



Nursery

Biocontrol

Seqwater

# Winter 2023



Thanks to all our sponsors





# What's news at MRL?

Introducing a smiling face at MRL - Peter Shuttleworth. Peter joins the team in the capacity of Coordinator and Catchment Officer. He brings with him a wealth of knowledge & life skills. Be sure to say hi and introduce yourself. Welcome Peter, it's wonderful to have you on board.

A huge thank you to Francesca for all her hard work in the last 6 months. We wish her all the very best in her appointment as Junior Project Manager with Ecollaboration.

## New program launched!

The Gardens for Wildlife program is now up and running. We had a fantastic turn out for our community launch day in April. Thanks to all our sponsors for making this event possible. Further details can be found on our website.



Our **Seqwater Source Water Protection Program** is entering its fourth year, with its focus this financial year on creating landholder-driven, community-wide projects within the Ewen Maddock Catchment to clean up our creeklines.

This project is a great way to:

- foster community relationships,
- provide a sense of stewardship over our environment &
- create meaningful change for you and your neighbours.

Projects range from weed control, revegetation works and erosion and sediment control.

If your property backs onto Addlington Creek in Landsborough, you may be eligible for our program!

Contact us on our email

[catchmentofficer@mrwl.org.au](mailto:catchmentofficer@mrwl.org.au) to find out more.



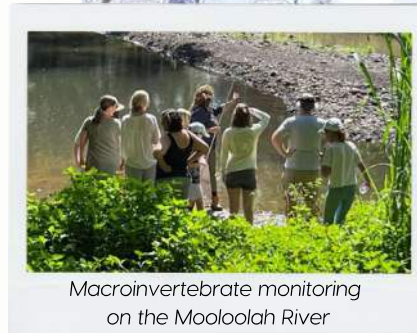


# Biocontrol

Our Biocontrol facility produced 38,800 bioagent beetles this Summer! The beetles have been released at various locations around, Brisbane, Pine Rivers, Mary Valley and the Sunshine Coast to help fight Madeira and Cats Claw Creeper infestations.

Our monthly community macroinvertebrate monitoring days (Bug Club style explorations) were enhanced by 6 months of funding from Unitywater. Featuring nature journaling with special guest, Dion Dior, these days were held at various local riparian locations, with the finale focusing on saltwater invertebrates. A wonderful study, and many thanks to our sponsor.

Watch this space, as a new program is about to launch, thanks to new funding.



Macroinvertebrate monitoring on the Mooloolah River



Photo by Leesa Beutel



We welcome Marc Russell as head of the nursery team.



# Nursery

We've launched our Trees4Resilience program - climate action by planting trees. This 3 year program is supported by a federal community sustainability action grant supporting community climate action projects.

Program aims:

- to promote climate awareness and meaningful climate action in the community
- to get 30,000 trees in the ground throughout our community (10,000 trees per year)
- host empowering workshops and activities for our community
- increase local climate resilience

Stay tuned for tree giveaways, community planting days and action events!

Don't have room to plant a tree on your property? You can buy a T4R sticker at our nursery and donate a tree to plant in our community.



# WEED ALERT

## Broad-leaved Pepper Tree



*Schinus terebinthifolius*

**Description:** Originating from Brazil, this tree has become known as a very successful garden escapee, and is now listed as a Category 3 restrictive invasive plant under the Biosecurity Act 2014. It can cause skin reactions due to toxic resins, and hosts diseases known to affect citrus.

It spreads through seed dispersal via birds and from sucker growth.

**ID:** Grows up to 10m tall, small whiteish flowers followed by bright red fruits 6mm across. It's main flowering is autumn/winter.

