

SUBURBS WITHIN
THE CURRIMUNDI
LAKE CATCHMENT
INCLUDE:

Aroona, Battery Hill,
Birtinya, Bokarina,
Currimundi, Little
Mountain, Meridan
Plains, Wurtulla.

Points of Interest:

- Weedbusters
- Caloundra wins Tidy Town award
- Native fauna in the catchment
- Coir log walls to prevent erosion
- Attract small birds
- Recycle printer cartridges

Coming up:

- Flying High - 2 June
- World Environment Day - 5 June
- Planting Day Noel Burns Park - 23 June
- National Tree Day - 29 July
- Currimundi Creekside walk - 26 August
- Weedbusters - 15 July, 9 September
- 50th Anniversary of Wildlife Preservation Society of Qld - 1 September

To report wildlife emergencies, including sick, injured or distressed marine life, phone:

1300 130 372
or
1300 264 625



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CURRIMUNDI LAKE CATCHMENT NEWS

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KIDS COME FLY A KITE – 2 JUNE



Hey kids – do you love flying kites? Come to the Currimundi Lake entrance and join the free kite making event '**Flying High**' on **Saturday 2 June** and help celebrate **World Environment Day**. Kids of all ages will be painting their kites with pictures of all the colourful things we love about Currimundi Lake – turtles, fish, pelicans, lorikeets, flowers and much more.

Kites are a wonderful alternative to balloons when you're near waterways. We know that balloons can accidentally fly away, then burst and be eaten by birds, fish and turtles who mistake them for food.

This year we encourage you to pick up litter in a bag on your way to the event and hand it over in exchange for your kite, or you can take a free '**Picitup**' bag to use on walks in future.

Kids - don't forget to bring your parents! Register for your FREE kite from 1.30pm – 3.30pm opposite Coco's Beach Café, Westway Parade, Currimundi. For further details contact Tony on 5438 8267. *Flying High is a Council sponsored event.*

NOEL BURNS PARK PLANTING DAY – 23 JUNE

Currimundi Catchment Care Group will hold a planting day on **Saturday 23 June from 9am to 11am in Noel Burns Park**. We will be planting native plants in an area at the western end of the park that was formerly overrun with weeds but has recently been cleared.

This is a great opportunity for people of all ages to help rehabilitate the riparian zone which will support the Lake's bank and limit erosion. So come and join us. Please wear a hat and suitable footwear. Council will supply gloves and tools, and a free sausage sizzle will follow. **Meet at the western end of Mulloka Drive, Wurtulla.**

NATIONAL TREE DAY – SUNDAY 29 JULY

There will be a planting day in the Currimundi Catchment supported by Currimundi Catchment Care Group, Friends of Currimundi Lake, Parklands Community Group and Sunshine Coast Council. This is a fun activity for all the family where you can do something positive for the environment and connect with nature.

Planting will take place from **8 am in Leacey's Bushland Conservation Reserve** (between Halcyon Parks Retirement Village and Kawana Way), **Meridan Plains**. Access to the site is from the end of Meridan Way and Council will supply the plants, tools and gloves. Planting will be followed by a BBQ. Don't forget covered shoes, sun protection and water.

WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL WALK – 26 AUGUST

Currimundi Catchment Care Group will conduct a walk on **Sunday 26 August 9.30 - 11.00 am**. This circular walk starts at **Lilac Park** on the corner of Creekside Blvd and Lomandra Dr, Currimundi.

Phil, former Nursery Manager, will guide us along both Currimundi Creeks through cooler segments of hop bush, broadleaf paperbarks, brachen and blechnum ferns into open areas between tall aged bloodwood and eucalyptus grandis trees. We then pass into a grove of casuarinas and masses of grass trees and emerge in an area of white wildflowers of wedding bush and bearded heath. Along the path are colourful black wattles, palms, hairy bush peas and sandfly bushes.



Wedding bush

For bookings phone Phil on 0410 033 002 or Tony on 5438 8267.

