



Investing in Nature Annual Report

Environmental Levy Annual Report 2023 – 24





Acknowledgement of Country

Logan City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging, and extends that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the City of Logan. The smoking ceremony is an ancient custom among Indigenous Australians and is believed to ward off bad spirits.

Contents

04

Message from the Mayor

05

Message from the Planning, Economic Development and Environment Committee Chair

06

Environmental Levy Financial Snapshot

08

City of Logan – Naturally Green



09

Acquisition and Management of Ecologically Significant Land

13

Community Engagement, Community Support and Environmental Education

18

Connecting Landscapes, River Recovery, Nature Conservation and Climate Change



Welcome to our City of Logan - 2023/24 Investing in Nature Annual Report.

As Mayor, people often ask me about my vision for Logan. Our city is unique. We have a distinctive and diverse landscape, making it an ideal place to live, work, and appreciate nature. We're also the youngest, most diverse, and fastest-growing city in Queensland, and we have a bright future ahead of us. It's important for Council to make sure we balance the needs of our expanding community with responsible environmental stewardship in our region.

If we can nurture this growth while also preserving our natural environment and sustainability, we can ensure a thriving and vibrant community for generations to come. This is an important legacy that we are already working on today. To date, we have established 964 parks, 77,400 hectares of wildlife and ecological corridors, 2,633 hectares of wetlands and 2,177 kilometres of waterways throughout our city.

Council's Corporate Plan 2021–2026 vision is to create 'a green city full of pride, opportunity, and culture' and although our Corporate Plan has reached the midpoint of its term, our vision remains steadfast. Together, with our internal Council officers and our wonderful volunteers, we can continue to protect and enhance Logan's unique natural environment.

These efforts are supported by the proceeds of the Environmental Levy, which funds a range of initiatives, services, and projects for our community. They're also critical to achieving our Green City vision.

I'd like to see access to green spaces, clean air and thriving ecosystems continue long into the future, because a thriving environment not only supports biodiversity but genuinely enhances our quality of life.

I am pleased to present this report which showcases our environmental achievements for the city during the 2023/24 financial year.

Mayor Jon Raven

City of Logan

Message from the Mayor



Message from the Planning, Economic Development and Environment Committee Chair

As Chair of the Planning, Economic Development and Environment Committee, I am pleased to share all we have achieved over the last year thanks to the Environmental Levy.

Our city is a tapestry of natural beauty, from bushland reserves to rainforests, and meandering waterways to rich wetlands. These ecosystems are home to an abundance of flora and fauna, and through the Levy, we've been able to collaborate with our community to protect, enhance and celebrate these precious environments.

This year, under the banner of ECO Logan, we've ignited community involvement, orchestrating 70 events that engaged residents across every division. Our green endeavours extended beyond events, also establishing the Environmental Events Network, and carrying out the annual Logan Eco Survey, amplifying our environmental vision.

The Logan Eco Awards recently honoured a select group of environmental stewards across multiple categories, along with special commendations. The Logan Eco Forum brought together local participants on two separate occasions, each demonstrating a keen interest in advancing our environmental dialogue. The World Environment Day poster competition engaged students from right across our city, and the much-loved annual calendar continues to foster environmental awareness throughout the Logan community.

The Environmental Levy has funded several initiatives aimed at fortifying and beautifying our local environment. This includes the restoration of riparian zones, building climate resilience, and ensuring the connectivity and rehabilitation of our biodiversity corridors through planting and maintenance efforts, in partnership with our dedicated park volunteers.

We have also joined forces with private landowners to amplify the natural splendour on their properties and have woven nature into the fabric of our community through Eco Logan (events and activities), Environmental Conservation Partnerships, Resilient Rivers and the EnviroGrants program.

A portion of the Levy also supports our Bushcare and Trailcare programs, which I am regularly involved in. These initiatives are cornerstones of community involvement and connection, fostering conservation, restoration, and environmental education.

I extend my deepest gratitude to our volunteers and community groups whose tireless work enriches our local environment. This report is a testament to the diverse programs and collective dedication that underpin our achievements.

Together, we are cultivating a legacy of environmental stewardship in Logan, ensuring that our natural heritage thrives for generations to come.

