

Steaming ahead on Coochie



It might be early days but Coastcare's saturated steam weeder is returning some pretty impressive results.

Six weeks after the launch of the state government funded project that enabled the purchase of this machine we're witnessing a dramatic reduction to the carpets of Mothers of Millions.

As the weeks pass it's hard to contain the excitement.

Our test sites (staked for photo-monitoring) will be observed over the long-term with assistance from Indigiscapes to ensure outcomes are correctly recorded. Three of our four sites have already been treated twice along with one Bushcare zone with others to follow.

Intensive herbicide spraying on asparagus infestation around the foreshore over time left dead zones where only weeds (in our case Mothers of Million) flourished. Restoring ecosystem health through chemical-free weeding and revegetation is helping repair the landscape. To date we've planted over 650 native ground covers, grasses, shrubs and trees and been blessed with frequent showers.

Our thanks to QYAC rangers who've worked with us to gain their Certificate of Operator Competency on the weeder. There's no doubt operator skill at targeting weeds and avoiding natives takes concentration, but it's worth the effort.



Before steaming



24 hours later - Mothers of Million turn fluoro purple before disintegrating

Groundwater testing expanded around closed landfill site

New test wells are being drilled around the Laurie Burns Recreation Reserve this week to enable expanded groundwater sampling in response to concerns raised by Coastcare over contamination from the closed landfill site.

Redland City Council engaged consulting firm GHD to undertake the works which also include surface water sampling in the Melaleuca wetlands.

Ecologists spent time on island this week monitoring habitat for endangered species as part of investigations into recorded heavy metal contamination.

Here's a [link](#) to consulting reports from 2001 and 2017 as well as a summary of findings by Deveco Pty Ltd and a copy of the current scope of works.

Memberships



Membership renewal reminder!

- Single annual membership \$2
- Family \$5
- Life Membership Single \$50
- Life Membership Family \$100

If your details have changed please complete a [membership form](#) and return to Membership Secretary, Lois Toop.

Please choose your membership level and:

- Visit us at the Easter markets to update your membership; or
- Direct Deposit to Coochiemudlo Island Coastcare Inc – Commonwealth Bank BSB 064-149 Account 10096929 and email your form and a copy of your payment receipt to coochiecoastcare@gmail.com; or
- Return your form/payment to any committee member; or
- Drop in your form/payment to Lois Toop, Membership Secretary, 41 Phillips Street, Coochiemudlo Island; or

(Important: If paying electronically, please include your full name as the reference.)

Your continued support makes such a difference and ensures you are covered by [volunteer insurance](#) for any activity.

Dunecare



DUNECARE Saturday 7 April - 2:30pm to 4:30pm Saturday 7 April, 2018 join us in the wetlands where we'll be steam weeding, hand weeding, planting and tidying the foreshore between 2:30pm and 4:30pm. It's a great way to meet like-minded people and give back to our island home.

Please BYO water and wear comfortable clothes, closed shoes, hat and sunscreen. You'll find sign-on where the Coastcare flags fly at the southern (James Street) entrance of the wetlands. Volunteers are reminded to wear hat, covered shoes, comfortable clothes, sunscreen, insect repellent and BYO water. New members are always welcome.

All youth are welcome to join the Junior Rangers during Dunecare. (N.B. A parent is required to attend if children are participating).

Annual membership (including insurance) is \$2 for singles and \$5 for families. Life Memberships of \$50 for singles and \$100 for families are also available.

Please contact Secretary, Lois Toop if you have any enquiries on 0408 180 630.