

Weeds of Logan



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Logan City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, pays respect to Elders past and present, and extends that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the City of Logan.

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INTRODUCTION

The City of Logan contains a rich and diverse environment, supporting natural systems, pastures, plantations and gardens. Weeds can destroy the natural diversity of the region, as well as the economic viability of many local industries.

Many of the common weeds in Logan were originally introduced as garden ornamentals. Introduced plants that are climatically suited to their new environment can thrive and out-compete native species because of the absence of the plant's natural diseases and pests.

Disclaimer

Please note that, whilst due care has been taken in the creation of this booklet, it does not represent a comprehensive list of all weeds found throughout Logan, nor does it cover all possible removal and control techniques available.

Recommendations in this book are for private land use only. No works are to be carried out on public land unless authorised by the relevant authority. The authors accept no responsibility for decisions and actions taken as a result of any content in this booklet.

This booklet is an education and awareness tool and has not been adopted by the Logan City Council as a policy. This booklet has been developed to aid weed recognition and should be used as a guide only. Readers should seek professional advice prior to undertaking weed control works.

May 2026.



THE IMPACT OF WEEDS

Weeds may have significant economic and social impacts, as well as environmental impacts, including:

- reduction of biodiversity
- cost of control
- loss of ecotourism opportunities
- impacts on recreational activities
- impacts on landscape
- degradation of water quality
- increased risk of fire intensity and frequency
- causing injury to native animals or harming them through toxicity
- choking waterways and wetlands and destroying aquatic habitat
- lowering the visual appeal of natural areas and decreasing property values
- contributing to erosion and sedimentation of waterways.

Things to keep in mind when around weeds

When in an area known to contain weeds please keep in mind that you and/or your vehicle can increase the problem by transporting weed seed. Please remember to always wash down your vehicle, shoes and clothing to remove potential weed seed.



USING THIS BOOKLET

This booklet is a weed identification tool. Weeds are categorised by growth form. Details on the State declaration of the weed are provided by their classification symbol (see pages 8–9). The appropriate weed control method is identified by the control method symbol. Details on these control methods are provided on page 12.

Plant Growth Form



Cacti and succulents



Water Weeds



Grasses



Forbs



Vines



Shrubs



Trees

Weed Classification



Category 1



Category 2



Category 3



Category 4



Category 5



Category 6



Category 7



Environmental Weeds

Control Method



Foliar Spray



Stem Injection



Basal Bark Spraying



Cut Stump



Manual Removal



BIOSECURITY MATTER

Restricted matter

Restricted matter is a plant considered a serious enough pest to warrant its control being enforced under legislation.

This legislation is the *Biosecurity Act 2014* (the Act). Under the Act an owner, or occupier, of private land is required to control restricted matter on that land. The Local Authority for the area may issue a Biosecurity Order to the owner requiring that certain restricted matter be controlled on that land by a specific date.

Should the owner not comply with the direction contained in such an Order by the specific date, the Local Authority may authorise any person to enter the said land and carry out the requirements of the direction at the owner's expense.

Local Authorities and Government Departments are also required to control restricted matter on land under their control.

Prohibited matter

Prohibited pests are not currently found in Queensland but would have a significant adverse impact on our health, way of life, the economy or the environment if they entered the state. The Act lists prohibited matter in Schedule 1.

If you become aware of prohibited matter or you believe that something is prohibited matter, you need to report it to Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 within 24 hours.

Environmental weeds

Environmental weeds are plants that invade native ecosystems and adversely affect the survival of indigenous flora and fauna.

Environmental weeds can be foreign plants accidentally or intentionally introduced into Australia, or they can be native plants that have become weedy due to inappropriate management, or because they are outside of their normal range.

For the purpose of this booklet, only weeds that are not declared under the Act will be labelled as environmental weeds.

Council has a Biosecurity Plan which describes how specific pests in Logan are managed. Prohibited and restricted invasive biosecurity matter pest plants found in Logan need to be reported to Council on 3412 3412. For more information visit: logan.qld.gov.au/biosecurity

PROHIBITED MATTER – WEED ALERT

Blind cactus

Opuntia rufida

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Blind cactus is a prohibited invasive plant under the Act. All sightings of blind cactus must be reported to Biosecurity Queensland within 24 hours of the sighting. Mainly detected in gardens growing as an ornamental it has not established in Queensland. The species is currently targeted for eradication.

Description:

- Forms a dense shrub 40–60 cm tall composed of pad like stems 6–15 cm long and 4–12 cm broad.
- There is no central stem and pads grow in pairs giving the appearance of bunny ears.



Cha-om

Senegalia insuavis

.....

Cha-om is a prohibited invasive plant under the Act. All sightings of Cha-om must be reported to Biosecurity Queensland within 24 hours of the sighting. Mainly detected in gardens in Logan City for cooking purposes.

Description:

- Cha-om is a shrub up to 5 m tall that can climb and scramble like a vine.
- Scattered prickles along its branchlets and stems; leaves are bipinnate.
- The leaves and stems have a strong odour when disturbed.



RESTRICTED MATTER CATEGORIES

C1 **Category 1** includes certain animal diseases, aquatic diseases, pathogens and red imported fire ants.

Biosecurity Queensland needs to be made aware of this restricted matter to take action and eradicate it.

You must report category 1 restricted matter to Biosecurity Queensland within 24 hours of becoming aware of its presence by calling 13 25 23.

C2 **Category 2** restricted matter includes certain noxious fish, weeds and pest animals such as red-eared slider turtles.

Biosecurity Queensland needs to be aware of this restricted matter to commence appropriate actions to reduce, control or contain the biosecurity matter.

This restricted matter must be reported to a Council inspector or authorised person within 24 hours of you becoming aware of its presence by calling 3412 3412.

C3 **Category 3** includes weeds, pest animals and noxious fish such as gambusia, dingoes and yellow crazy ants.

You must not distribute this restricted matter. Deliberate human distribution or disposal contrary to the legislation is a key source of spread into other areas of the state.

Plants in this booklet are generally established in areas within Logan. However, due to their potential to cause serious economic, environmental or social harm, these weeds are regulated by Council in the form of an annual inspection program of properties within the Council area and the issuing of a Biosecurity Order to properties with category 3 restricted matter.

C4

Category 4 includes specific weeds, pest animals and noxious fish such as Mexican feather grass, feral pig or giant cichlid.

You must not move this restricted matter to ensure that it does not spread into other areas of the state.

C5

Category 5 includes weeds, pest animals and noxious fish such as bridal creeper, rabbits and carp.

You must not possess or keep this restricted matter under your control. These pests have a high risk of negatively impacting on the environment.

