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: fngwr@bigpond.com







Next to The Professionals in the Kuranda Settlement Building Locally owned and operated by Fay Allen BCom CPA

PROFESSIONAL TAX RETURNS

Hours: 9.00-5.00 Monday to Friday

Providing the following Accounting Services:

Business

GST and BAS Preparation Partnerships, Companies and Trusts Self Managed Superannuation Funds Business Setup Advice (first consultation free) Entity Structure Advice **Association Audits** Bookkeeping



Phone 4093 8222 Fax 4093 8794 Email:info@kurandavillageaccountancy.com.au



"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

Stamping out the Tramp Ants – update

Our Yellow Crazy Ant (YCA) infestation within Russett Park area has spread to more properties since it was first assessed over 18 months ago. The recommended

poisoned bait is giving some people cause for concern and it's very important to take a cautious approach. Information is being gathered from other projects in the world, where YCA infestations have been treated and controlled.



(Right: Note the distinctive bent antenna on the Yellow crazy ant.)

So what options?

To do nothing is to witness elimination of our local wildlife as the colonies grow to reach swarm point and consume all small invertebrates; lizards, snails, frogs, chicks in the area. Google videos showing how these swarms behave.

The colonies on several properties in Russett Park are near that stage, with no small wildlife present now. The real danger is that without containment the YCAs spread across our region and become an irreversible problem.

To use a biological control against the invader is definitely the Holy Grail solution of any pest control but we're not there for YCAs. Meanwhile we have *an effective knock down bait* whose active ingredient is fipronil.

We have the chance to knock down this Russett Park infestation and stop its spread while a biological control is developed.

Sugar and protein lures are used to locate the ants and fipronil treatments are

only applied where the ants are found. If you want to get involved in control of our local YCA, visit www.envirocare.org.

au find out more and use the YCA task force button to register. If you've been stung badly in your garden or yard by an ant-like insect, please

ring for a free yard check on 13 25 23.

Improving Water Quality

Water is vital for healthy eco systems and a resource we cannot live without. When our water is polluted it is not only devastating to the environment, but also to human health.

Things we can all do to improve water quality in our local urban and rural residential creeks:

- 1. Address erosion issues on your stream banks by planting native species to minimise soil wash off and filter sediments washing away to the Great Barrier
- 2. Mulch or compost lawn clippings as this minimises the need for fertilisers. Less fertilizer on your lawn means less fertilizer in the water.
- 3. Reduce storm water runoff from your property. Runoff is excess water that washes the grass clippings, leaves, fertilizer and other "pollutants" from lawns, sidewalks and driveways, carrying them into our water system. To reduce runoff, direct downspouts onto your lawn not onto hard surfaces.
- 4. Use native plants; remove invasive, non-native plants.

Landscaping with local native plants improves our local ecosystem. Local native plants are adapted to our environment and climate and are tolerant of both drought and tough winters. This drought tolerance means no need for excessive watering and, therefore, less runoff.

Local native plants are also adapted to our soils and, thus, don't need fertilizers or pesticides. This means less maintenance for you.

And, because native plants have deeper root systems (which create more air space in the soil), they accommodate water infiltration which, in turn, reduces

Finally, local native plants also provide better habitat for local wildlife.

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. See above for opening hours. Our trees are all a \$2 donation.

Date Claimers

- Sunday 31 May: Eco Fiesta Sugar Wharf 10.00am-4.00pm
- Wednesday 3 June: JCU Sustainability Symposium 'Restoration themed night'; 5.30-7.30pm, Crowler Theartre JCU
- Thursday 4 June: Barron River Water Quality guest speaker Ryan Turner, Kuranda Recreation Centre, 7.00pm. All Welcome!
- Saturday 6 June: Eco Week Tree planting. Come along for a chance to win 3 nights accommodation at Thala Beach Resort, meet 8.00am at the nursery on

Frog Monitoring dates in the 3rd week of every month. Link to facebook page from our website.

BOX TRAILER HIRE: Contact Hans 4093 8393

Give a gift that keeps growing, through our local Grow Project. www.envirocare.org.au www.facebook.com/Kuranda Envirocare/info

June 2015 31 THE KURANDA PAPER