

Greencorp team approved for Kuranda

Kuranda Envirocare in partnership with Conservation Volunteers of Australia has been successful in their application for a Greencorp team.

The Australian Government's Green Corps program offers unique work experience, accredited training and leadership development for all young Australians aged between 17 and 20. Green Corps participants are part of a team focusing on priority conservation and/or heritage projects.

Our project team, known as "Kuranda Riverlinks" will have ten young people working on sites centered around Kuranda, will focus primarily on conservation and will be known as "Kuranda Riverlinks".

Green Corps is a six-month experience and the Kuranda project is commencing in **Kuranda on 8th October 2008**.

Green Corps participants receive a fortnightly allowance of \$300 per week and graduate with practical experience and accredited training in Conservation and Land Management Certificate 1 & 2 units.

If you are a young person aged between 17 and 20 on the 8th October, live in the Tablelands area, are keen on outdoor activity and would benefit from such a training experience, please contact Emmalene on **emcdonnell@cva.org.au**
Or Contact Conservation Volunteers Australia on 4032 0844.

For more information on the project sites involved, please contact Cathy on 40 93 9926

For more information on the Australian Govt. Greencorp program visit
www.conservationvolunteers.com.au

Habitat destruction by Cathy Retter

A dozer knocks over a hectare of rainforest to push road access 400m for subdivision development blocks. Can all the time and energy that has gone into that regenerating forest for the last 30-70 years be compensated for by offering to plant the equivalent number of trees elsewhere especially when the somewhere else is limited by rainfall conditions and subject to private ownership where the same thing can happen again, plant, cut down, plant, cut down. Habitat removed to make way for more human habitation and domestic animals is wildlife habitat lost forever and that puts us humans in direct competition with the survival of wildlife which most of us value. Think about your own footprint on wildlife habitat. How much will we leave for our grandchildren. How can we individually reasonably protect what we do have left and move from loss into guaranteed gain.

Habitat Destruction by John Beasley

A dozer knocks over a hectare of rainforest for just 400m of road construction in a new development. Can that hectare of forest be compensated for by offering to plant the equivalent number of trees elsewhere? Sadly, "elsewhere" often turns out to be on private property in an area with inadequate rainfall, with the likelihood that the newly planted forest will in turn be destroyed by some future development. It takes a very long time indeed for rainforest to reach maturity, even though individual trees can grow remarkably quickly. Rainforest is not easily replaced, so even partly regrown rainforest can be well worth conserving. Most of us value the rainforest and the wildlife it is home to. Too often we accept the assumption that the provision of more homes must be at the expense of the natural environment that attracts others to our community. Good planning identifies the areas which need protection or rehabilitation before allocating land for development. If we, as a community, are to pass on to our children and grandchildren the opportunities we have valued to live close to nature, we need to insist that what we value is conserved. While planning by various levels of Government increasingly recognises the need to conserve habitat, only strong involvement by local communities will ensure that the planners identify and provide appropriate levels of protection to the environment we value. The recent change of status for Myola under the 2025 plan shows what we can achieve when we speak out. Each of us can contribute - and in doing so we can restore habitat, protect wildlife, and leave Kuranda better for our having lived here.

Envirocare watering at Kowrowa - Sat. at 8am

We've moved into dry season mode with waterings of previous plantings at Fig Tree Bend and Bottom Kowrowa. Ring Cathy for directions - 40 939926.

Mulch, mulch, mulch

Well the weather has been good for the tourists but the ground is drying out fast with the lack of rainfall in August and this wind. Mulching is the order of the day and we have a small quantity of wheelbarrow sized straw bales for sale for those of you who just need a few rather than a truckload. Ph 40 93 9926 to check price and arrange pickup. We have a trailer you can use to transport them home too.

Rainforest timber trees

With the early onset of dry weather we have a number of very good rainforest timber tree seedlings looking for a new home. We're reluctant to prune them as they will not produce long straight trunks of mill-able timber after that treatment. We have Queensland maple (*Flindersia brayleyana*), Silver Ash (*F. boujotiana*) and Silky maple (*F. pimentaliana*) available. They'll need repotting before planting out this wet season. Please call 40 93 9926 for more details. Of course we have plenty of other seedlings available but recommend you hold off planting until the first storms are likely, to reduce the amount of watering you'll need to do to get them till the first wet season rains.