C6

Category 6 includes invasive animals such as feral deer, foxes, rabbits, wild dogs and noxious fish such as carp and tilapia.

You must not feed this category of restricted matter. Feeding this restricted matter may cause their numbers to increase and negatively impact the economy or the environment.

E

Environmental weeds are not listed under the Act, and therefore there is no regulation for their control by landowners. Although not listed, these weeds do cause serious environmental harm in various situations and where practical should be managed.

Multiple categories may apply to restricted matter

Several restriction categories apply to some restricted matter. In such cases, you would need to follow the requirements of all restriction categories for these restricted matter listings.



WHY ARE THEY A PROBLEM?

Weeds are generally very hardy plants. Many weeds grow quickly, spread easily, tolerate a range of conditions and are capable of forming large colonies. It is these qualities that make weeds so successful and difficult to control.

Common problems with weeds include:

- spread easily by humans, birds and animals
- spread easily by dumping of garden waste
- spreading stems give rise to new plants
- seeds are wind-borne and are carried by flowing water
- many grow readily from seed, roots and other vegetative means
- reduce the pasture value as they out-compete more nutritious and palatable pasture plants
- weed vines often have the ability to smother native trees
- invade disturbed natural areas and replaces native vegetation
- form dense infestations that interfere with the establishment of native plant seedlings
- often invade understorey suppressing growth of native species.



WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT WEEDS?

The best way to deal with environmental weeds is to control them and prevent their spread by:

- learning to recognise weeds
- removing positively identified weeds or non-natives from your property and replace with local native species. This will also encourage native wildlife
- not buying, selling or planting environmental weeds
- remembering that there will be a risk of plants which spread by seed, e.g. asparagus fern, spreading to bushland even if you live in a suburban area as birds can eat the fruit and transport the seed for many kilometres. Wind and water also transport seed long distances
- not planting aquarium plants or garden ornamentals. These are our worst waterway and wetland weeds. Never dispose of them where they can spread to natural waterbodies
- getting out for a bush walk in one of the many great bushland spots of Logan or keep an eye out in your backyard for weed species. After all, we are one of a small number of areas in South East Queensland lucky enough to have such a range of native plants in our backyards, and we should ensure it continues for many years to come
- practising environmentally responsible horse and cattle management techniques. Hard-hooved animals compact soil and trample native regrowth creating prime habitat for weed invasion
- getting involved with Logan City Council's environmental programs (see page 99)
- becoming an active member of a local conservation group (see page 103).

DUMPING GARDEN WASTE IN BUSHLAND AREAS INCREASES THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE WEEDS.

Native vegetation in Logan may be protected under Council's planning scheme. Carrying out weed management activities does not authorise the clearing or removal of protected native vegetation. For more information on vegetation protection in Logan visit logan.qld.gov.au/vegetation-protection



Throughout this booklet, some appropriate control methods for each weed are shown using the symbols below.

BEFORE USING ANY HERBICIDE ALWAYS READ THE LABEL CAREFULLY AND ENSURE THAT THE CHEMICAL IS REGISTERED FOR USE ON THE TARGET WEED. ALL HERBICIDES MUST BE APPLIED STRICTLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DIRECTIONS ON THE LABEL.

Registered herbicide suitable to individual weed species can be found at biosecurity.qld.gov.au



Foliar Spray

Herbicide is diluted with water at a specific rate, and sprayed over the foliage to point of runoff. Most suited to shrubs, grasses and dense vines less than 6 m tall.



Basal Bark Spraying

Involves mixing a suitable herbicide in diesel and spraying the full circumference of the plant's trunk or stem, completely wetting 30–45 cm from the ground level up the stem.



Manual Removal

Manual control uses hands or hand tools to control weeds. This can be an effective control as it can minimize soil disturbance and can instantly remove the entire weed.



Stem Injection

Involves drilling or cutting downward sloping holes spaced about 5 cm apart through the bark into the sapwood tissue. Herbicide should be immediately (within 15 seconds) placed into the hole or cut.



Cut Stump

Involves lopping the weed close to the ground and then spraying the stump immediately (within 15 seconds) with herbicide to ensure absorption.

For further information about control methods, refer to lccqld.com/herbicide-application-invasive-plants



CACTI SPECIES

(*Opuntia* species)

Description:

- Branching succulent shrub.
- Fibrous roots.
- Some with spikes or hair-like spines.
- Drooping tree pear (*Opuntia monacantha*) and velvety tree pear (*Opuntia tomentosa*) commonly found in Logan.
- Prickles and spines are hazardous to humans, livestock and pets.



velvety tree pear



drooping tree pear



CREeping INCH PLANT

(Callisia repens)

Description:

- Low-growing, spreading plant that can form dense mats of vegetation.
- Fleshy leaves that are mostly green when growing in shaded areas. Can be purple when growing in sunny spots.
- Spreads rapidly by vegetative means.



MOTHER-IN-LAW'S TONGUE

(*Sansevieria trifasciata*)

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Description:

- Perennial, erect, succulent plant up to 60 cm tall.
- Strap-like erect, dark green mottled leaves, twisting into clumps.
- Small, creamy tubular flowers carried on a spike.



MOTHER-OF-MILLIONS

(*Bryophyllum* species)

Description:

- Upright, succulent plant growing up to 60 cm in height.
- Green to grey-brown leaves that can grow new plantlets along the edges of the leaves.
- All species form tall flower spikes in winter with clusters of yellow to orange-red bell-shaped flowers.
- Plantlets readily drop, develop roots, and form new infestations.



PURPLE SUCCULENT

(*Callisia fragrans*)

Description:

- Spreading succulent-like plant with leaves growing radially from the base.
- Leaves are mostly green in shaded positions or purple in sunlit areas.
- Small white flowers that grow clustered on a flower stem.
- Spreads vegetatively by sending runners along the ground.



WANDERING TRAD

(*Tradescantia fluminensis*)

Description:

- Trailing herb with weak, succulent stems.
- Shiny green leaves form hairy sheaths around stems.
- White flowers with 3 petals.
- Stems spread as runners over ground. Readily grows roots when in contact with soil.



ALLIGATOR WEED

(*Alternanthera philoxeroides*)

Description:

- Semi-aquatic plant up to 70 cm tall.
- Dark green lance shaped leaves in opposite pairs along hollow stems.
- Small, white flowers growing in ball-shaped clusters in summer.
- Obvious mid-vein on leaves.
- Weed in wetlands, waterways, and other low-lying areas.