Cr Miriam Stemp

Chair of the Planning, Economic Development and Environment Committee



Environmental Levy Financial Snapshot

2023/24 INCOME

\$12,171,496

from Environmental Levy rates charge less discounts and remissions

\$500,868

from other income

2023/24 EXPENDITURE

Acquisition and Management of Ecologically Significant Land

\$4,623,441

INCLUDED

\$14,721

for land acquisitions

\$4,225,351

on bushland maintenance and BushCare

\$293,231

on aquatic and environmental weed control

\$90,138

on environmental park infrastructure enhancements

Community Engagement, Community Support and Environmental Education Services

\$1,914,994

INCLUDED

\$1,604,439

on the Environmental Conservation Partnerships, World Environment Day Poster competition, Logan Animal Ambulance and environmental programs, events and activities

\$198,755

for environmental grants to the community

\$111,800

Logan Eco Action Festival (LEAF)

Connecting Landscapes, River Recovery, Nature Conservation and Climate Change Services

\$5,294,457

INCLUDED

the actions working towards the Logan River vision, the Albert River vision, Logan rivers and wetlands recovery, koala conservation, Slacks and Scrubby Creek recovery, flying-fox management, waterbody asset management wildlife zone activated signs, Upper Oxley Creek and carbon and energy management.

2023/24 INCOME



\$12,171,496
— from Environmental
Levy rates charge less
discounts and remissions



\$500,868
— from other income

2023/24 EXPENDITURE

\$4,623,441
— Acquisition
and Management
of Ecologically
Significant Land



\$1,914,994
— Community Engagement,
Community Support and
Environmental Education
Services



Total Reserve Balance
\$5,023,194
as at 30 June 2024

\$5,294,457
— Connecting Landscapes,
River Recovery, Nature
Conservation and
Climate Change Services

City of Logan – 'Naturally Green'

Logan City Council's Environmental Levy funds are generated and managed in accordance with Council's adopted Environmental Levy policy and supports the delivery of Council's corporate environmental priorities and services.

Corporate Plan 2021–2026 Focus Area 3 – Environment

The value of our varied and thriving natural environment is core to our identity, lifestyle, wellbeing and economy. We will prioritise activation, community connection and enhancement of our rivers, waterways and habitat corridors and the wildlife within them. We will consider the environment holistically and consider impacts broadly in terms of sustainable development, climate and resource recovery.


Environmental Levy funds are allocated to acquire land, fund capital investment and operational costs (including employee costs) to deliver services, projects and initiatives across 3 key themes.

1.
**Acquisition and
Management
of Ecologically
Significant Land**

2.
**Community
Engagement,
Community Support
and Environmental
Education**

3.
**Connecting
Landscapes, River
Recovery, Nature
Conservation and
Climate Change**





Acquisition and Management of Ecologically Significant Land

Corporate plan priority 3.2 – Enhance our urban forest, wildlife corridor network and environmentally significant bushland areas.

The Environmental Levy provides significant investment towards the acquisition and maintenance of ecologically significant land within the City of Logan to:

- Protect, preserve and enhance our natural environment
- Expand and protect Council's ecological corridors
- Provide and enhance habitat for native plants and animals
- Build community capacity and facilitate involvement and understanding of our natural environment.

In the 2023/24 financial year, we invested \$4,623,441 in the protection, enhancement, and management of ecologically significant land across our city, which included:

- Operational maintenance of Council's 545 environmentally significant parks and natural areas (5,763 hectares) which included proactive priority maintenance of the top 202 reserves, with:
 - › Operational maintenance including weed control, rubbish removal and pathway/trails maintenance across the estate of environmentally significant parks and natural areas across 1,493 hectares.
 - › Rubbish removal programs conducted within high visitation areas and rubbish dumping hotspots within various parks and reserves. This program ensures that proactive rubbish removal is conducted to maintain the visual amenity and environmental values for the community.
 - › Weed control programs within planned burn blocks to encourage native regeneration, assist in reducing weed regrowth within the park, and to manage fuel loads after a burn has been conducted.
- Delivery of the City of Logan Parks volunteer program, which has 8 registered BushCare groups and 2 TrailCare groups, with a total of 226 active registered volunteers across both programs. During 2023/24:
 - › Approximately 1,235 volunteer hours of work was undertaken, with key activities being tree planting, plant guarding, weed removal, erosion control, mulching and trail maintenance.