Visit www.currimundicatchment.org.au for the Currimundi Lake Catchment Website

CALOUNDRA IS AUSTRALIA'S TIDIEST TOWN

At the May National Awards Ceremony and Vice Regal Reception hosted by the Governor-General Ms Quentin Bryce in Canberra, **Caloundra was awarded the Keep Australia Beautiful, Australia's Tidiest Town for 2012.** Caloundra also won the individual categories of **Community Action and Partnerships Award** and the **'Dame Phyllis Frost' Litter Prevention Award** and was judged to be very good in each of the other 6 categories.

The categories were: Community Action and Partnerships, Litter Prevention and Management, Resource Recovery and Waste Management, Environmental Innovation and Protection, Water Conservation and Management, Energy Innovation, Heritage and Culture, and Young Legends.



It was acknowledged that the Caloundra community cares for our environment and that we were committed and took pride in keeping it clean and tidy. The secret to Caloundra's success was that the community worked together with the common goal of a sustainable environment.

The Caloundra Tidy Towns team would like to thank all those who contributed to these awards from individual community members to volunteers, community groups, school children and teachers, youth groups, media, Council staff, Councillors and State members. **We now have to uphold the title and keep Caloundra clean and tidy.**

Ref. Keep Australia Beautiful

Pictured at the presentation for the Tidy Towns award are:

Don Chambers (Keep Australia Beautiful National Chairman), Bill Darby (Tourism Caloundra), Tim Dwyer (Cr Division 3), Quentin Bryce (Governor General), Rhondda Alexander (Friends of Currimundi Lake) and Colin White (Tidy Towns, Caloundra).

BECOME A WEED BUSTER

Weedbusters is a national programme aimed to increase the community's involvement and knowledge about weeds to achieve sustainable land and water management. Weeds can have damaging effects and impact not only the environment but economically and socially. Please note in your diaries there will be two Weedbuster events in the Currimundi Catchment this year where you can come along and help improve the local environment. Don't forget your gloves, sun protection and water.

1. Kawana Forest Residents Association will hold a combined Clean Up and Weedbusters Day on Sunday 15 July between 9am and 1pm from Kurrajong Park, Kawana Forest, which is at the end of White Cedar Drive. There will be a sausage sizzle (gold coin donation) from 12 noon in the park for all volunteers. For more information please contact Greg on 0419 822 663.

2. Currimundi Catchment Care Group will hold a combined Weedbusters and Planting Day on Sunday 9 September from 9am – 11am followed by a BBQ. Meet in Sunjewel Environmental Park at the corner of Howea Close and Sunjewel Blvd, Currimundi. This is another opportunity to help rehabilitate a riparian zone. For more information please contact Tony on 5438 8267.

Gardening Tips: There are several ways gardeners can help prevent the spread of weeds. Simply by recognising invasive species and opting not to buy, grow or exchange them, and by **never dumping garden waste over the fence or in the bush** will make a big difference. Some garden plants whilst they may look beautiful and harmless, spread rapidly through the bush upsetting our native ecosystems by crowding out native plants on which native animals depend for food or shelter.

Ref. Weedbusting Australia

MUM, DAD AND THE KIDS

Fish and birdlife are not the only indigenous wildlife that is supported by the Currimundi Catchment. Even though suburbia is continuing to expand, there are residents of Little Mountain in areas tucked away off Sunset Drive, who still live side by side with kangaroos and wallabies. While these beautiful animals are mainly confined to the remaining strips of bush, residents still occasionally see kangaroos hopping down the street.



This family group was photographed recently enjoying the lush grasses that have grown up following high rainfall. When they need a drink there is a healthy, if somewhat muddy, creek in this area that eventually flows underground into Currimundi Lake.



COIR LOG WALLS BEAT EROSION



Frequent stormy weather in April did not prevent the installation of another 45 metres of coir log walls to stop bank erosion along Currimundi Lake. This proven method of bank stabilisation brings the total installed to 150 metres since starting in 2009.