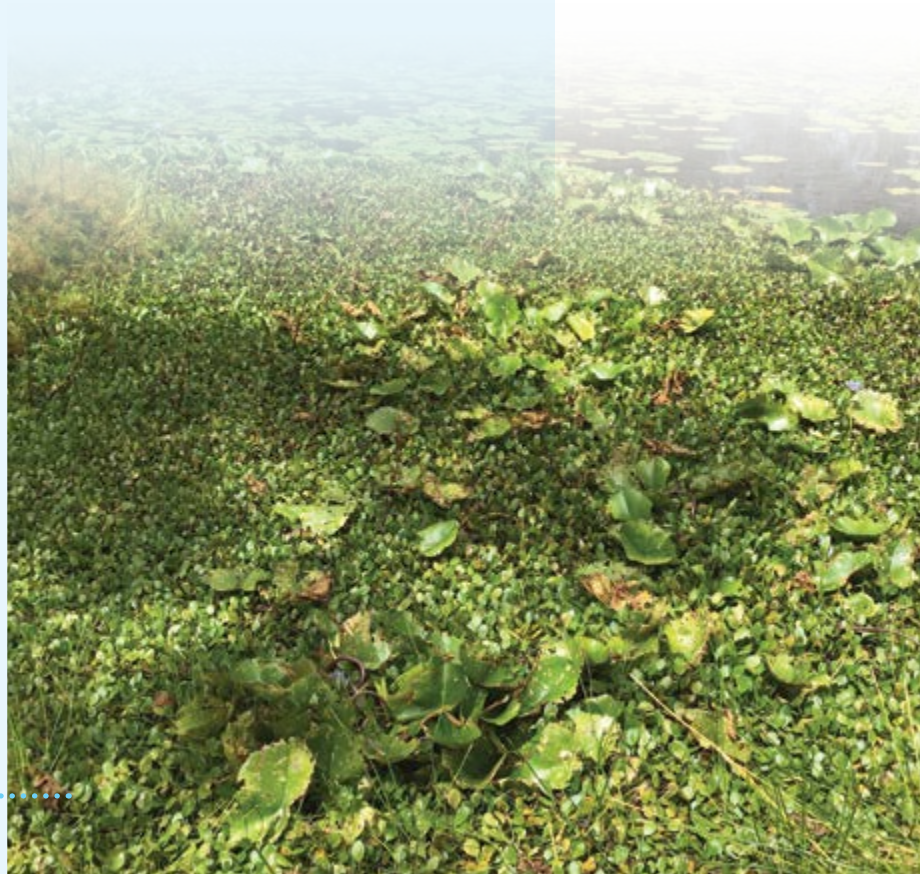


AMAZON FROGBIT

(*Limnobium laevigatum*)

Description:

- Floating aquatic herb that can grow to 50 cm tall.
- Leaves are round and glossy. Young leaves have spongy undersides. As they mature they lose their sponginess and become more oval in shape.
- Can rapidly reproduce with runners that form daughter plants.



BACOPA

(*Bacopa lanigera* and
B. caroliniana)

Description:

- Herbaceous plant that grows along the ground which turn upright at the ends.
- Found in moist, low-lying areas and shallow dams.
- Round soft, hairy leaves and stems.
- Small, bright blue to purple flowers.
- Dispersed by seeds and stem fragments.



CABOMBA

(*Cabomba* species)

Description:

- Mostly submerged aquatic plant that grows densely with multiple stems up to 6 m in length.
- Leaves grow oppositely and divide into many strands which give them a feathery, fan shaped appearance.
- Stems have small whitish or reddish-brown hairs.
- Leaves and stems often covered with jelly-like coating.
- Able to form infestations when fragments enter waterways.



HYGROPHILA

(*Hygrophila costata*)

Description:

- Herbaceous plant that grows upright above water surface along edges of rivers and creeks.
- Oppositely arranged leaves; lance shaped with prominent mid-vein.
- Stems can grow roots from joints when in contact with soil.
- White papery flowers grow from joints.
- Not to be confused with native, *Hygrophila angustifolia*, which has purple flowers.



HYMENACHNE

(*Hymenachne amplexicaulis*)

Description:

- Semi-aquatic grass that grows upright or semi-upright between 1 m to 2.5 m tall.
- Long, broad leaves 2.6 cm wide and 15–35 cm long. Leaf base wraps around stem to form a sheath.
- Stems have lightweight pith which aid in flotation.
- Roots can form at joints and form a dense mat of vegetation.



KIDNEY-LEAF MUD PLANTAIN

(Heteranthera reniformis)

Description:

- Able to grow submerged, floating or in moist soils.
- Kidney-shaped leaves are glossy and spongy, 1–5 cm across on stalks 2–13 cm long.
- Small, white to pale blue flowers in clusters of 2–20.
- Small capsule fruit containing 8–14 tiny winged seeds less than 1 mm long.

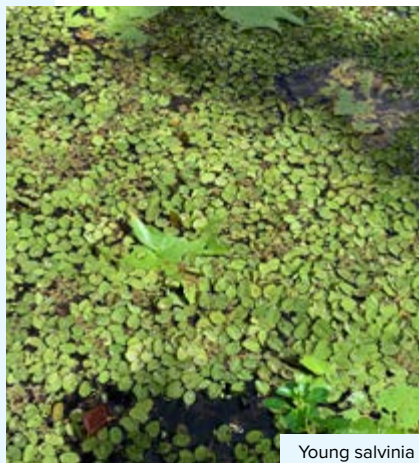


SALVINIA

(*Salvinia molesta*)

Description:

- Free-floating aquatic weed. Smothers water surfaces in slow-moving waterbodies.
- Young plants have small leaves that grow flat which gradually become folded as the plant grows larger.
- Leaves are 2 cm across on short stalks and covered in water-repellent hairs.
- Hair-like roots grow on stems submerged underwater.
- Salvinia readily replicates from fragments. A pair of leaves can infest an entire waterbody.



Young salvinia



SENEGAL TEA

(*Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*)

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Description:

- Aquatic herb that grows upright in slow-moving water and moist soils.
- Shiny, dark green, waxy leaves 5–20 cm long.
- Stems are hollow between joints, becoming horizontal as they age.
- Small, white pom-pom like flowers during warmer months.
- Spreads by seed and vegetative fragments. Stems can grow roots when in contact with soil or water.



WATER HYACINTH

(*Eichhornia crassipes*)

Description:

- Free-floating weed in static and slow-moving waterbodies.
- Leaf shape can vary from round and curved upward on hollow floating stalks to narrow and upright on thin stalks.
- Fibrous root systems can be up to 1 m long.
- Dark blue to purple flowers with yellow centre carried on stems above the plant.
- Able to reproduce with vegetative segments and long-lasting seeds.