> 136 BushCare and TrailCare working bees were completed with key environmental works being conducted in parks and reserves across Logan City.

- National Tree Day on 30 July 2023, at Crestmead Park (Crestmead) with 106 volunteers planting 1,380 native plants.
- BushCare's annual Big Day Out planting on 24 September 2023 at Riverdale Park (Meadowbrook) with 15 volunteers planting 1,500 native plants.
- Two Skilling Queenslanders for Work (SQW) projects supporting the rehabilitation of bushland parks across the city. This program serves to provide valuable restoration in bushland parks and assists young people in getting job ready and contributes to ecological outcomes within the city's parks.



- Infrastructure upgrades occurred across the following environmental parks:
 - › Neville Lawrie Reserve (Priestdale) – farm gate installed
 - › Kimberley Forest Park (Shalier Park) – steps installed along walking trail
 - › Logan West Parklands (Beenleigh) – bollard and sliprail installed
 - › Tall Timber Park (New Beith) – bollard and sliprail installed
 - › Spring Mountain Reserve (Greenbank) – bollard and sliprail installed
 - › Spring Mountain Forest Park (Greenbank) – signage installed
 - › Skerman (North Maclean) and Olson Park (North Maclean) – horse stepover, sliprail and fencing installed.
- Weed control removed a large amount of the waterbody weed – *Salvinia molesta* at Cornubia Nature Reserve (Cornubia).
- 296 waterbody inspections resulting in 58 spray treatments.
- 307 environmental weed treatments across Council parks throughout the city.
- Large Singapore Daisy treatments in Windaroo Park (Windaroo), Parker Park (Shalier Park) and ongoing treatment at Mount Warren Oval (Mount Warren).
- Lantana management along Stern Road (Carbrook).
- Weed treatments across 190 recreational areas in the city.



BushCare Fauna Workshops

In June 2024, Parks Communities BushCare groups participated in educational fauna workshops.

The BushCare groups had the option of building Possum “Dreys” (habitat homes) or Frog Hotels.

Volunteers participating in the Possum Drey building workshop learnt about the local endemic possum species, preferred habitat and fodder, lifecycle and ecology, as well as threats and predators in both natural and urban environments. The hanging of the possum dreys will assist the local possum population by providing habitat options.

During the Frog Hotel workshops, the volunteers learnt about frog and toad biology, habits, handling and identification. This program will assist in providing safe habitat locations for frogs across the Logan volunteers home locations, aiding diversity and survivability in the urban landscape.



Community connection to revitalise Slacks Creek

A tributary of Slacks Creek flowing through Mabel Park will be transformed into a vibrant urban ecosystem through a community-focused environmental initiative, with on ground works to start in 2025. The first step was community consultation which resulted in some great ideas and support for the project.

Engagement involved 3 community pop up events and an online survey. This resulted in 84 survey responses and many more in person conversations which showed the communities support for the waterway naturalisation project. 61% of survey respondents said access to nature and green space is the most important thing about Mabel Park and 62% of survey respondents would like to see more activities and events in the park.

The revegetation project aims to enhance habitat quality for native aquatic and terrestrial species while fostering community engagement with the waterway.

Approximately 600 meters of Council-owned land, including a 200-meter concrete-lined channel, will be restored with native plants following the removal of invasive weeds.

This \$1.375 million project is to be co-funded by Logan City Council and the Australian Government. The Australian Government contributed \$1 million through the Urban Rivers and Catchments program, which supports projects that enhance urban green spaces, waterway quality, and habitats for native species. Logan City Council will contribute \$375,000 from the Environmental Levy.

Keep your eye on this project! With this funding, the project will help naturalise and connect Slacks Creek to both nature and the community.



545

environmentally significant parks and areas included in Councils annual operational maintenance



296

inspections

58

treatments

to control aquatic and environmental weeds as part of waterbody management



10

registered groups taking part in the City of Logan BushCare and TrailCare programs



12,042

trees planted through volunteer programs

Community Engagement, Community Support and Environmental Education



Corporate plan priority 3.4
– Support the community to become more sustainable and conserve and restore private land.

Council is committed to facilitating and supporting planning, education and capacity building to protect and enhance the natural environment across the city (e.g. corridors, biodiversity, ecosystems, wildlife).