This year, the severe undercutting of the banks, the exposed roots of trees and one huge crater created by a fallen tree with a massive root structure made the task even more challenging.

The coir log walls were built by stacking the logs on top of each other and using wooden stakes to hold them in place. The area was then back filled and planted with native bank stabilising plants. The walls will collect sediment run-off and allow native vegetation to grow, protecting the banks and reducing the risk of further erosion.

This excellent outcome was achieved over two days by the combined efforts of 11 Greencorp members, 5 Farm Flow trainees and 2 leaders, 17 Currimundi Catchment Care Group (CCCG) members and local residents, all ably supervised by Council staff. CCCG extends a big thank you to everyone who worked with them to help make this valuable project such a huge success.



WHAT IS EROSION?

We often talk about erosion and trying to prevent it in Currimundi Lake and its Creeks, but what is it and why is it an important issue? The dictionary states erosion is the wearing away of soil or rocks by the action of water, wind or ice.

Erosion commonly happens in areas with bare soil, especially soil that has been disturbed or exposed by urban development. Run-off from rainfall flows over the ground, picking up loose soil and depositing it at the low point of the catchment which is often a waterway. In our part of the world this is Currimundi Lake.

Movement of soil into waterways is affected by the amount of protective riparian (bank) vegetation that can catch and hold eroded soil.

Water run-off can also form channels or gullies which deposits sediment directly into waterways. Collapsing banks are an obvious form of erosion and a big problem for Currimundi Lake and its Creeks. Banks can collapse due to many reasons from high tidal flow or boat wash to rain water drains or simply people walking on the bank.

Sediments washed into waterways can settle on the bottom of waterways or be suspended in the water. They can negatively impact the health of waterways and aquatic habitats. Fertilisers are often present in sediments and can also affect waterways by causing algal blooms.

The guiding principle of preventing erosion is to avoid altering natural landscapes and processes as much as possible, however urban development has changed our environment forever. Stabilising banks and the restoration and protection of riparian vegetation zones are some of the best ways we can manage erosion.



Ref. Healthy Waterways, Collins English Dictionary

DID YOU KNOW:



Silveryeye

Populations of many of our small bird species are declining, due mostly to loss of habitat for them to live and raise their young. We can help by planting our gardens with: dense shrubs below a tree layer; shrubs that provide a range of foods like nectar, seeds, fruit and insect habitat; and local plants for local birds.

It is important to provide safe and clean drinking/bathing water, avoid using insecticides and avoid feeding more aggressive larger species. Being a responsible pet owner will also help, by keeping cats inside or in enclosures and keeping dogs on leads near migratory or ground dwelling birds.

For more information visit www.birdsinbackyards.net.

Currimundi Catchment Care Group Inc (CCCG) covers Currimundi Lake, Creeks and Canal Catchments.

Meetings: 7.00pm at Caloundra Community Centre, 78 Buderim St, Currimundi on the 2nd Monday of every odd month.

Next Meetings: 9 July, 10 September

Contact: Secretary
Kym 5493 4398

Friends of Currimundi Lake (FOCL) covers the area south of the Lake from the beach to Nicklin Way bridge.

Meetings: 7.30pm at Currimundi Recreation Hall cnr Currimundi Rd & Ilya St, Currimundi on the 1st Tuesday of every even month.

Next Meetings: 5 June, 7 August

Contact: President
Rhonda 5437 6481

Parklands Community Group: 5491 7905

Kawana Forest Residents' Association (KaFRA): 0419 822 663

Other Contacts:

Sunshine Coast Council Caloundra: 5420 8200 for reporting issues about Currimundi Lake and its Catchment.

Kawana Police: 5413 8700

Queensland Boating & Fisheries Patrol: 5444 4599 to report speeding boats.

TurtleCare: 0437 559067 to report turtle tracks or nests.

Department of Environment & Resource Management (DERM): 1300 130 372 to report spills, dumping or anything suspicious in our waterways.