WATER LETTUCE

(Pistia stratiotes)

Description:

- Free-floating perennial resembling a small, floating, open-headed lettuce, preferring nutrient-rich, stationary water bodies or slow-moving streams; can survive on mudbanks.
- Roots up to 80 cm long, fibrous, unbranched and forming tufts.
- Greenish-yellow leaves, fan-shaped and thick at the base.
- Mature plants produce a large number of small, green, inconspicuous flowers in their centre.



WATER MIMOSA

(*Neptunia* species)

Description:

- Creeping or aquatic herb which either grows prostrate near the water's edge or floats by spongy-fibrous stems.
- Thick taproot that becomes woody.
- Leaves close when touched and are arranged in opposite pairs along the stem.
- Bright yellow, ball-shaped flower in summer.
- Forms a distinctive flattened seed pod.



C2

C3

C4

C5



WATER SPINACH

(*Ipomoea aquatica*)

Description:

- Semi-aquatic tropical plant with stems up to 3 m long, rooting at nodes.
- Hollow stems that can float on water surface.
- Leaves typically arrow-shaped 5–15 cm with trumpet-shaped flowers usually white in colour.
- Cultivated as a vegetable and often escapes.



GIANT PARRAMATTA GRASS

(*Sporobolus fertilis*)

Description:

- Clumping grass growing to 1.6 m in poor soils.
- Seed head up to 50 cm long and 1–2 cm wide.
- Develops sooty spike on seed heads.
- Very similar in appearance to giant rat's tail grass.



GIANT RAT'S TAIL GRASS, GRT

(*Sporobolus pyramidalis*,
S. natalensis)

Description:

- Tufted grass, height from base to seed head is 0.6–1.7 m.
- Seed head can be up to 45 cm long and 3 cm wide.
- Seed heads change shape from a 'rat's tail' tip when young, to a pyramid shape when mature.
- Unlike giant Parramatta grass, GRT does not develop sooty seed heads.
- Unpalatable to livestock.



PARA GRASS

(*Urochloa mutica*)

Description:

- Spreading grass with hollow stems which grow upright at ends; growing to 1 m.
- Grows roots at joints when in contact with soil.
- Dark green, hairy leaf blades, usually 15 cm long, less than 1 cm wide, tapering to a long, fine point.
- Flower heads up to 18 cm are made up of several spikes, each about 5 cm long.



RUNNING BAMBOO

(*Phyllostachys* species)

Description:

- Erect yellowish cane growing 2–8 m tall.
- Stems 2–3 cm thick; canes are banded with horizontal rings at nodes.
- Leaves produced on clustered short shoots which grow from nodes.
- Re-shoots from underground stems or suckers.



WHISKY GRASS

(*Andropogon virginicus*)

Description:

- Grass growing 0.5–1 m in poor soils.
- Long, narrow seed-heads 2–3 cm long; consist of numerous pairs of tiny branches.
- Leaves 10–40 cm long with a hairy to hairless leaf sheath, turning orange-brown in summer.
- At maturity, flower-spikelets fall off; consist of long, white silky hairs.
- Flowers from autumn to summer.



ANNUAL RAGWEED

(*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*)

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Description:

- Annual, erect herb growing up to 2.5 m tall, colonising bare areas along roadsides, watercourse banks and degraded pasture.
- Fern-like pale to dull green leaves with soft hairs on the underside.
- Small greenish flowers in spikes up to 20 cm on the upper part of the plant.
- Flower spikes appear yellow when mature.



BLUE HELIOTROPE

(*Heliotropium amplexicaule*)

Description:

- Short-lived herb growing to 30 cm with prostrate branching stems radiating from a woody rootstock.
- Narrow, opposite leaves with wavy margins.
- Coiled inflorescences with many small purple and yellow flowers arranged in 2 rows.



COMMON SENSITIVE PLANT

(Mimosa pudica)

Description:

- Sprawling herb, growing 15–45 cm high with reddish-brown or purple, woody stems with short, curved prickles.
- Fern-like leaves, divided into one or more pairs near the end of each leaf stalk.
- Segments divided into 10–25 pairs of leaflets which close when touched.
- Pale pink or purplish-pink flowers in 1 cm fluffy balls on short stalks.
- Seed pods 2–3 cm long with stiff bristles.



CORAL BERRY

(*Rivina humilis*)

Description:

- Erect, short-lived herb growing to 1 m.
- Lance-shaped alternate leaves up to 10 cm long.
- Damaged or crushed leaves emit unpleasant odour.
- White to pink flowers with greenish tinge, grouped in narrow spike-like formations.
- Round, bright red berries each containing a single seed and occur at any time of the year.



CROFTON WEED

(*Ageratina adenophora*)

Description:

- Shrubby herb 1–2 m, with woody roots and upright branching stems.
- Bright-green, trowel-shaped leaves, 5–8 cm long and 2–5 cm wide with toothed edges.
- Small, white flowers in spring in dense heads at the ends of branches.
- Slender, angular, almost black 2 mm seeds with fine, white hairs at the tip.



CREeping LANTANA

(*Lantana montevidensis*)

Description:

- Scrambling, low woody herb with wiry, square stems.
- Oval, finely serrated leaves in opposite pairs, up to 3 cm long.
- Leaves emit a strong smell when crushed.
- Purple or lilac flowers with white or yellow centres.
- Small, purplish to black berries in autumn.



DYSCHORISTE

(*Dyschoriste nagchana*)

Description:

- Low growing spreading herb can reach 60 cm in height.
- Leaves grow on short stalks as opposite pairs from joints.
- Flowers are small, white to pinkish, purple.
- Common in lawns and moist habitats, able to withstand drier conditions.
- Can be spread vegetatively or through seed heads that burst open.



FIREWEED

(*Senecio madagascariensis*)

Description:

- Short-lived herb, 10–60 cm, with shallow, branched taproot.
- Single main stem, or several stems that develop from a central crown at the base of the plant.
- Alternately arranged leaves, 2–12 cm long with serrated margins.
- Bright yellow, daisy-like flowers, 1–2 cm in diameter, commonly with 13 petals.
- Small, white fluffy seeds, dispersed by wind.



FISHBONE FERN

(*Nephrolepis cordifolia*)

Description:

- Fern with erect or drooping fronds up to 1 m long.
- Forms runners and spreads readily by vegetative means; fleshy spherical tubers are also formed.
- Dark brown stems with soft hairs.
- Fronds have alternate, serrated leaflets with a distinct midrib.



FLEABANE

(*Conyza* species)

Description:

- Annual herb developing a rosette of leaves at first and then a single flowering stem up to 1 m tall.
- Soft, hairy, and toothed leaves.
- Flowers from spring to autumn with fluffy, whitish flower heads 5–6 mm long when mature.



