

# **Protecting our Bushland**

## Are you a good bushland neighbour?

Noosa's Bushland Reserves makes a green backdrop to our neighbourhoods and provide wildlife habitat and connectivity. Being a good bushland neighbour can help keep our bushland in good condition now and for future generations.

## How can I help?

### Protect native vegetation

**Why?** Mowing, pruning, cutting, breaking, pulling, poisoning and clearing native vegetation - including trees, vines, shrubs and ground covers - makes the remaining vegetation more vulnerable to weeds and degradation. It reduces the bushlands' ability to protect creeks and rivers, reduce erosion and be wildlife habitat.

**How?** Always contact Council about Council Land vegetation issues and join your local Bushcare group.

## Protect the bush from pets

**Why?** Cats and dogs can scare or attack wildlife. Their droppings and scent marking can discourage wildlife, spread disease and make working in the bush very unpleasant for our bush regenerators and bushcare volunteers.

**How?** Keep unleashed pets out of the bush and always dispose of droppings in the bin or compost.





### Stay on public paths

Why? Straying from public paths tramples native plants, spreads weeds and causes erosion. Making or using private paths clears and fragments native vegetation, causes erosion, spreads weeds and provides easy movement for foxes and cats.

How? Always use public Council or National Pak managed paths.

### Respect your property boundary

Why? Replacing community bushland with private gardens, structures and storage degrades the bush, spreads weeds and blocks emergency and management access. It reduces the width of often already narrow bushland along creeks and through the suburbs.

**How?** Keep your garden and possessions within your property.



### Garden responsibly

Why? Most environmental weeds started out as garden plants, and many will happily spread in bushland. Weeds replace wildlife habitat with just a few non-local species.

How? Remove environmental weeds from your garden and replace with local natives. Monitor for your garden plants spreading over your boundary and control before they do. Join your local bushcare group.



# Dispose of garden rubbish responsibly

Why? Dumping garden rubbish in community bushland can introduce weeds and replace diverse mixes of native plants with infestations of just a few weeds. Rubbish dumps are attractive fire-starting fuel for arsonists, can cause a fire to flare and block emergency and management access.

How? Always dispose of garden rubbish in your garden waste bin or compost.

