

Weed love your help

If you'd like to dig in for the natural areas that make Noosa so special, now's the time to get your hands dirty for a great cause.

Noosa Bushcare is calling for volunteers who'd like to help improve local bushland, restore degraded natural areas, reduce the impact of invasive weeds and make new friends along the way.

"Bushcare is all about local people caring for local places. Every working bee and volunteer contribution helps improve our bushland, protect the natural environment we all enjoy and build healthier, more resilient habitats for the future," Bushcare Coordinator Renata Neumann said.

"With 18 Bushcare groups across the shire, the program offers something for everyone. It's a chance to get outdoors, learn new skills, meet like-minded people and make a real difference to our precious bushland areas."

Training, guidance and ongoing support are provided for all Bushcare volunteers. To join a group or find out more, call our Bushland Care Officers on (07)5329 6500, email mail@noosa.qld.gov.au or visit Council's website.



Noosa Bushcare Officers Renata Neumann and Emma Smith at National Tree Day community planting.

Council updates its approach to biosecurity

Draft plan outlines a five-year strategy to strengthen biosecurity, tackle invasive species and protect the region's natural environment

Council has released a draft plan guiding how invasive plants and animals are managed across the Shire for the next five years.

The Draft Noosa Biosecurity Plan 2026-2031 updates Council's approach, taking into account climate change, new technologies and the latest risk assessments.

Environmental Services Manager Ben Derrick said changing conditions were shifting biosecurity challenges across the Shire, from hinterland villages to coastal suburbs.

"By updating our biosecurity planning for another five years we'll continue to make sure native ecosystems are protected, long term management costs are kept

down, and invasive species don't become entrenched," Mr Derrick said.

"While regular updates to the plan helps us stay ahead of emerging threats, managing invasive species also relies on landowners and Council working together."

The draft plan sets out priority actions to prevent, eradicate and

contain invasive species, while protecting high-value areas such as waterways, bushland and habitat.

The draft plan is available to review at yoursay.noosa.qld.gov.au.

Feedback closes 24 August 2026 and can also be sent to environment@noosa.qld.gov.au

Hilton Esplanade voices heard



The team will be back at Hilton Esplanade on 20 August for an onsite information session.

Earlier this year we asked the community for their thoughts on how they use Hilton Esplanade and what they value most about the area.

More than 450 people, who were mostly long-term locals, had their say at community workshops, an online survey, pop-up sessions and via written submissions.

The feedback we received contained a clear message: keep Hilton Esplanade natural, quiet and local.

To bring this vision to life, a number of priorities were identified, including protecting the river, foreshore and the area's natural, peaceful character. Key focuses also included improving drainage and road conditions,

ensuring safe pedestrian and river access, and providing adequate parking, while preserving the area's unique charm.

"Hilton Esplanade is highly cherished by residents for many reasons and this came through loud and clear in their feedback," Noosa Council Director of Infrastructure Services Shaun Walsh said.

"Protecting the river and foreshore is extremely important to our community and we'll be taking that feedback forward alongside the technical work that's already under way."

Thank you to everyone who took the time to contribute to the future vision for Hilton Esplanade.

Your responses are now being considered to help shape the next stage of the project and we look forward to sharing draft concepts in the near future for further community review.

If you'd like to read the full Community Engagement Report, the Summary Report and the latest Project News for Hilton Esplanade, head to yoursay.noosa.qld.gov.au

In Brief



Feedback open on Burgess Creek Plan

Until 16 August, Noosa Council is inviting community feedback on the Draft Burgess Creek Integrated Catchment Management Plan, which will guide the long-term management of the catchment.

Residents can review the draft plan, complete the online survey, and attend the community information session on 13 August. Visit yoursay.noosa.qld.gov.au.

More than just morning tea

Craig's calling brings smiles and strength to seniors

For Craig Barnes, Team Leader at Noosa Seniors, every day is about helping older people feel connected, valued and part of a caring community.

"Watching mature-aged people embrace opportunities, mingle, form meaningful friendships and go home in an upbeat, positive frame of mind is always a win," Craig said.

That winning formula for Craig and his team combines social, recreational, health and support activities at Noosa Seniors, with joyful opportunities to connect generations through regular visits from local kindergarten children.

"Every day I feel that we make a difference in what might have been a very uneventful day for an isolated elderly person. To see the glint in their eye or a radiant smile is reward that goes beyond any regular work experience," he said.

Over 14 years in aged care, Craig has learned that many of life's greatest lessons can come from listening to the stories of our older generations. He hopes more people take the opportunity to discover their wisdom and experience.

"Elderly people can share lifetimes of experience, show

tremendous spirit and strength and have overcome so many obstacles in their lives. They're so resilient, which I truly admire."



Craig Barnes and Patrick connect at Noosa Seniors.

Community planning support

Is your community organisation ready to plan for the future?

We're offering eligible Noosa-based not-for-profit groups the opportunity to receive professional support to develop or refresh their strategic plan.

A strong strategic plan can help your organisation set clear priorities, strengthen decision-making, engage volunteers, build resilience and better position your group for funding opportunities.

If you're ready to strengthen your organisation and maximise community impact, visit the 'More Information About Planning' section on Council's Not for Profit Groups webpage.