KHAKI WEED

(*Alternanthera pungens*)

Description:

- Spreading herb with long-lived taproot system. Annual above ground growth; stems produced from a central crown; often forms roots at joints.
- Short, soft hairs on the stems.
- Paired leaves differ in size and leaf margins somewhat wavy.
- Small flowers in spring to autumn on spikes 8–12 mm long and 6–10 mm wide.
- Barbed hairs at the base of the perianth segments become hardened and form prickles as they age.
- Small fruit about 1 mm long.



MISTFLOWER

(*Ageratina riparia*)

Description:

- Low-growing, sprawling herb 40–60 cm high.
- Stems produce roots at the joints that touch the ground.
- Opposite leaves 7.5 cm by 2.5 cm, toothed along the edges and tapered at each end.
- Small, white flowers with dense heads at the ends of the branches in August to October.
- Wind-borne seeds are black, slender, angular, 2 mm long, with fine white hairs at the tip.



PARTHENIUM

(*Parthenium hysterophorus*)

Description:

- Annual herb with a deep taproot growing up to 2 m tall.
- Growing in most soil types particularly disturbed areas.
- Erect stem that becomes woody and develops many branches with age.
- Deeply lobed leaves covered with fine, soft hairs.
- Small, creamy white diamond-shaped flowers on the tips of numerous stems.



POLKA DOT PLANT

(Hypoestes phyllostachya)

Description:

- Small, shade-tolerant perennial herb growing to a height of about 50 cm.
- Soft, green leaves with white to pink spots or mottled patterns.
- Small, pink to purple flowers in summer.



SCOPARIA WEED

(*Scoparia dulcis*)

Description:

- Herb to 70 cm tall.
- Lance-shaped leaves, oblong-shaped at base, 2–3 cm long, margins serrate.
- White to pale pink 4-petal flowers.
- Capsule shaped fruit.



SINGAPORE DAISSY

(*Sphagneticola trilobata*)

Description:

- Vigorous ground cover that is a weed of bushland, waterways and coastal sand dunes.
- Glossy leaves usually 3-lobed and in pairs up the stem.
- Yellow to orange-yellow daisy flowers about 2 cm across, all year round.
- Spreads vegetatively.



ASPARAGUS FERN

(*Asparagus species*)

Description:

- Climbing or prostrate in habit.
- Small, spine-like leaves, 1.5–2.5 cm long and 2–3 mm wide.
- White or pale pink, bell-shaped flowers.
- Fruit are red or black berries, 5–8 mm in diameter.
- Black seeds 2.5–3.5 mm in diameter.



C3



BALLOON VINE

(*Cardiospermum grandiflorum*)

Description:

- Climbing vine with tendrils.
- Compound leaves divided into 3 groups of 3 leaflets with serrated edges.
- Creamy white flowers in small bunches on the end of a 5–15 cm stalk extending from the stem.
- Fruit is in the form of an inflated, papery capsule, 3 cm across turning from green to fawn when mature.
- Fruit contains small, black, heart-shaped seeds.



BLACK-EYED SUSAN

(*Thunbergia alata*)

Description:

- Twining vine that grows up to 4 m long, with roots forming at nodes of the stem when in contact with soil.
- Triangular to heart-shaped leaves up to 7 cm long, with soft fine hairs and broadly toothed margins.
- Bright, yellow-orange flowers with 5 petals and a black centre.
- Fruit capsule covered in fine hairs.



BLUE THUNBERGIA

(*Thunbergia grandiflora*)

Description:

- Twining vine growing up to 5 m long with a large, tuberous root system.
- Stems become woody with age.
- Large, rough leaves up to 15 cm long by 10 cm wide with a pointed tip.
- Trumpet-shaped flowers up to 8 cm long by 6–8 cm wide, white on the outside, yellowish inside expanding to 5 rounded pale lavender-blue petals.
- Cone-shaped seed pods 3–5 cm long with flat, brown seeds covered in scales.



BRAZILIAN NIGHTSHADE

(*Solanum seaforthianum*)

Description:

- Vine with sprawling stems, often covering fences or shrubs.
- Leaves alternate, deeply divided into several irregularly shaped pointed segments.
- Bluish-purple flowers with yellow stamens in the centre; spring to autumn.
- Fruit are round, glossy, red berries that hang in bunches.



CAT'S CLAW CREEPER

(*Dolichandra unguis-cati*)

Description:

- Woody vine commonly spreads along creek and river banks.
- Dark green leaves with tapering, oblong leaflets; final leaflet modified to a 3-clawed tendril.
- Bright yellow flowers approximately 8 cm in diameter.
- Seed pods are flat, 1 cm wide and up to 30 cm long.

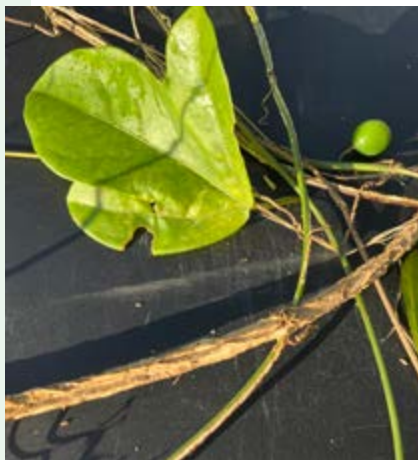


CORKY PASSIONFLOWER

(*Passiflora suberosa*,
P. pallida)

Description:

- Vine, climbing up to 5 m high; bases of older stems become white and corky.
- Alternately arranged, 3 pointed lobed leaves, although sometimes lacks the lobes.
- Flowers throughout most of the year with pale green-yellow flowers 1–2 cm across.
- Fruits are purple-black berries that are toxic to humans and livestock.



DUTCHMAN'S PIPE

(*Aristolochia elegans*)

Description:

- Fast-growing vine reaching 3 m in length with woody, tightly twining stems.
- Heart-shaped glossy leaves, 3–10 cm long, 3–12 cm wide that form a dense mat.
- Reddish-purple flowers shaped like a traditional Dutchman's pipe, with white and yellow marks, up to 7.5 cm long.
- Fruit oblong, 4–6 cm long; tear-dropped shaped seeds.



GLYCINE

(*Neonotonia wightii*)

Description:

- Climbing vine with a woody base.
- Stems vary from being densely hairy, with a rusty velvety covering, to almost hairless.
- Alternate leaves consisting of 3 leaflets that are broadly egg-shaped.
- Inconspicuous creamy flowers in late autumn.
- Beanlike seed pods are up to 3.5 cm long and contain rectangular-shaped seeds.



