



Capricorn Coast
Landcare
Group

Envirolink Newsletter

June 2016

Date Claimers!

Sun 5th

8am-12pm: [Capricorn Coast Landcare Group](#) – [WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY](#) STALL

Goodies for sale, info & displays. Figtree Creek Markets, Yeppoon. *More info contact Jo 4939 1002*

8am-12pm: [Too Lovely to Litter](#) – Campaign Launch

Family-friendly activities, presentations and more. Figtree Creek Markets. *More info 4921 0573*

9am-3pm: [Ecofest Gladstone](#) – FREE EVENT

Stalls, displays and activities. Gladstone Tondoon Botanic Gardens. *More information call 4972 5111*

Wed 8th

[World Oceans Day](#)

Sat 11th

3-5pm: [Emu Park Bushcare](#) – WORKING BEE

BYO gloves, sun smart gear. Marine Parade (orange fence). *Contact emuparkbushcare@ymail.com*

Wed 22nd

7-8pm Capricorn Conservation Council Inc – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Environment Centre, Haigh Park, Wandal. *More info and RSVP contact Lauren on 4927 8644*

▪ **COMING UP
IN JULY!**

- **[PLASTIC FREE JULY](#)** – refusing all single use plastic all month...are you in???
- **[NATIONAL TREE DAY](#)** – Sunday 31 July... get your gloves ready!

Local business is backing us

Many of you will know that CCLG funding is quite tight this year... which means we've been flat out applying for grants and approaching local businesses for support. I'm very pleased to say that [Yeppoon Betta Home Living](#), [LiveLife Pharmacy at Keppel Bay Plaza](#) and [Yeppoon Community Markets](#) have immediately jumped on board to support Landcare for our region – I thank you so very, very much! We've also been lucky with grants.

Amidst the fundraising activities we've been working hard at Figtree Creek Rehabilitation site which now looks a whole lot better. While touched with the sadness of Wade Mann's passing, the tree plant at the beginning of May lifted the site and I'm so grateful to all of you for your help. Wishing you all a happy and healthy month ahead.

- *Alby Wooler*

President & Junior Landcare
Coordinator



Capricorn Coast Landcare Group Sponsor - Penn Lanson from Yeppoon Betta Home Living with Alby Wooler.

Capricorn Coast Landcare Group and the Envirolink Centre are supported by...



QWALC
QUEENSLAND WATER & LAND CARES





AWARD WINNING PASSPORT PROGRAM NOW COAST WIDE!

Over 300 Capricorn Coast youth are now officially signed up to complete the Junior Landcare Passport Program this year. Alby has personally visited 7 schools, 4 Girl Guide and 2 Boy Scout Groups to explain the program and hand out passports. We are VERY EXCITED to welcome these youngsters into Landcare, great to have you aboard boys and girls!!

MAKE NO
MISTAKE....

THESE ARE
ABSOLUTELY GREAT
STAKES !



HARDWOOD GARDEN STAKES Bundle of 25 for \$15!

900mm length

To Order - contact

envirolink@cqnet.com.au or call 4939 1002

All profits fund the Envirolink Centre and local Landcare programs and projects.

NOTE: ours are actually hardwood unlike this picture!!

GRANT SUCCESS & OTHER NEWS

Thanks to a grant from Science Week, plans are now underway for a Figtree Community Creek Care Awareness Day in August. The day will showcase the work so far done at the CCLG rehabilitation site, and also feature talks, walks and workshops on everything from catchment hydrology to weed and bird identification. If you are interested in being part of the day, please contact Jo on 4939 1002.

This year's Nature Discovery Tours are amping up, with 4 schools booked in for tours at Cooberrie Park to learn about Threatened Species and looking after Australia's wildlife this June-July.

We're also very pleased to welcome Dave aboard as one of our dedicated CCLG volunteer team. Dave has extensive experience in bush regeneration and eating chocolate cake!

Threatened Species Discovery Day at



A 'LIL WORD ON WILDLIFE

from Steph K

With the weather cooling down you've probably seen them in your backyard sunbathing on a paver or hunting insects. Skinks are handy little creatures to have around as they help keep moth and cockroach numbers down!

You can encourage them to hang out in your backyard by providing them with hiding places such as rocks, logs, tufted grasses and lots of leaf litter. While they are very shy, if you wait patiently and stay still, you may see them come out to explore and hunt.

