

North Brisbane Catchments Newsletter – June 2024

A HUGE VICTORY FOR COMMON SENSE!

The developer's four year court appeal regarding 415/427 Beckett Rd has been DISMISSED!!! NBC played an important part in this.

415 is now up for sale by the would-be developer. 427 might follow. NBC has urged BCC to take advantage of this opportunity to make acquisitions.

This is a huge step forward in preserving this vital, irreplaceable wildlife corridor. It is a huge step toward platypuses once again calling Cabbage Tree Creek home.



The six blocks making up the wildlife corridor include 432, 440, 415, 427, 409 & 411 Beckett Rd. These blocks have finally been rezoned by BCC as Environmental Management.

Weather/Bushcare

The amazing amount of rain has been great! It's benefited the substantial plantings at our NBC bushcare sites, Virginia and Rainbow Lorikeet Park in particular, but has also benefited the weeds! Working bees are now the go!



Grants

Grant money has been steadily spent on equipment, stakes, fertiliser, a printer, banners, a portable PA system and much more. Thank you BCC and Anika Wells (MP for Lilley)!

Wildlife Walk & Talks

With the showery weather finally abating, NBC's Sylvia recently imparted her encyclopaedic wildlife knowledge on a Wildlife Walk & Talk in 7th Brigade Park. More are planned in various locations.



Our Fantastic Wildlife



Due to the persistent showers over the past months, there's been more feed in the reserves resulting in fewer wallabies killed by vehicle. However, the toll hasn't been zero, just a bit better than usual. NBC continues to lobby BCC for more fencing at the age old hotspots like Hamilton Rd and Rode Rd.

North Brisbane Catchments' Bushcare Sites

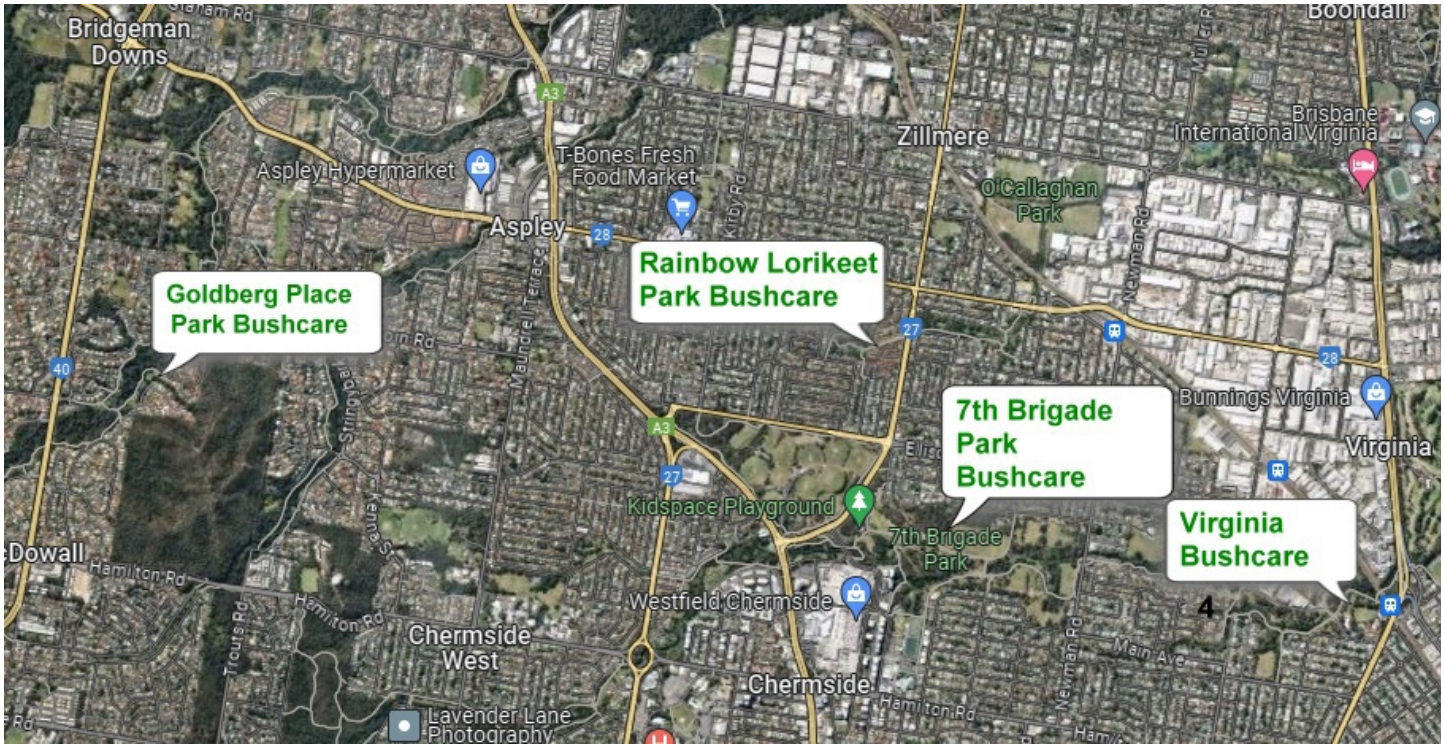
What is Bushcare? Bushcare is hands-on conservation efforts protect and enhance habitat and biodiversity in bushland, parks, wetlands and waterways across Brisbane.