KUDZU

(*Pueraria montana* var. *lobata*)

Description:

- Fast-growing vine that can grow up to 30 cm a day in summer.
- Fleshy taproot up to 1.8 m long.
- Compound leaves alternately arranged with 3 broad leaflets, each up to 10 cm across. Leaves dropped during winter in South East Queensland.
- Flowers are purple-pink, fragrant, 1–1.5 cm long on spikes.
- Pods are brown, flat, hairy, 5 cm long, containing 3–10 small, hard, oval seeds.



MADEIRA VINE

(*Anredera cordifolia*)

Description:

- Semi-succulent vine, common along margins of rainforests.
- Roots are fleshy and form large tubers.
- Fleshy heart-shaped leaves 4–5 cm long.
- Cream-coloured flowers grow on spikes in clusters from December to April.
- Aerial tubers, produced on the stem, can fall to the ground and sprout.



MILE-A-MINUTE

(*Ipomoea cairica*)

Description:

- Fast-growing vine that smothers the ground and climbs aggressively.
- Stems grow with a twining habit and rooting at the joints.
- Deeply divided, alternate leaves with 5–7 lobes.
- Funnel-shaped purple flowers with a deeper coloured throat.
- Flowering occurs year round.
- 4 silky-haired seeds contained in small globular capsule.



MORNING GLORY

(*Ipomoea indica*, *I. purpurea*)

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Description:

- Fast-growing climber.
- Stems are densely covered in curved hairs and usually develop a twining habit.
- Alternately arranged leaves are broadly heart-shaped, sometimes with 3–5 lobes.
- Large, funnel-shaped flowers are blue-mauve in colour, growing in groups of 3–12.
- Flowering occurs from spring to autumn.
- Fruits are globular, papery capsules containing many seeds.



SILVERLEAF DESMODIUM

(*Desmodium uncinatum*)

Description:

- Scrambling vine with deep taproot and thick stems.
- Velcro-like “hooked” hairs on all parts of the plant.
- Alternately arranged leaves; groups of 3 leaflets 2–10 cm long and 1–6 cm wide, each with a white, longitudinal stripe, both surfaces with silky hairs, base of each leaflet with bract-like appendages.
- Pink to white pea-like flowers 7–10 mm long.



SIRATRO

(*Macroptilium atropurpureum*)

.....

Description:

- Creeping or climbing legume.
- Leaves 2–7 cm long each with 3 broad leaflets and silky hairs on the underside.
- Pea-like flowers are dark red to purple, borne on long spikes.
- Pods are narrow, 5–10 cm long.



WHITE MOTH VINE

(*Araujia sericifera*)

Description:

- Vigorous, woody creeper with a shallow root system.
- Twining stems are finely hairy and contain a toxic milky sap.
- Opposite paired leaves, up to 10 cm long, roughly triangular in shape with a white coloured underside.
- Flowers are small, white, pink or violet.
- Large fruit resemble choko fruits with pale green skin.
- Fruits dry and split open when ripe, releasing wind-borne seeds on silky hairs.



WHITE PASSION FLOWER

(Passiflora subpeltata)

Description:

- Thin-stemmed, climbing vine with broad, pale green 3-lobed leaves.
- Leaves are hairless, and tendrils grow from the vine beneath each leaf.
- Large, white “passionfruit” flowers in spring to summer.
- Smooth, oval-shaped fruits that do not ripen so remain a bluish green.
- Toxic to humans and livestock.



BALLOON COTTON BUSH

(*Gomphocarpus physocarpus*)

Description:

- Small, erect and branching shrub growing to 2 m.
- Stems covered with short, soft hairs.
- Narrow leaves 3.5–12 cm long and 5–16 mm wide with milky sap.
- Clusters of white flowers with star-like centres.
- Balloon-like fruits, with soft spines, containing many black seeds with silky tufts of hairs.
- Toxic white milky sap exudes from damaged stems and leaves.



CASTOR OIL PLANT

(*Ricinus communis*)

Description:

- Shrub growing to 4 m tall with hollow, pale green stems with a reddish tinge.
- Large, alternate leaves, 10–70 cm across with 7 to 10 triangular lobes.
- Erect flower spikes in summer with reddish female flowers on top and cream or yellow male flowers underneath.
- Greenish-red spiny seed capsules, 15–25 mm across, which can divide into 3 segments.



DURANTA

(*Duranta erecta*)

Description:

- Shrub to 4 m with drooping, occasionally spiny branches.
- Leaves in pairs or threes, oval, occasionally toothed, to 8 cm long with a short leaf stalk.
- Trumpet-shaped, blue or pale purple flowers, often with 2 darker stripes, in clusters in summer to autumn.
- Fruit rounded, orange or yellow, about 1 cm across, in large clusters.



EASTER CASSIA

(*Senna pendula* var. *glabrata*)

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Description:

- Erect or sprawling multi-stemmed shrub up to 4.5 m.
- Oppositely arranged leaflets divided into 3-5 pairs.
- Leaflets have yellow margins.
- Clustered, bright yellow flowers in autumn with 5 large petals 2–2.5 cm long.
- Narrow, cylindrical seed pods, up to 10 cm by 0.6 cm, contains numerous seeds.



GIANT DEVIL'S FIG

(*Solanum chrysotrichum*)

Description:

- Erect shrub to 4 m.
- Stems and leaves are covered with soft hairs which are reddish on new growth.
- Large deeply lobed leaves.
- 2–6 mm prickles form along stems, leaf stalk and leaf veins.
- Flowers from autumn to spring with star-shaped, white flowers with a hairy outer surface.
- Spherical yellowish fruit up to 17 mm when mature.



GREEN CESTRUM

(*Cestrum parqui*)

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Description:

- Erect shrub usually 1–2 m, occasionally reaching 5 m.
- Young shoots often hairy and green.
- Newer stems whitish, while older stems become woody with striated bark.
- Alternate leaves with a distinctive unpleasant odour when crushed.
- Yellow-green tubular, elongated flowers.
- Egg-shaped berries that are glossy black when ripe, each containing numerous prism-shaped seeds.



GROUNDSEL BUSH

(*Baccharis halimifolia*)

Description:

- Densely branched shrub growing to 4 m.
- Alternate, wedge-shaped leaves 2.5–5 cm long, 1–2.5 cm broad, with a few lobes in the upper part.
- Male and female flowers are on separate plants.
- Male flowers are cream/yellow and female flowers are white.
- Flowers occur in March to April followed by many conspicuous, white, wind-borne seeds.



LANTANA

(*Lantana camara*)

Description:

- Heavily branched shrub growing as clumps, thickets and as a climber.
- Square stems with small, recurved prickles along the edges.
- Opposite leaves about 6 cm long with round-toothed edges.
- Varying flower colours, from cream to yellow, white, pink, orange, red and lilac.
- Glossy, rounded, toxic fruit that are purplish when ripe.



