### WHAT CAN I DO?

There are many things you can do to keep our bushland reserves healthy for the enjoyment of everyone.

#### In your own backyard:

 Be a responsible pet owner: keep cats inside at all times, keep dogs secured in backyards and on a lead when walking through bushland reserves

Grow wildlife friendly plants –
particularly local natives
and non-invasive
species

 Provide water and habitat for wildlife in your garden

 Use wildlife-friendly fruit tree netting

Compost or dispose
 of garden waste
 (including lawn
 clippings and weeds)
 responsibly and not
 in bushland areas.

#### In neighbouring bushland:

- Get to know your local wildlife and plants
- Respect bushland areas and refrain from extending your garden outside of your property boundary
- Leave dead hollow trees, hollow logs and leaf litter
- Drive 4WD vehicles and motorbikes to designated off-road areas, not in bushland reserves.

### **TAKE ACTION**

Join a Council volunteer bushcare or other local conservation group.

Participate in citizen science activities and community environment events.

#### **Contact Council to:**

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



## **GET IN TOUCH**

Postal address: PO Box 1943, Hervey Bay, QLD, 4655

#### www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au



Phone: 1300 79 49 29 Fax: (07) 4197 4455



enquiry @fraser coast.qld.gov. au



www.facebook.com/FraserCoastCouncil



www.instagram.com/ frasercoastregionalcouncil



www.youtube.com/frasercoastrc









### **ABOUT BUSHLAND RESERVES**

There are many bushland reserves across the Fraser Coast region. To support a variety of recreation and tourism activities as well as conservation aims, some have been modified while others are left in their natural state. Bushland reserves are home to a rich diversity of plants and animals.

# **STRESS RELIEVING**

Bushland reserves have many values and benefits. They:

- Provide safe havens for both local and migratory wildlife
- Connect larger patches of bushland allowing wildlife to move across the landscape
- Support pollinators and natural pest controllers
- Ensure locally adapted species are not lost
- Allow interconnected plant and animal communities to function properly.

These places are good for our wellbeing, allowing people to get away from the stressors of urban living. Walking beneath the shady canopy and listening to the sounds of nature can be very therapeutic.



Bushland reserves are home to a variety of plants and animals that have been used for food, medicine, shelter and ceremony over thousands of years by the Traditional Owners. There is a wealth of shared history in bushland reserves that can be found in songlines and stories from the local Indigenous people.



# LIVING WITH WILDLIFE

Living near bushland reserves means sharing your space with the local wildlife, most of the time from a distance, sometimes up close.

Try not to interfere with your wildlife visitors, but rather, sit back and enjoy their presence. You can find out more about living with wildlife on Fraser Coast Regional Council's website.



### **ENJOYING THE OUTDOORS**

Bushland reserves are natural spaces where you can explore, relax, have fun and learn.

Going for a walk and appreciating birds calling or the wind blowing in the treetops. Taking a camera and photographing tiny orchids or huge old gum trees. Grabbing a set of binoculars and observing birds and other wildlife. Setting off on a bicycle and enjoying the fresh air and scenery. Meeting up with friends or family to have a picnic. Learning about local natural history through signage and guided walks can help us understand how important these reserves are to the Fraser Coast.

This is what bushland reserves are all about. Without them, we wouldn't have nature on our doorstep and life would be far less enjoyable. Physical, mental and emotional health are all improved by spending





