

ÉLAN

COMMUNITY FACT SHEET

Coexisting with koalas in your backyard



KOALAS IN OUR ENVIRONMENT

Koalas are an important part of our South-East Queensland environment, and may even be a visitor in your backyard. Being **koala conscious** helps them thrive even from your own backyard. Everyone has a role to play in coexisting with koalas and they need our support to survive.

DID YOU KNOW?

Each koala's diet is highly specific they prefer certain eucalyptus species and even certain trees within the same species. If you have native eucalypts in your yard, protecting or planting these trees can make a big difference for local koalas.



Simple solutions to help your local koalas.

What can you do?



The koala breeding season in South East Queensland runs from August to February, with most joeys born in summer. During this time, koalas move more frequently crossing roads and entering backyards making them especially vulnerable to vehicle strikes, dog attacks, and pool drownings.



Koalas can swim but often can't climb out if they fall into a pool, leading to drownings. Install an escape route like a board, rope, or float and consider covering your pool when not in use to keep koalas safe.



In South East Queensland, Chlamydia is the leading cause of koala deaths. Dog attacks and vehicle strikes are also among the most common causes. To help protect koalas, keep pets indoors at night, use a lead when walking, and provide an escape route over backyard fences using a pole or branch.



Drive slowly and stay alert, especially at dawn and dusk when koalas are most active. Consider working with your community to create a community koala noticeboard on local social media pages or use temporary signs to share recent koala sightings and help alert drivers.



EMERGENCY KOALA CARE IN MORETON BAY:

If you find a sick, injured, or displaced koala, contact help immediately:

- Moreton Bay Koala Rescue Inc. - 24/7: **0401 080 333**
- Wildlife Rescue Queensland - 24/7: **0478 901 801**
- RSPCA Wildlife Ambulance - **1300 264 625**

If safe, stay with the koala until help arrives to ensure it's easily located.



Do not handle a wild koala or put yourself at risk for a rescue, especially near busy roads.