C3



OCHNA

(*Ochna serrulata*)

Description:

- Small, erect shrub growing to 1.7 m tall with pimply-textured bark.
- Alternate, elliptic leaves with finely serrated margins.
- Bright yellow flowers, with the central part of the flower becoming red as the fruit develop.
- Immature fruit are green, turning black at maturity.
- Develops a deep, angled, taproot.



SMALL-LEAF PRIVET

(*Ligustrum sinense*)

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Description:

- Densely branched perennial shrub to 4 m high growing in a range of habitats.
- Leaves are elliptic to ovate, up to 7 cm long.
- Flowers are white and occur in bunches up to 10 cm long.
- Fruit are black or blue berries approximately 5 mm in diameter.



C3



WILD TOBACCO

(*Solanum mauritianum*)

Description:

- Fast growing shrub growing to 4 m.
- Stems and leaves feel like felt, due to a dense covering of soft hairs.
- Large leaves have one or 2 distinctive leaf-like appendages at their bases; crushed leaves have strong odour.
- Purple, star-shaped flowers produced in branched clusters on a robust main stalk.
- Flowers from autumn through to spring which then matures into yellow globular fruit.
- Toxic to humans and handling can cause skin irritation.



YELLOW OLEANDER

(*Cascabela thevetia*)

Description:

- Small shrub usually 2–4 m high that thrives in diverse conditions.
- Alternate, bright, glossy green leaves 7–15 cm long and very narrow.
- Distinctive tubular, yellow flowers.
- Lantern shaped, green fruit (turning black when ripe), 2.5–4 cm in diameter and containing 1–2 seeds.
- Sap is milky.



AFRICAN TULIP TREE

(Spathodea campanulata)

Description:

- Fast-growing evergreen tree that can grow to 24 m high.
- Broadly oval-shaped leaves, bronze when young, and deep glossy green when mature.
- Large, flat clusters of velvety, bronze-green buds and large, orange-red flowers with yellow frilly edges.
- Reddish-brown seed capsules can be up to 20 cm in length.



BROAD-LEAVED PEPPER TREE

(*Schinus terebinthifolius*)

Description:

- Bushy tree up to 10 m tall.
- Shiny, sometimes toothed 5–9 opposite leaflets.
- Minute, greenish-yellow flowers at end of branches.
- Fruit are small, red berries which ripen in autumn.
- Leaves and berries have a pepper smell when crushed.



C3



BROAD-LEAF PRIVET

(*Ligustrum lucidum*)

Description:

- Grows as a shrub or small tree up to 12 m high, commonly found in gullies, creek banks, bushland and pastures.
- Oval leaves, oppositely arranged up to 12 cm long; upper leaf surface glossy in appearance.
- White flowers occurring in bunches up to 20 cm long.
- Fruit are black or blue berries approximately 8 mm in diameter.



C3



CADAGHI

(*Corymbia torelliana*)

Description:

- Large tree growing to 30 m; trunk has a 'stocking' of grey, scaly bark at the base; smooth, pale green bark above.
- Pale green leaves, sometimes with a pink tinge, shape variable, wavy edges, to 16 cm long; often affected by sooty mould.
- Cream coloured balls of scented flowers in masses.
- Fruit almost round, woody capsule, many tiny seeds.



CAMPHOR LAUREL

(*Cinnamomum camphora*)

Description:

- Large, evergreen tree, growing to 20 m tall.
- Oval to elliptical leaves, 4 cm by 8 cm and have a glossy, waxy appearance; smell of camphor when crushed.
- Produces lush, bright green foliage in spring and masses of small, white flowers.
- Fruits are spherical, 10 mm across, green at first then changing to black when ripe.



C3



CHINESE CELTIS

(*Celtis sinensis*)

Description:

- Deciduous tree with smooth, mottled grey bark, up to 20 m tall.
- Tiny, greenish flowers in spring.
- Egg-shaped, glossy leaves with a paler underside and serrated margins, offset at the base and alternately arranged.
- Shiny, dark orange, globular shape fruit, 7–8 mm in diameter.



C3



COCOS PALM

(*Syagrus romanzoffiana*)

Description:

- Single-stemmed palm to 12 m.
- Green leaves up to 5 m long with greyish underside.
- Bunches of orange-red berries, 2.5 cm across.



GOLDEN RAIN TREE

(*Koelreuteria elegans*
subsp. *formosana*)

Description:

- Deciduous tree to 6 m.
- Leaves have 7–15 serrated-edged leaflets per leaf.
- Yellow clustered flowers along a multi-stemmed spike.
- Fruits are 3-sided, pink and red inflated pods.



HONEY LOCUST TREE

(*Gleditsia triacanthos*)

Description:

- Deciduous tree to 20 m high.
- Leaves up to 10 cm long with 12 opposite paired leaflets per leaf.
- Females produce 10–40 small flowers in bunches approximately 10cm long.
- Pods are brown, 20–30 cm long.
- Multiple thorns up to 12 cm long form along branches or stems.



INDIAN CORAL TREE

(*Erythrina variegata*,
E. crista-galli and *Erythrina x*
sykesii)

Description:

- Deciduous tree growing to 15 m with a spread of 12 m.
- Erect, stout stem, with rough bark, sparsely branching and thorny.
- Leaves are trifoliate, with leaflets broadly wedge-shaped at the base and 12 cm wide.
- Orange-red, pea-shaped 5 cm long flowers, occurring in clusters in late winter or early spring.



KEI APPLE

(*Dovyalis caffra*)

Description:

- Evergreen tree reaching 8 m with a much branched crown.
- Alternate leaves on young shoots, clustered on older branches with large thorns.
- Leaves hairless and elliptic 2–5 cm long, 1–3 cm wide.
- Small creamy green flowers in summer, 3 mm long in dense clusters of 5–10 flowers.
- Yellow, edible berry fruit 2–4 cm in diameter.



LEUCAENA

(*Leucaena leucocephala*)

Description:

- Shrub or small tree growing up to 7 m.
- Bipinnate leaves divided into 3–10 pairs of branchlets.
- Compact 'pom pom' shaped flowers in yellow or whitish clusters in summer.
- Elongated, flat seed pods 8–18 cm long.



MULBERRY

(*Morus alba*, *M. nigra*)

Description:

- Tree growing to 10 m with brown rugged bark.
- Ovate leaves, 4–15 cm long, margins toothed to lobed.
- Clustered white flowers.
- Oblong edible fruit 2–3 cm long, generally deep purple, sometimes white.