Wilvos: 5441 6200 24 hour hotline for injured wildlife.

Fishwatch Hotline: 1800 017 116 to report unlawful fishing activities.

Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital: 1800 334 350

Please pass on or recycle

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in "Currimundi Lake Catchment News" are not necessarily those of CCCG Inc

CURRIMUNDI CATCHMENT CARE GROUP REPORT



It was wonderful to see Caloundra win the national Tidy Towns Award recently. As Tidy Towns Judge Dick Olenski said "Volunteers play an enormous role in ensuring the town achieves positive social, environmental and economic outcomes". Well done to all the Caloundra community groups, volunteers, community members and Sunshine Coast Council who together made it possible.

A diverse and enthusiastic team recently extended the coir log wall bank stabilisation project in Noel Burns Park on Currimundi Lake which protected badly eroded and unstable banks. This sort of project demonstrates the positive outcomes for the environment that can be achieved when the local community and volunteers work with Council and give up a few hours of their time and effort for such a good cause. Next time you are near Noel Burns Park, Wurtulla stop and have a look for yourself.

We have a free fun family afternoon planned to celebrate World Environment Day with our 'Flying High' event on 2 June at Currimundi Beach. Don't forget to pick up some litter on the way or sign up for a Picitup bag when you get there. It's a great way to teach young people an anti-litter message while having fun.

Tony, President

FRIENDS OF CURRIMUNDI LAKE REPORT



This year seems to be going even faster than last year. We have been busy with weeding and revegetation. The revegetation of the dune near the mouth of the Lake with over 200 plants is going well.

The turtle season for Currimundi Beach is finished now. However, with the sunny days, litter is still a problem at the Lake front and along the foreshores, especially broken bottles and small fires. There has been a large influx of empty tube plant pots in the Lake with over 3000 picked up so far. Any information on the source would be welcome.

The coming months will see more weeding and revegetation, some being on the dunes on Currimundi Beach, as well Frank McIvor Park. Also we will be joining with Currimundi Catchment Care Group for the Flying High event at the Lake mouth.

Good news - Caloundra is the Tidiest Town in Australia! Two members of the Tidy Towns Committee are from Friends of Currimundi Lake. Currimundi Lake was a feature of the environment criteria and also featured highly in the partnership criteria. Thank you to all the people in the Currimundi Lake/Creek area for your support.

Rhonda, President

PARKLANDS COMMUNITY GROUP REPORT

We have been quiet for the past little while - just sitting back and enjoying the community. However, Council dropped some mulch along the drain and it has been spread by local residents.

We are taking a break from our annual National Tree Day efforts and suggest you rock up and help out at a site along the Currimundi South Branch of the Creek on 29 July. Trees previously planted at Bancroft's Red Gum Reserve are doing very well and we hope to plant more next year.

We will have a get together soon to introduce members to our new elected Councillor. If you have any suggestions please present them to Dot on 5491 1863 or Ron on 5491 7905.

Ron, President

RECYCLE FOR WILDLIFE

Instead of throwing away empty printer cartridges, use them to contribute to local Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital and at the same time help the environment by reducing landfill.

Currimundi Catchment Care Group has registered with the 'Recycle for Wildlife' program and by collecting used printer cartridges in a recycling box, Imaging Technology Australia (ITA) will donate funds to the hospital to cover the veterinary care of seriously injured wildlife. **Only Hewlett Packard, Canon, Brother, Lexmark and Samsung laser or inkjet cartridges used in printers, photocopies and fax machines can be recycled in this program.**

You can give them to any of our members or drop them into the letterbox of 8 Piringa Street, Wurtulla. We also encourage local businesses to sign up. Simply call ITA on 1800 077 347 or visit their website on www.ita.net.au. It's FREE and ITA will arrange for the collection of the recycling box.

Alternatively all brands can be recycled through 'Cartridges 4 Planet Ark' collection boxes at Post Offices and other businesses listed on: <http://recyclingnearyou.com.au/cartridges/SunshineCoastQLD>

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