Bushcare groups are run by dedicated volunteers who are committed to keeping Brisbane clean, green and sustainable. Groups work in partnership with Council and receive advice and support from Council's officers.

Bushcare groups undertake a variety of activities including:

- weed removal
- revegetating and regeneration with locally native plants
- mulching
- citizen science projects
- conducting flora and fauna surveys
- engaging all members of the community through working bees and other events to build community partnerships and friendships
- hosting community planting days and open days.

NBC manages four bushcare sites:



Virginia - Weed removal enabling regeneration, with an emphasis on new plantings.

7th Brigade Park - Weed removal enabling regeneration, plus some new plantings.

Rainbow Lorikeet Park - Widening and enhancing the riparian zone along the creeks through revegetation and regeneration with endemic local species.

Goldberg Place Park – Creation of a missing wildlife corridor link, on-going weeding etc.

Bushcare work is only possible in conjunction with Brisbane City Council, and to date grants from BCC and the Federal Government (Lilley). Volunteers put in hundreds of hours work.

Grants enable the purchase of tools, tubestock, fertiliser and much more.

Nesting boxes are also part of the plan. They can be easily monitored by the bushcare groups.

See next page for an example of the successful development of a bushcare site.

Rainbow Lorikeet Park



Rainbow Lorikeet Park in Aspley is considered a hidden gem by many local residents. This bushcare project was suggested by NBC member Robert, and subsequently approved by Brisbane City Council in early October 2023.

This project has been busy since with these highlights:

- Official launch on 23rd October 2023 that was attended by over 30 people,
- Conducted 7 working bees,
- Planted over 720 native plants,
- Moved and spread 5 large mulch piles,
- Established 3 sites with 2 planted and maintained.

Each working bee has been well attended with attendees taking on various tasks for just over an hour before everyone convenes for a social chat and snack. With the recent cooler weather, the team have made use of the BBQ to have a sausage sizzle. Community engagement and well-being are an objective of the project so everyone is welcome to attend a working bee even if only for the social catch-up.



It has been pleasing to see regeneration of native plants occurring in our sites to complement our native revegetation efforts. The impressive results of the group have been due to a lot of volunteering hours and cooperation by locals with the support of Brisbane City Council and Federal Government through donations and grants to enable equipment and plants to be supplied. Thanks to all.

The latest working bee resulted in a new site being established near the Chartwell St entrance in preparation for an event on National Tree Planting Day on Sunday, 28th July. Over 100 native plants will be planted at this event and will be followed by a sausage sizzle. Start time is to be finalised but likely to be around 10am. Mark this date in your calendars and look out for more details in the coming weeks.

Robert continues to lead this bushcare group.