- In the 2023/24 financial year Council invested \$1,914,994 in boosting the local community's engagement with the City of Logan's natural environment through conservation partnerships, environmental education, environmental grants and rescuing injured wildlife. Council delivered a range of environmental events and activities including:
 - › Logan Eco Forum in June 2024 with over 200 community members participating. The forum was opened at the Logan Eco Action Festival (LEAF) with Costa Georgiadis, and Dr Kate Grarock, and concluded with the Eco Forum Community Celebration featuring Stacey Thomson and Shaun Davies.
 - › The Logan Eco Survey received 533 responses from the community.
 - › LEAF was held at Griffith University's Logan campus (Meadowbrook) on 2 June 2024 with approximately 5,000 attendees.
 - › Logan Eco Awards with 7 recipients receiving their award at the Logan Eco Forum.
 - › 70 environmental workshops and citizen science activities were delivered to 1230 members of the community. Activities included platypus surveys, frog identification, Pest Fishing Cup, Aussie Bird Count and Bioblitz surveys.
 - › Eco Logan was launched with Go Green for June challenge where participants got involved in environmental challenges over the 30 days of June.

- Environmental Conservation Partnerships – 1,091 properties are registered in the program, an increase of 144 properties from the last financial year. We now have 6,363 hectares of habitat and 70.5 kilometres of waterway being managed for conservation.
 - › 489 properties are registered in the City of Logan Land for Wildlife (LfW) program, with 29 new properties joining the program in 2023/24, equating to 30.55 hectares of additional habitat managed for conservation.
 - › 6 properties have Voluntary Conservation Covenants to help conserve high quality habitat.
 - › 16 properties have Voluntary Conservation Agreements to help improve high quality habitat.
 - › 9 properties have Voluntary Restoration Agreements which will help to revegetate stretches of the waterways in the city.
 - › 603 properties are registered in the City of Logan Habitat Connections partnership, with 132 new properties joining the program in 2023/24.
 - › 11,321 native trees and a range of land management supplies were distributed to private landholders.
 - › \$60,150 of grants were distributed to landholders through Voluntary Conservation Agreements and Voluntary Restoration Agreements which cover 175 hectares of vegetation across the city.
- \$198,755 in Environmental grants (EnviroGrants) were distributed to the community for environmental projects, research, education, partnerships and to wildlife carers.
- The Logan and Albert River Trees program provided 1,700 native plants to 3 landholders for waterway habitat restoration.
- The Council of Mayors (South East Queensland) Resilient Rivers Initiative delivered:
 - › Landholder event: Understanding Soil Health and Managing Erosion workshop
 - › 2 kilometres of weed management on 9 properties and 2 parks
 - › 1.5 kilometres of revegetation
 - › Gully stabilisation project, stock fencing, and environmental assessment on properties along the Logan and Albert Rivers
 - › Council officer workshop: Fluvial Geomorphology workshop
 - › Platypus eDNA sampling Albert River occupancy study.
- The World Environment Day Poster Competition attracted 1,417 student entries from 16 primary schools and home schools.





- The Oxley Creek landholder engagement project entered phase 4, with 5 new partnerships and follow up engagement with the previous year's participants. Weed management and tree planting were delivered to support landholders in restoring, maintaining, and conserving the natural values of this area.
 - › 15 local landholders attended the Oxley Creek Landholder field day to learn more about the project and Council's conservation initiatives.
 - › Funding from the Queensland Government's Feral Pest Initiative enhanced the project by delivering additional field days, increased support for landholders, and the creation of educational videos on weed control.
- Logan Animal Ambulance conducted 2,588 wildlife rescues during 2023/24, with:
 - › The top 3 types of wildlife rescued being, birds (1,873), marsupials (545) and reptiles (135).
 - › Wildlife rescued included lorikeets (807), possums (375), lizards (49), turtles (37), koalas (14), and grey-headed flying-foxes (2).
- The Wildlife Sightings Database received the following submissions from the community:
 - › 371 community wildlife sightings were received via Council's online wildlife sightings form, including koala (endangered), greater glider (endangered) swamp tea-tree (endangered), powerful owl (vulnerable), glossy black cockatoo (vulnerable) and a platypus (locally significant).
 - › 13,462 plant and wildlife sightings were received via Council's Logan iNaturalist project, including scrub turpentine (critically endangered), koala (endangered), greater glider (endangered), Boonah tuckeroo (vulnerable), macadamia nut (vulnerable), yellow-bellied glider (vulnerable), tusked frog (vulnerable), and glossy black-cockatoo (vulnerable).

