

# Community Nursery and Landcare

Caring for Kuranda's environment "by standing on the shoulders of those who have gone before"

## **Community getting together**

Many took the opportunity of the first school holidays when all States are open after our various COVID lockdowns across the past two years. What joy in seeing friends and family!

Some of us staying in Kuranda took the opportunity to plant 460 trees to add to the wildlife corridor being developed along the lower part of Cain Creek.

This is how many of the young trees looked, root ball well developed and holding the soil, ready for plant out. Rainforest seedlings don't like their roots being disturbed, and should be left as intact as possible.

We always hope for rain after planting. These ones had an overcast week, but 40-70mm would settle them in and mean we don't need any further watering till later in the year when it dries off all together







### **Crazy ant conversations**

The community taskforce joined up with Kuranda Envirocare volunteers to plant 460 trees followed by a BBQ and an update on the Wet Tropics Management Authority's Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program.

Yellow crazy ants are found at three infestation areas in the Kuranda region. Russett Park and Green Forest infestations are in the third phase of eradication: annual surveys and spot treatment as necessary due to very low numbers of yellow crazy ants. The Myola infestation

Local constables found time between call outs to join in the plant out at Myola with Bruce Wannan.



Local Russett Park residents enjoying their new yellow crazy ant masks and the live yellow crazy ant display.

is into its second phase with the first broad scale treatment completed in early December and another set for late April. Kuranda Envirocare tree planting and frog monitoring volunteers frequent the Myola site so learning how to recognise the ants and report them is key in helping minimise the spread. Yellow crazy ants are a huge threat to our native wildlife. Eradication is expected by 2028 with the aim of stopping yellow crazy ants from entering our diverse and precious Wet Tropics

### Opening times (others by appointment) Nursery – 284 Myola Road, Kuranda Monday and Thursday 9am–1pm • Saturday 10am–1pm

Cash, 'tap and go' or internet bank transfer available

4093 8989 (nursery) • 0419 624 940 info@envirocare.org.au • www.envirocare.org.au

Box trailers for hire. Contactless pick up and return. All plugs catered for. Text or call Sarah on 0499 588 145 to book.





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## Date Claimers

**Saturdays throughout May** – Planting out the erosion swales at Cain Creek 8 am. Meet at Envirocare nursery and carpool to site. Bring closed in shoes, hat, water bottle. Call Andrew on 0407 161 175.

**20–26 May Frog monitoring.** Monitoring fun starts after 7pm. Check FB or email Ed at kuranda.evirocare.science@gmail.com

### WHAT'S HAPPENING

'How to quarantine a pot plant' video is launching! WHERE: Community Taskforce website, YouTube & stakeholder social networks. WHEN: Tues 3 May 2022 @ 6am

www.communitytaskforce.org.au/protect-your-patchgrow-something-great



Community Taskforce coordinator Sylvia Conway, preparing for the 'How to Quarantine a Pot Plant' video.

### Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce

The Community Taskforce is a community-run organisation which assists the Wet Tropics Management Authority in managing the yellow crazy ant infestations in Kuranda. Volunteers are involved in all aspects of the program, including undertaking regular monitoring activities, completing surveys of known infestation areas, and assisting in hand baiting.



World Heritage Area.

#### 'Protect YOUR Patch' - Grow Something Great!

A common way to spread yellow crazy ants and electric ants is through exchanging potted plants. Learn how to protect your backyard from these pest ants by quarantining potted plants and cuttings. Other garden material such as mulch, rocks, soil and building materials also act as carriers for the invasive pests.

Whether you are giving or receiving plants, let's check for invasive ants so you don't spread them unknowingly to your patch or someone else's. The Community Taskforce is working with the Wet Tropics Management Authority and Biosecurity Queensland to help eradicate these ants.

Keep your patch safe from invasive ants and grow something great!

Volunteer with the Kuranda Yellow Crazy Ant Taskforce by calling (07) 4093 8989 or by joining the Kuranda Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce Facebook page.

# Join the invasive resist-ants

Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce
envirocare.org.au/yellow-crazy-ants-taskforce
coordinator@communitytaskforce.com

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Sylvia