SLASH PINE

(*Pinus elliottii*)

Description:

- Tree to 30 m high with horizontal branches.
- Bark red-brown to grey-brown and shedding in broad thin scales.
- Dark green leaves (needles), mostly 15–25 cm long; leaf sheath to 2 cm long.
- Female cones light chocolate brown at maturity and prior to, or just after, opening.
- Seeds dark brown, 6–7 mm long and with wing to 2 cm long.



UMBRELLA TREE

(*Heptapleurum actinophyllum*)

Description:

- Fast-growing, multi-stemmed tree reaching 6–9 m.
- Large, glossy leaves arranged in fan-shaped clusters of 7-16 leaflets.
- Small, red flowers during spring and summer in large branched inflorescences, borne at the top of the plant.
- Fruit darkens to purple when ripe.



YELLOW BELLS

(*Tecoma stans*)

Description:

- Shrub or small tree, 3–8 m tall.
- Bark initially green and smooth but grooved and grey with age.
- Compound, hairless leaves with serrated edges; 8–25 cm long.
- Distinctive tubular, yellow flowers and straight seed pods.
- Produce masses of wind-dispersed seeds.



POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION CAN BE DIFFICULT

This weed identification booklet has been developed to aid weed recognition and should be used as a guide only. Many plants can look very similar so weeds can be easily mistaken for natives or vice versa.

The pest plants contained in this identification booklet spread quickly and vigorously. They cause damage to native Australian flora and fauna, diminish land value and cause health problems. It is important for all members of the community to contribute to pest plant control.

There are many factors which make weeds hard to deal with. The two main issues are noticing a weed on a property

and secondly, correctly identifying the weed and its subsequent control methods.

If you think you have found a pest plant, you should take a cutting and obtain positive identification and the latest control information. Positive identification should be obtained before any steps are taken to control particular plants.

Identification and control options can be obtained from Council's City Safety and Liveability Branch or Biosecurity Queensland. Plant identification can also be obtained via samples sent to the Queensland Herbarium.



COUNCIL PROGRAMS

Environmental Conservation

Partnerships (ECP)

A free and voluntary Council program that provides local landowners with an opportunity to enter into a range of informal and formal partnerships to help conserve our land for the future. Environmental Conservation Partnerships (ECP) include:



Through the ECP, Logan City Council works in partnership with landholders to set goals for enhancing, protecting and managing biodiversity on their properties. Council provides both financial and in-kind support to landowners who are willing to integrate conservation land management practices with existing land uses.

To find out if you're eligible go to logan.qld.gov.au/ecp

EnviroGrants

Logan City Council offers financial grants for projects that achieve positive local environmental outcomes. For more information visit logan.qld.gov.au/envirogrants

Eco Logan Environmental Events

Logan City Council runs free interactive and fun environmental events, workshops and activities to educate residents and encourage an appreciation for the City of Logan's natural environment. For further information visit logan.qld.gov.au/environmentalevents

Free Trees

All City of Logan ratepayers can receive three free trees each financial year. Schools and community groups based on Council-owned land can receive 50 plants per financial year. For more information visit logan.qld.gov.au/freetrees

Park Volunteers Program

Are you interested in caring for your local environment? Become a park volunteer and help care for a local park or bushland. Park volunteers work with Council staff to control weeds, plant trees and record native plants and animals. For more information or an application form, visit logan.qld.gov.au/parkvolunteers



USEFUL WEBSITES & APPS

Useful websites

Land for Wildlife South-east
Queensland
lfwseq.org.au

Native Plants Queensland
npq.org.au

Sustainable Gardening Australia
sgaonline.org.au

Queensland Government
Weeds Information
lccqld.com/qldweeds

Birds Queensland – Birds in Gardens
**birdsqueensland.org.au/education/
birds-in-gardens**

Brisbane Insects and Spiders
brisbaneinsects.com

Queensland Frog Society
qldfrogs.asn.au

iNaturalist
inaturalist.ala.org.au

Report your Wildlife Sightings
logan.qld.gov.au/wildlifesightings

Queensland Herbarium
lccqld.com/qldherbarium

Glossy Black Conservancy
glossyblack.org.au

Make a Bushfire Survival Plan
qfes.qld.gov.au/bushfires

Queensland Bushfire
Design Guidelines
lccqld.com/qld-bushfire-guidelines

Wildlife Safe Backyards
lccqld.com/safe-backyards

Watergum
watergum.org

Weed Spotters Network Queensland
lccqld.com/weed-spotters

Invasive Species Queensland
isq.asn.au

Weeds Australia
weeds.org.au

Mobile apps



WeedScan



iNaturalist



ClimateWatch



**Weeds of South East
QLD and Northern NSW**



FeralScan

FURTHER READING

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Logan City Council, 2023.

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Logan City Council, 2025.

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Bishop, A.B., Murdoch Books, 2018.

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- Queensland Department of Primary Industries (Biosecurity Queensland):
dpi.qld.gov.au/biosecurity
- Suburban & Environmental Weeds of South East Queensland DVD, Sheldon Navie,
University of Queensland, Centre for Biological Information Technology.

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Front cover image: cat's claw creeper (*Dolichandra unguis-cati*)



GET INVOLVED

Become a citizen scientist!

Record your local plant and animal observations with iNaturalist. Share what you find, discover sightings near you, and contribute to a national biodiversity database used by scientists and the community. Find out more at inaturalist.ala.org.au and lccqld.com/inaturalist-lcc

You can also participate in backyard biodiversity surveys such as:

- Aussie Backyard Bird Count
aussiebirdcount.org.au
- City Nature Challenge
lccqld.com/city-nature-challenge
- Quoll Seekers Network
wildlife.org.au/quoll-seekers-network
- Yellow-bellied Glider Project
lccqld.com/yellow-bellied-glider

- FrogID week
frogid.net.au
- Great Southern Bioblitz
greatsouthernbioblitz.org
- PlatypusWatch
wildlife.org.au/platypuswatch
- Powerful Owl Project
lccqld.com/powl-project
- The Great Glossy Count
lccqld.com/great-glossy-count

Want more options?

Visit lccqld.com/citizen-science-finder to find more citizen science projects in your local area.

Report your wildlife sightings to Council and help us keep track of important wildlife
logan.qld.gov.au/wildlifesightings

Environmental groups

There are many opportunities for volunteering with Logan City Council and other organisations within the City of Logan. Opportunities include working in natural reserves, wildlife rescue, wildlife research and environmental action and advocacy. These groups are always keen to have new members join them and share their passion and achievements.

For further information on Council park volunteering, visit logan.qld.gov.au/parkvolunteers

For further community opportunities, visit logan.qld.gov.au/environmentalgroups