Thirty Shades of Green

In June, Logan City Council invited everyone to channel their inner Shrek, Kermit, Yoda, or even Grinch for the “Go Green for June Challenge.” This fun, month-long online competition encouraged Logan residents to embark on a journey of environmental discovery and action with their family, friends, and neighbours.

Participants picked ‘random acts of green’ from the Council’s 30-day challenge calendar, which included activities like attending free environmental events, enjoying picnics in local parks, or taking simple steps to reduce waste at home. Each day, they shared photos of their green actions on the Council’s Facebook event page, with each photo entering them into a prize draw.

Throughout the year, the Eco Logan program provided 70 educational workshops and nature experiences to deepen residents’ environmental knowledge and connections.

More information is available at:
logan.qld.gov.au/EcoLogan.



EnviroGrants a Triple Treat for Norris Creek

In 2023, three households in the City of Logan came together to restore Norris Creek to its natural beauty. Chambers Flat neighbours received funding through Logan City EnviroGrants program. This support enabled them to tackle invasive weeds and pollution affecting the creek flowing through their properties.

Recognising the environmental value of the bushland running through their properties, they collaborated to act and protect Logan’s natural spaces.

The restoration of Norris Creek is a great example of how Council’s EnviroGrants support residents to enhance and protect the ecosystems in their own backyards with the added great outcome for the entire local community.

Other EnviroGrants recipients included the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland, which received nearly \$20,000 in grants across various categories, including Environmental Education, Environmental Partnerships and Capacity Building, and Environmental Surveys and Research.



6,363

hectares of habitat managed for conservation through Environmental Conservation Partnerships



2,588

wildlife rescues performed by the Logan Animal Ambulance



1,091

properties registered in Environmental Conservation Partnerships



27,170

free native plants provided to the community through various conservation partnerships.

Logan Eco Survey 2024 with record number of responses!

During June, the Logan community were given the opportunity to contribute ideas and experiences on how we as a community can lead the way in protecting, enhancing, connecting and celebrating nature. Here is a snapshot of what we have learnt from the community:



533

community members participated in the month-long survey



56%

of those who completed the survey were aged between 26–45 years

top 3

environmental priorities that our community would like Council to focus more on:

- land acquisition for conservation
- biodiversity and habitat improvement
- waterways and wetlands health improvement

1, 2, 3

83%

want to participate in environmental activities



59%

are creating wildlife friendly spaces or planting native gardens in their yards



75%

are looking for more guided events in Logan's bushlands and waterways



top 3

environmental education and engagement areas our community thinks

Council should focus on:

- school environmental education
- community environmental education
- nature recreation



86%

are looking to participate in workshops that cover plant, wildlife or sustainable living topics

46%

connect with our waterways in Logan via fishing, kayaking and swimming



90%

support Council's efforts to increase opportunities for our community to undertake more environmental actions in their everyday lives



