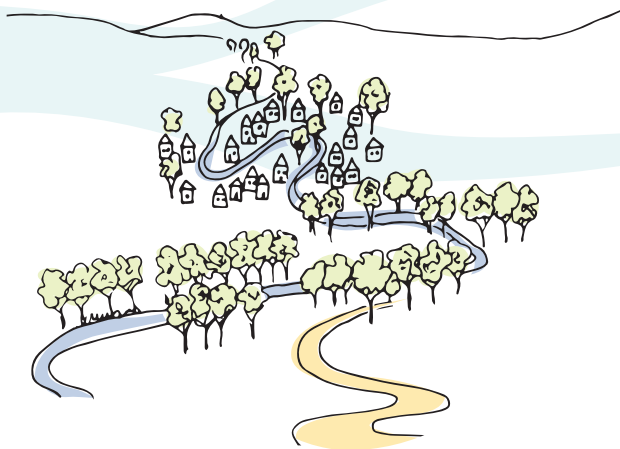


Respecting our
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Fraser Coast
REGIONAL COUNCIL

VITAL ROLE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Urban waterways can vary in size and nature, from large natural rivers always containing water, to open stormwater drains lined by concrete or grass that only flow in times of heavy rainfall. No matter how big or small, urban waterways play a vital role in our community.



Natural waterways such as creeks and rivers, are often lined by vegetation that help stabilise the banks on either side, the riparian zone. In our towns, the riparian zone is the buffer between the waterway and development. It is the zone where we find enjoyment in walking through the trees, listening to the sounds of the river, exercising or spending time with friends and family. It is the zone we need to look after for the benefit of all residents.

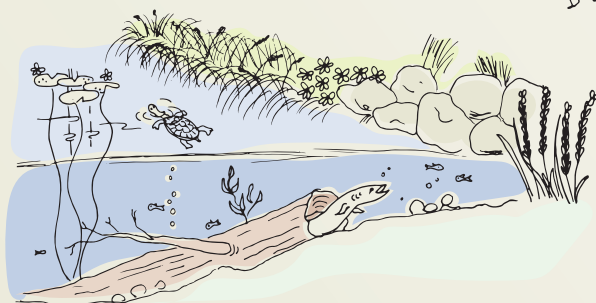
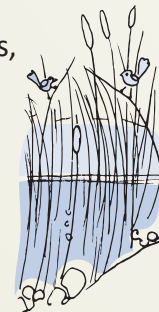


AQUATIC AND RIPARIAN PLANTS

In slow-moving waterways, aquatic plants such as reeds and rushes are the foundation of a healthy, flourishing system. They help clean the water by absorbing nutrients that would otherwise stimulate algal blooms.

Native riparian vegetation such as grasses, shrubs and large trees help prevent erosion. Both aquatic and riparian plants provide food and habitat for wildlife.

Council retains a buffer of vegetation around all waterways.



LIVING WITH WILDLIFE

Urban waterways offer valuable habitat for wildlife, including birds, fish, insects, amphibians and reptiles. They use these sanctuaries to rest, feed and reproduce.

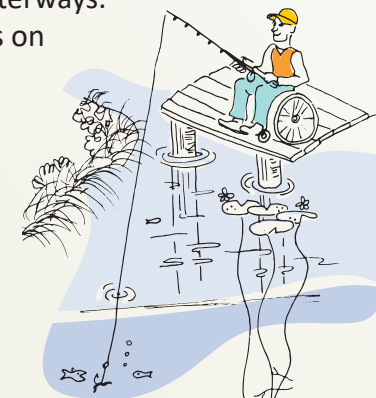
Try not to disturb wildlife around our waterways, just enjoy their presence. You can find out more about living with wildlife on the Fraser Coast Regional Council website.



BE SAFE AND HAVE FUN

Rivers and creeks can be great places to explore and live near. You can go fishing, swimming, photograph the wildlife, take a walk or just read a book under a shady tree. Whatever your passion, always remember to be safe near waterways. Follow instructions on signage, access the water at designated areas and take a buddy with you.

Being safe while having fun is good for everyone.



LOOKING AFTER OUR WATERWAYS

Waterways are natural carriers of seeds from plants. Urban waterways can often get overgrown with weeds that have escaped nearby gardens. Sometimes these weeds can be prickly or poisonous. Be careful near these plants and contact Council if a stretch of waterway near you is covered in weeds.

