



Koalas in Urban Ipswich

What you can do to help

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City of
Ipswich





Ipswich has several koala populations that persist within the urban footprint. Areas in the south and east of the city contain highly valuable habitat for the species. However being a koala in an urban area has its challenges with threats such as land clearing, roads, domestic dogs, fragmentation and arson.

Despite the threats, numerous opportunities exist to minimise impact on koalas and achieve positive outcomes for the long term sustainability of urban koala populations.

Ipswich Koala Conservation and Habitat Management Plan

Ipswich City Council is working hard to implement the Koala Conservation and Habitat Management Plan to ensure koalas and their habitats are maintained for the enjoyment of future generations.

The plan aims to protect, enhance, manage and increase koala habitat through:

- enhancing and protecting key habitat corridors to maintain or increase regional and local connectivity
- understanding, identifying and reducing the impact of major threats to koalas across all areas of Ipswich
- implementing mechanisms to increase community engagement in koala conservation, monitoring and citizen science
- direct suitable mitigation measures through planning and development assessments.



How can you help?

1. Report koala sightings

Koala sightings are important for managing and recording koala populations. Whether you spot an injured, deceased or healthy koala, all records are important. Key signs a koala is unwell include:

- sitting on the ground
- sitting in the same tree for more than two to three days
- inflamed or weeping eyes or a reddish-stained rump.

If you see a koala (healthy, injured, sick or deceased), please call Ipswich Koala Protection Society on 0419 760 127 or 0412 541 611, or visit ikps.com.au

2. Make your property koala friendly

Domestic dogs can kill or injure koalas, with some estimates that dog attacks can account for 40% of total koala mortalities within an area. This can happen when koalas enter yards with dogs or when dogs roam into nearby bushland. Most dog attacks occur between dusk and dawn when koalas are most active. Please keep your dog indoors or confined during these times



to reduce attacks on koalas. For more information please see the Koala and Domestic Dog Guide online at Ipswich.qld.gov.au/koalas

Koalas can also become stuck in backyards. Making your fence koala friendly is crucial to stopping this occurring. Any fences should be made of posts with horizontal rails at least 300mm apart. Alternatively 300mm can be left underneath the fence to allow koalas to pass. Where this gap cannot be achieved, others solutions can be implemented, such as installation of timber posts on either side of a fence or using material that koalas can easily grip.

For more information please see the Koala Friendly Fencing Guide online at Ipswich.qld.gov.au/koalas

3. Drive carefully

Koalas often cross busy roads to access food and shelter. Road fatalities are a major cause of koala deaths each year. Please keep to the speed limit and take extra care at night, particularly near bushland areas. It is also important to be aware of koala crossing road signs and the common locations koala cross.

When driving at night please be on the lookout for koalas crossing at these locations:

- the Centenary Highway through Springfield
- Redbank Plains Road through Goodna and Bellbird Park
- Redbank Plains Road through Redbank Plains
- Alice Street, Goodna
- Formation Street, Carole Park
- Moffatt Street, Ipswich
- Kruger Parade, Redbank.





4. Become a Landholder Partner

The majority of koala habitat occurs on private land and land owners can play a significant role in koala conservation. Ipswich City Council offers a variety of landholder partnerships and finding the perfect partnership for you will depend on your eligibility, location, size and existing conservation values.

The Koala Conservation Agreement (KCA) provides landholders with various tools to assist with sustainably managing your property for koalas, whilst maintaining the integrity of the existing land use. Landholders with limited bushland may still be eligible for the program if located within an important koala corridor.

Those property owners with small blocks (under 1 hectare) can partner with Ipswich City Council to create a native bird and animal friendly garden through the Habitat Gardens Wildlife Partnership. If you have a waterway on your property, you may be eligible for a Waterway Conservation Agreement.

For more information on Council's Landholder Partnerships visit ipswich.qld.gov.au



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