Mostly brown, skinks vary widely in colouring and markings within a species (especially between male and female), which makes it quite difficult to accurately identify them at a quick glance. In fact it's only recently that scientists have determined there are actually [4 different species that used to be thought of as one](#). Here on the Capricorn Coast there are many recordings of the Robust rainbow-skink ([Carlia schmeltzii](#)) and Open-litter rainbow-skink ([Carlia pectoralis](#)).



Female Open-litter rainbow-skink. Photo: [Bernard Dupont](#)



Top - attractive purple seed heads contrast well with blue-green foliage. Photo: [Harry Rose](#).

Left - growth form of Native Love Grass. Photo: Noosa Native Plants

NATIVE PLANT OF THE MONTH

Native Love Grass by Malcom W

Native grasses are a great addition to any garden. A good garden does not rely solely on flowers, but on different foliage shapes, colours and textures.

Eragrostis interrupta is a particularly attractive tufted perennial that grows to 1.5 metres. Its blue-green leaves and purplish seed-heads make it a great accent plant for pots and it will look good planted in clusters of three to four in a garden bed.

Native to Queensland, this plant naturally occurs on coastal dunes and foreshores and will grow easily in sandy soil. The seeds are eaten by a number of native bird species.

When choosing *Eragrostis* for your garden, make sure it is a native specimen. Some species, such as African Love Grass (*Eragrostis curvula*) can spread and become invasive. Although it is not yet a declared pest when I was a bush regenerator it was one of the most prolific weeds we encountered.

FREE Native Love Grass is available for all CCLG members from the Envirolink Office courtesy of Livingstone Community Nursery.

PEST CRITTERS THAT COST US – [Indian Myna](#) by Louise B



The Indian Myna, described as the 'flying Cane Toad' was introduced in the 1860s in an attempt to control pests in market gardens and cane fields. Native to Asia and India, the species has now spread to large portions of Eastern Australia including Central Queensland. Indian Mynas are regarded as one of the world's top 100 invasive species. If left uncontrolled they will severely impact the future populations of many native species. A highly intelligent and aggressive bird, the Indian Myna can easily out-compete native fauna for nesting hollows and food and are known to feed on native chicks and eggs.

Other potential impacts include damage to fruit crops, the spread of weeds such as *Lantana camara*, noise nuisance from large communal roosts, potential reservoirs for diseases such as avian malaria and can cause a public health risk by carrying mites and lice.

The native honeyeater called the Noisy Miner is often confused with the Indian Myna. The Noisy Miner has a predominately grey body whereas the Indian Myna is a chocolate-brown with a black head and neck, with distinctive white wing patches (see diagram on previous page to compare!).



The Native noisy miner is mostly grey. Photo: [DAF](#)



Always consider native alternatives before using plants that can create weed issues down the track. Photo: [Bri Weldon](#).

WEED IT OUT NOW! *by Malcom W*

African Fountain Grass is a popular ornamental plant in Australia. A tufted perennial that grows to 1 m tall, its seed head is an attractive pink, feathery spike. It also happens to be a Class 3 declared pest plant under the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002*.

If African Fountain Grass escapes the garden it is an invasive, fire-adapted coloniser that readily out-competes native plants and can form dense thickets; which can then increase the intensity and spread of bushfires. The plant produces numerous wind-dispersed seeds which survive for more than six years in the soil seed bank. Seeds can be spread by wind, flowing water and by humans or animals.

Clumping grasses can be an attractive feature in a garden, but there are a number of great native alternatives such as *Eragrostis interrupta*, which is the featured plant this month.

Note: If handling African Fountain Grass you should wear gloves as the leaves and seed heads can cause skin irritation.

TOP GARDENING TIP

from Malcom W

We live in a hot dry climate and our plants need all the help they can get. We have a small front garden, and the previous owners had covered the garden bed with river pebbles. The first job I did was to remove the succulents they had planted and replace them with natives. However, the plants were not doing well and I realised the thick layer of pebbles was heating up during the day. I have now removed most of the pebbles and replaced them with a layer of mulch. Already the plants are starting to improve greatly.



Mulch helps suppress weeds, keep the roots of your plants cool and holds in precious moisture. Photo courtesy of Malcom Wells.

