

FNQ Wildlife Rescue Assoc. Inc.

(Established 1994)



Caring for the region's native wildlife.

Wildlife carers are all volunteers.

Tax deductible donations appreciated.

New members welcome.

Tel: 07 4053 4467 (24 hrs)

Email: fnqwr@bigpond.com



Stamp Out Littering In Mareeba Shire

Littering on public land is an offence that is becoming a problem in Mareeba shire.

"Unauthorised dumping of waste material can affect the health of the community, threaten wildlife and lead to long-term contamination of land, waterways and groundwater", Mayor Tom Gilmore said.

"It also presents an unsightly environment that looks and feels unsafe and is a lost opportunity for recycling waste materials", Cr Gilmore said.

"The Mareeba Shire Council, the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) and the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) are working together to coordinate a best practice response to the problem.

The strategy is for DNRM to remove and dispose of existing rubbish and restrict access to popular dumping sites where possible. Mareeba Shire Council is using their recent surveillance camera grant funding, provided by EHP, to install cameras at these dumping sites", Mayor Gilmore said.

"The cameras will be placed intermittently around the properties in hidden locations in hopes we will catch the offenders. Council is taking this very seriously and offenders will be prosecuted", Cr Gilmore said.

"It is free for Mareeba Shire residents to dump domestic waste at the Mareeba transfer station on Vaughn Street, in Dimbulah at 105 Raleigh Street, Kuranda on Kennedy Highway, Mt Molloy on Bakers Road, Chillagoe on the Burke Development Road, Julatten on Euluma Road, Irvinebank on Herberton-Petford Road, Mt Carbine on the Cemetery Road and Mutchilba on the Dimbulah Road, so there is no excuse for people to be illegally dumping waste", Mayor Gilmore said.

Information obtained from the surveillance cameras will assist in enforcing penalties against identified offenders.

Littering and illegal dumping penalties range from \$220 to \$7,040, increasing to \$227 to \$7,286 from 1 July 2015. Significantly larger penalties may be handed down should the matter go to court.

Please help reduce the amount of litter and illegal dumping that occurs in your surrounding environment by using your local transfer stations.

If you see incidents of illegal dumping, contact the Mareeba Shire Council at info@msc.qld.gov.au, the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection on 13 QGOV (13 74 68) or email illegaldumping@ehp.qld.gov.au.

Kuranda Transfer Station Opening Times

TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS
8.00am to 5.00pm



kuranda.
envirocare inc.

Caring for Kuranda's Environment

"by standing on the shoulders of those who've gone before"

Nursery: 284 Myola Rd, Mon & Thu 9am-1pm, Sat 10-noon, ph: 4093 8989 / 4093 8393

Preserving Natural Areas

We have recently discovered three magnificent Fig trees in a remnant of rainforest along the Barron River near Owens Creek. The giant *Ficus benjamins* look hundreds of years old and are the remaining giants from what used to be dense rainforest before the first settlers arrived and cleared the land for grazing, rail and farming.

We discovered this area was dense with *Coffea Arabica* plants that were introduced from Africa into an old plantation apparently established on the river banks over 50 years ago. We're currently undertaking restoration works by removing this and other invasive plant species in this degraded area. We've had on-ground support from North Queensland Land Management Services to eliminate the coffee and another invasive: *Turbina corymbosa* (Christmas vine), an introduced species from Central America, that smothers and strangles the rainforest canopy

Mareeba Shire Council Natural Areas are also on board with us to eradicate a class 3 weed tree, *Spathodea campanulata* (African tulip) which is a common tree on road reserves in the Kuranda area.

(Below) *Turbina Corymbosa*, Photos courtesy of Sylvia Conway



PLANT OF THE MONTH

Castanospermum australe (Black Bean)

This very hardy, relatively slow-growing Australian native has a spreading crown and large glossy leaves. The orange or yellowish pea-shaped flowers are borne in clusters on the branches, partially hidden by the leaves, providing one of the few colourful rainforest flowerings. The pods are large, woody and contain 2-3 large brown seeds which are highly toxic unless treated. The wood is dark and highly prized for cabinetry using appropriate allergy precautions. One of over 100 fruiting and seeding native species used in Envirocare's revegetation plots, it is excellent to close canopy and exclude weed grasses. It's also a Queensland government D.A.F.F. recommended alternative to African tulip, an invasive exotic species with similar flower colour. An example of African tulip flowering now is on council reserve, Barron Falls Road near the kindergarten entrance. Other alternatives to this are are Wheel of fire and Flame tree, both also available at our nursery.

Photo courtesy of JCU.



If you would like to come in and check out our great selection of native plants don't hesitate to drop in for a chat. Our trees are all a \$2 donation. If anyone would like to get involved, the nursery is open Mondays and Thursdays 9- 1.00pm and Saturdays 10.00-noon and by appointment. Saturday Morning plantings continue from 8.00 am. Meet at the nursery. Email info@envirocare.org.au for reminder or call Sylvia on 0409 647 714.

Date Claimers

- **FROG FRIENDLY NEIGHBOURHOOD DISPLAY** in Post Office window to 8 August
- **BAG FREE JULY:** where your rubbish goes – Cairns Waste Transfer Station Bedminster tour 2 August (TBC)
- **GENERAL MEETING:** August 7, Frog Talk
- **Community Tree Planting 30 August**

BOX TRAILER HIRE: Contact Garth 4093 9926

Give a gift that keeps growing, through our local Grow Project.

www.envirocare.org.au

info@envirocare.org.au