**Removal:** hand pull or chip out young plants; dig out trees in winter; or you can apply herbicide to basal bark, cut stump or as a foliar spray

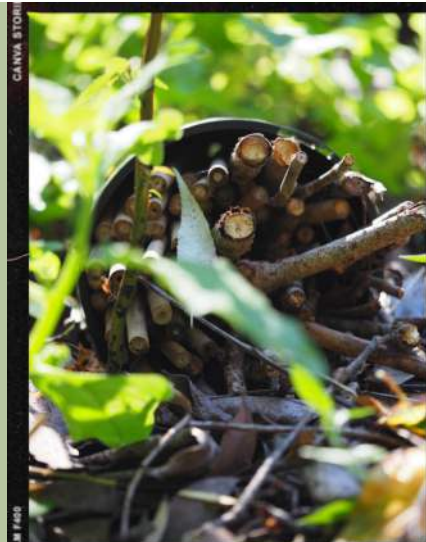
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## Visitors to Bring to Your Garden

Looking to bring some flying visitors into your garden? Our nursery has you covered with our new Garden for Wildlife program. For small birds, creating dense shrubby shelters is a great start. Giving them a place to freshen up with a bird bath will create the perfect visiting spot! Pop by the nursery to join! Just \$30 with a valid MRL annual membership.



DID YOU KNOW we also sell books? If you're looking to enhance your knowledge of native plants, you can't go past **Noosa's Native Plants** by **Stephanie Haslam**. The 4th edition covers plants not only from the Noosa Biosphere Reserve, but the Sunshine Coast, Cooloola and Fraser Island regions as well. Great value at just \$45.



Photos by Ally Hayes Hatten



# What's Coming Up



**New Events**  
Moth Nights & Tide  
Pool Exploration

**Upcoming weekends**  
Afternoon/ Evening  
Events: Dates TBA soon!!



**Mini Bug Club @**  
Healthy Forest  
Healthy Us

**AUGUST 20th**  
Saturday 11am - 3pm  
Park Ln, Buderim  
(National Science Week)



**Backyard Series:**  
Maroochy Botanic  
Gardens

**4th NOVEMBER 2023**  
Attracting Butterflies:  
planting and caring for  
pollinators



**Let's Go for A Walk:**  
Monthly Event

**AUGUST 27th** *Sold Out*  
*(Wildflower Festival)*  
**SEPTEMBER 16th** TBA

## Volunteering Opportunities

We are looking for anyone interested in volunteering their time to assist in organising fundraising events over the next 6 months - so if you've a passion in this area, we'd love to hear from you.

### BIOCONTROL

Winter is a quiet time for our beetles, however still a busy time in our biocontrol facility as we shift our attentions from catching beetles to facility maintenance and preparing for the next Summer season. We welcome volunteers and visitors to our facility if you are keen to learn more about what we do or would like to get involved. Jessica: [projects@mrwl.org.au](mailto:projects@mrwl.org.au)

### NURSERY

Anyone with an interest in propagation, potting, and friendly conversation is welcome to join us on a Monday or Tuesday from 8:30 am. Contact - [nursery@mrwl.org.au](mailto:nursery@mrwl.org.au)

Our annual AGM will be coming up in the next couple of months. Volunteer positions will be available on our management committee. Let us know if this interests you!





# Little Kurrajong



*Brachychiton bidwillii*

An ornamental small tree with stunning pink flowers in the springtime. Responds well to pruning to maximise flowering. It is likely to drop its leaves prior to flowering. Can be slow growing.

Its native habitat is dry rainforest, this tree is drought tolerant.

**Family:** Malvaceae

**Aspect:** Full sun - part shade

**Soil type:** Prefers moist well drained soils

**Size:** Up to 3m

**Habitat:** Rainforest



# Pink Evodia

*Melicope elleryana*

A fast growing tree with dense pink pompom flowers in spring to summer. Prefers seasonal water-logging soils. Great as a street tree. Attractive tree in the garden with a light spreading canopy, so other species can happily grow underneath.

Butterfly host plant to Ulysses Swallowtail (*Papilio ulysses*).

**Family:** Rutaceae

**Aspect:** Full sun to part shade

**Soil type:** Prefers moist soil

**Size:** 10 - 20 m

**Form:** Tree

**Habitat:** Wet sclerophyll forest



Make sure to sign up to our **Garden For Wildlife** program to learn more! **\$30 membership** will get you lifetime access to information, and a gorgeous sign to display on your front gate or fence.