64%

want to hear more about our Environmental Conservation Partnerships program



Connecting Landscapes, River Recovery, Nature Conservation and Climate Change

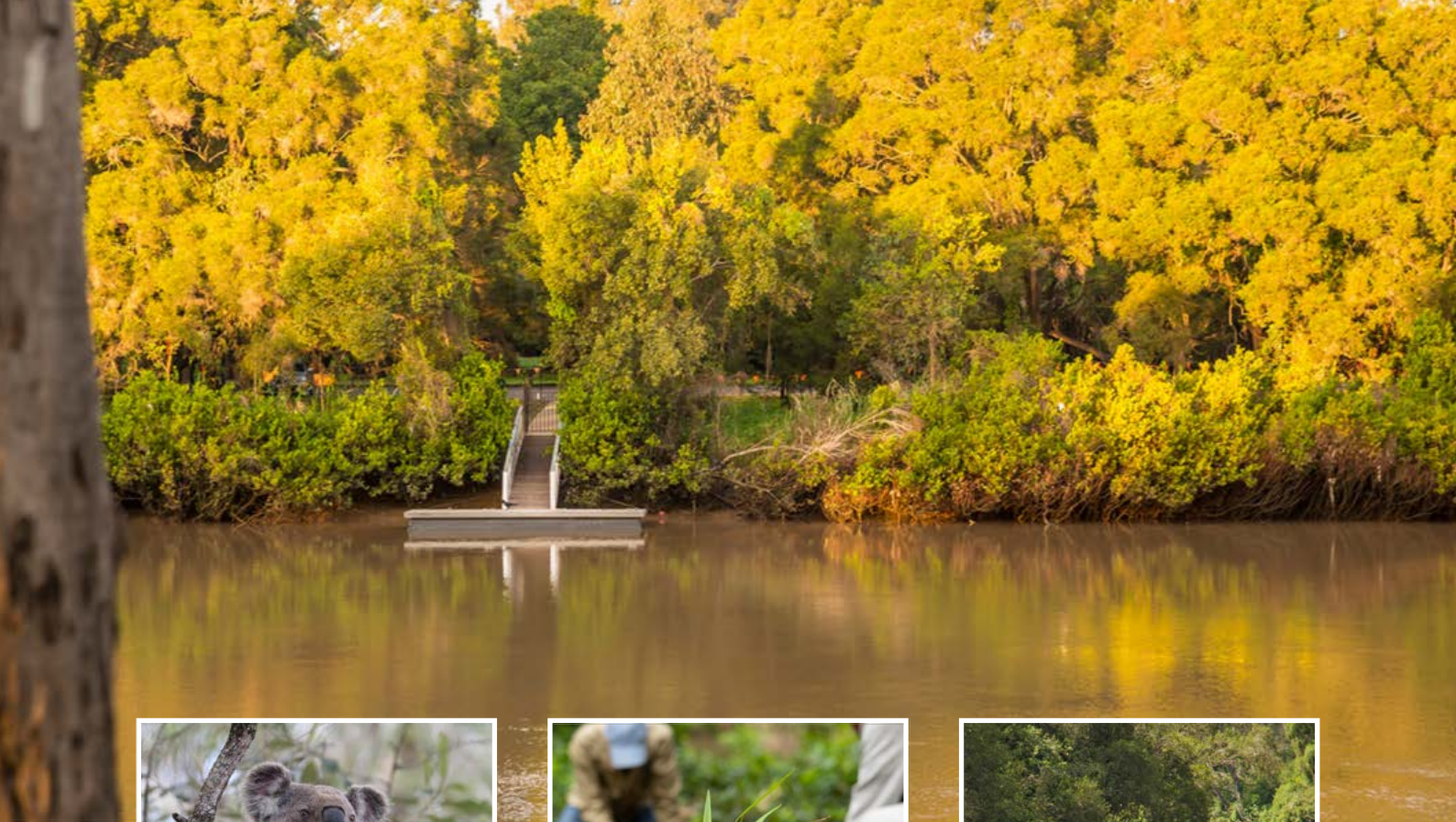
Corporate plan priority 3.1 – Manage, maintain, and improve the ecological health and activation of our rivers and waterways

The Environmental Levy funds the development and implementation of Council's environmental plans, visions, and strategies to provide strategic protection and enhancement of our natural environment.

In the 2023/24 financial year Council invested \$3,686,821 to improve waterways and koala habitat, implement priority species management actions and deliver carbon and energy management actions.

This included the following projects:

- Delivery of a recreational viewing access boardwalk and fishing platform including bank stabilisation and salt marsh rehabilitation works at Riedel Park (Carbrook).
- Waterway and biodiversity corridor plantings included:
 - › 18,331 native plants at 7 riverside parks, working towards our Albert and Logan River Visions.
 - › 2,758 native plants along a tributary of Scrubby Creek to work towards Council's Scrubby Creek Recovery Plan.
 - › 142 rare and threatened plant species were included in Council's rehabilitation projects.
 - › 3,240 native plants to enhance the habitat for angle-stemmed myrtle and flying-fox habitat.
- Waterway litter clean-ups included:
 - › A monthly clean-up of floating and bank bound litter along the Logan River from Riedel Park (Carbrook) upstream to Anzac Avenue Bridge (Logan Village). Approximately 8,198 items of litter were collected and disposed. The top 3 items collected were plastic pieces (26.9%), polystyrene (22.5%) and food wraps (19.5%).