I used sugar cane mulch, but there are a number of good alternatives on sale. Several places sell straw bales which are good value. I used them when planting out a new back garden. Just be careful when buying cheaper mulches because weeds might be mixed in with the clippings and you will just be spreading the undesirable seed in your garden. Best to purchase from a reputable dealer or someone you know you can trust.

I used to have a wood chipper for my business and could mulch my garden clippings. Small garden shredders can be purchased quite reasonably, and you will save money in the long run by recycling garden waste. Once again, be careful not to also recycle your weeds!



Leaf stripping assists in the recovery of the Pandanus



Jamella leaf hopper



Infected Pandanus Leaf

Pandanus Dieback

Pandanus Dieback is a disease found in Pandanus trees (*Pandanus tectorius*) largely caused by an infestation of leaf hopper insects (*Jamella australiae*)

Further enquiries

If you have Pandanus trees on your own estate and wish to obtain further information on control techniques for the Jamella insect, please contact Council on 1300 790 919.



PO Box 2292 Yeppoon Qld 4703
Phone 07 4913 5000 or 1300 790 919

www.livingstone.qld.gov.au
enquiries@livingstone.qld.gov.au

ABN 95 399 253 048

Biosecurity Act 2014: Prohibited matter

On 1 July 2016, the familiar categories of Class 1, 2 and 3 declared pest plants will be replaced by two new classifications covering all [biosecurity matter](#), including invasive plants:

- Prohibited matter and
- Restricted matter (Categories 2, 3, 4, and/or 5)

What is prohibited matter?

Prohibited matter includes diseases, exotic fish, insect pests, pest animals and invasive plants that are **not yet** found in Queensland. There will be [29 species/species groups](#) of invasive plants listed as prohibited matter in Queensland from 1 July 2016. If these species were to enter Queensland, they would significantly impact our health, way of life, the economy and the environment.

Reporting prohibited matter

It will be the responsibility of all Queenslanders, as well as visitors from interstate and overseas, to be aware and take steps to prevent prohibited matter from entering our state. You will be expected to know about the prohibited matter that you may come across as part of your environment, business or hobby. The Act requires that all sightings of prohibited plants are to be reported to Biosecurity Queensland within 24 hours.

If you think you have found a prohibited invasive plant in your region, please contact Biosecurity Queensland on **13 25 23** or contact the Queensland Herbarium on **(07) 3896 9323**.



Capricorn Coast Landcare Group Inc.

ABN: 48 170 539 519



Landcare – a partnership between the environment and sustainable production

General meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of every second month at 7.30 pm at the Envirolink Centre, 3 / 78 John Street, Yeppoon. All memberships are due for renewal at the October AGM (one (1) vote per membership).

Your email will be automatically added to our Envirolink Newsletter and CCLG membership
Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive them.

☐

mailing lists.

☐

New member

☐

Renew / Update details

MEMBER CONTACT DETAILS		
Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Post Code:
Home Phone:	Work Phone:	Mobile:
Email:		
SIGNATURE		
<i>I support the goals, values and activities of Capricorn Coast Landcare Group Inc.</i>		
Signature of applicant:		Date:

PAYMENT METHOD		
<input type="checkbox"/> Single Membership is \$5.00 GST included.	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership is \$10.00 GST included	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash	<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque	<input type="checkbox"/> EFT
Electronic Transfer Reference Number :		
Bank details for on-line payments: BSB 064 712 A/C 10018138 Account Name: Capricorn Coast Landcare Group Inc. * Reference deposit with your first initial & surname.		

Please return to:

Capricorn Coast Landcare Group Inc.
PO Box 727, YEPPOON, QLD, 4703

Phone: (07) 4939 1002

Fax: (07) 4939 1668

Email: envirolink@cqnet.com.au

OFFICE USE ONLY			
Date Received	/ /	Email database	
Receipt Number		Envirolink Newsletter	
		Membership List	

THANKYOU TO OUR BUSINESS SPONSORS!!!



LiveLife
PHARMACY

Life...Let us help you Live it!

Shop25, Keppel Bay Plaza, Yeppoon



**Yeppoon
Community
Markets**

Every Saturday
6am-10am
Yeppoon
Showgrounds

**Will your business be the next
to feature here?**

Call us on 4939 1002 to find
out how 😊