- Ten new tackle bins were installed which complemented the existing four at Logan River Parklands (Eagleby), Skinners Park (Carbrook), Tygum Lagoon (Waterford), and Albert River Park (Eagleby). Monthly audits revealed the collection of over 22 kilometres of fishing line, 858 pieces of tackle, and 396 lures. This marks a significant increase in litter collection with approximately 340% more fishing line and 1500% more tackle and lures compared to the previous year.
- Continued promotion of the Logan and Albert Rivers Canoe and Kayak Trail. Works included:
 - › Continued promotion of the interactive trail map app (Naeus)
 - › 2 kayak come and try events held.
- Maintenance of virtual fences for wildlife vehicle collision mitigation occurred along Park Ridge Road (Park Ridge), Cusack Lane (Jimboomba) and Rosia Road (Park Ridge). (The initiative is co-funded by the Local Infrastructure Program for Divisions 4, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11).
- Responded to 40 customer requests regarding wildlife vehicle collisions on local roads. Corflute wildlife movement awareness signs were temporarily installed at several locations, focusing on koala and kangaroo movement.
- Managed the portable wildlife advisory signs which have been installed to increase road user safety and reduce the risk of wildlife vehicle collisions with koalas, kangaroos and wallabies. Four rotations of the signs occurred and four additional footings were installed at Rosia Road (Park Ridge) and Cusack Lane (Glenlogan). – (The initiative is co-funded by the Local Infrastructure Program for Divisions 4, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11).
- Koala breeding season awareness banners were rotated across several koala roadkill hotspots, between August 2023 and January 2024.
- In-stream water quality monitoring continued at 2 sites on the Logan River.

- Undertook community engagement, internal consultation, Traditional Owner contact and baseline fauna and flora surveys for the Mabel Park natural channel design project. This project is co-funded by environmental levy and a Federal Government Grant.
- 25 Richmond birdwing butterfly vines were planted across Alexander Watt Park (Belivah) and Eagleby Wetlands (Eagleby).
- Pest fish removal survey undertaken at Underwood Park (Underwood) and a Tygum Lagoon (Waterford West) post floods condition assessment was completed.
- Priority species actions included:
 - › Koala education campaign and workshops, including the delivery of the Logan City Council community koala count in November, distribution of signage at dog off leash areas and key bushland parks and distribution of the koala glovebox card and posters across the city.
 - › Supported a range of koala research projects with Griffith University including Behaviour Change Social Marketing and Artificial Intelligence (AI) powered camera network platform for wildlife monitoring.
 - › Delivered the 'Leave It Logan' events for koala avoidance dog training, including hosting five pop-up events across the city which were attended by 84 people and 49 dogs and a "Train the Trainer" workshop attended by 13 dog trainers servicing the Logan region.
 - › Monitoring of 20 greater glider nest boxes in Council parks continued and additional nest boxes were installed at Berrinba Wetlands (Berrinba).
 - › A fauna survey was conducted at Albert River Park (Eagleby), with one listed significant species and several locally significant species recorded. These included evidence of more than 155 species including bush stone-curlew, white-bellied sea-eagle, brown goshawk, rakali, yellow-bellied sheath-tailed bat and little bent-wing bat.
 - › One glossy black-cockatoo identification workshop.
 - › 26 Richmond birdwing butterfly vines were planted across Logan River Parklands (Beenleigh), Alexander Watt Park (Bannockburn) and Riverdale Park (Meadowbrook).
 - › Platypus eDNA surveys and a biodiversity assessment utilising vertebrate metabarcoding were undertaken at 18 locations along the Albert River, with 3 of these sites having positive environmental DNA detections for platypus. Other threatened species detected during these surveys include giant barred frog, and grey-headed flying-fox.
- › PlatypusWatch citizen science survey events were held throughout the year with 25 sites surveyed by 43 volunteers and no sightings of platypus along Albert River. Lack of platypus sightings may have been due to environmental conditions, with fast flowing water during summer surveys and low water levels during winter surveys.
- › Year 3 of a collaborative *Gossia gonoclada* research agreement was completed. The agreement between Logan City Council and the University of Queensland, supports research into developing a cryopreservation technique for this critically endangered species.
- A Federal 'Saving Our Native Species, Priority Species' Grant was awarded and undertaken that includes the planting of over 104 angle-stemmed myrtle (*Gossia gonoclada*) at several parks in Logan, as well as buffer plantings around three sites in public parks containing existing gossias.
- Baseline eDNA surveys for vertebrate biodiversity assessment was undertaken at key sites within the Oxley, Scrubby and Slacks Creek catchments.
- Developed an offset management plan to deliver a Department of Environment Science and Innovation (DESI) State Government funded koala offset planting at Geoff Philp Reserve (Logan Village).



Corporate plan priority 3.6 – Continue to implement sustainability initiatives including increased use of renewable energy, energy efficient technology and carbon reduction projects

- Council has continued to maintain its carbon neutrality certification by the Australian Government's Climate Active initiative in 2023/24, and reduced emissions by over 96,000 tonnes.

These emission-reducing actions include:

- › Maintaining 13 solar panel installations with a total capacity of 2.29MW which helps reduce over 2,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions annually.
- › Generated electricity by capturing more than 4.7 million cubic metres of gas from organic waste, via a series of underground pipes at the Browns Plains Waste and Recycling Facility.
- › Lighting upgrades at several Council facilities saw 576 lights replaced with the latest LED fittings and estimated to decrease electricity charges by \$6,556 per annum and reduce carbon emissions by 40 tonnes.
- › Almost 30 per cent of streetlights are now LED, with total electricity use from streetlighting now declining.
- › Fuel use from Council vehicles is steadily declining – down 18 per cent on 5 years ago and still falling through Council's innovative Green Fleet Strategy.

Champion Nod for Council's Climate-Change Efforts

The Council was honoured with the Climate Champion Award at the Cities Power Partnership 2023 Climate Awards. This prestigious award acknowledges the Council's pivotal role in spearheading and executing a variety of emission-reducing initiatives, culminating in achieving carbon-neutral certification earlier this year.

Key initiatives included:

- Installing solar PV systems on Council libraries, aquatic, and sports centres
- Introducing a kerbside green waste recycling bin collection service
- Generating electricity from gas captured at the Browns Plains Waste and Recycling Facility
- Implementing a green fleet strategy.

Reducing emissions and implementing zero-emission initiatives offer numerous benefits to the City of Logan, including cleaner air. These efforts are instrumental in combating climate change and ensuring a sustainable future. Logan is setting a positive example for other Councils in Queensland to follow. The Climate Council's Cities Power Partnership stands as Australia's largest network of local Councils, leading the charge towards a zero-emissions future.



Fishing platform at Carbrook's Riedel Park

Fishing enthusiasts, Carbrook's Riedel Park is now even more inviting with the recent addition of a new platform and boardwalk alongside the Logan River boat ramp. These enhancements are designed to improve fishing access while protecting the estuarine environment.

The new micromesh platform is equipped with seating, a tackle bin, and a fish cleaning station, making it a convenient spot for anglers. The boardwalk ensures that pedestrians can travel from the carpark to the fishing area without disturbing the delicate saltmarsh along the riverbank. These saltmarsh areas, composed of various reeds, grasses, and shrubs, provide crucial shelter for small or juvenile fish during high tide and help stabilise the riverbank.

As part of the project, riverbank stabilisation works, including the installation of new rock fillets, were carried out. These rock fillets, or rock piles, placed in the river's tidal zone, help reduce bank erosion and promote the growth of mangroves. Additionally, new 'oyster baskets' made from cleaned oyster shells recovered from seafood businesses will be trialed in the area.

These shells provide a base for young oysters (spat) or other shellfish to attach and grow, creating habitats for species such as crabs, shrimp, and snails.

The Riedel Park project was primarily funded through Logan City Council's Environmental Levy and received a Recreational Fishing Grant from the Queensland Government's Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. It was also supported by Healthy Land and Water, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, in conjunction with Ozfish Unlimited.

For more information on fishing spots in the City of Logan and responsible fishing tips, visit the fishing section on the Council's website.

For more information visit
logan.qld.gov.au/fishing



24,463

native plants planted along waterways and biodiversity corridors



8,442

items of litter were collected from Slacks and Scrubby Creek and Logan River



22

kilometres of fishing line collected through Council's sustainable fishing initiatives



576

lights replaced with LED fittings which reduced carbon emissions by 40 tonnes

Logan City Council

📍 150 Wembley Road,
Logan Central, QLD 4114

☎ 3412 3412

🌐 council@logan.qld.gov.au

logan.qld.gov.au

