



The Understory

Pioneer Catchment Landcare News

Autumn 2026 Edition



Growing sustainable futures

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PIONEER
Catchment
LANDCARE

THIS EDITION



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**PIONEER
Catchment
LANDCARE**

BUPA Landcare Grant Winner!

Message from Landcare Australia - "Landcare Australia and Bupa are pleased to support your project **Urban Oasis**. We wish you all the very best with your project and look forward to working with you over the coming months".

Earlier this year, Pioneer Catchment Landcare was thrilled to be awarded funding through the 2025 Healthy Cities Landcare Grants program. With support secured, we set our sights on Camilleri Street Park, a much-loved community space in the Northern Beaches that also contains an important natural treasure.

Hidden within the park is a remnant gully system supporting endangered and "of concern" regional ecosystems, including beautiful stands of Weeping Cabbage Palm (*Livistona decora*). These habitats provide essential food, shelter and movement corridors for local wildlife, but they face ongoing pressures from weed invasion, habitat fragmentation and edge effects.

By expanding native vegetation throughout the site, the project will help buffer these sensitive ecosystems, improve biodiversity, strengthen wildlife connections across the Northern Beaches landscape, and create a greener, healthier space for the community to enjoy for years to come.



URBAN OASIS

Objectives



- **Buffering and Expanding Important Habitat** - A key objective of the project was to protect and extend the existing regional ecosystem fragment within Camilleri Street Park. By planting 2,500 native trees, shrubs and groundcovers selected from the regional ecosystem species list, we are helping to strengthen habitat connectivity, improve biodiversity, and create a larger, more resilient refuge for local wildlife.
- **Bringing the Community Together** - Environmental restoration is at its best when communities are involved. Through planting days and ongoing working bees, local residents, schools, volunteers and PCL staff have had the opportunity to work side-by-side, creating new connections while contributing to a shared environmental goal.
- **Supporting Health and Wellbeing** - Spending time outdoors, being active, and working together towards a meaningful outcome can have enormous benefits for physical and mental wellbeing. Planting 2,500 native plants is no small undertaking, and the teamwork, laughter and sense of achievement experienced throughout the project have been just as valuable as the environmental outcomes.
- **Learning Together** - Each event provides an opportunity to learn more about the unique plants and ecosystems of the Mackay region. Through hands-on participation, local schools, community groups and residents gain a greater understanding of the importance of conservation and the role we can all play in protecting our natural environment.
- **Creating a Lasting Legacy** - Restoration doesn't end once the last plant is in the ground. We are committed to the long-term stewardship of the site through ongoing maintenance, community engagement, and the pursuit of future grants, partnerships and sponsorship opportunities. By planning for the future, we can help ensure this important habitat continues to thrive for generations to come.

In Focus

Urban Oasis continued...

Highlights

Despite a weather forecast that had us nervously watching the radar, the community turned out in force for our planting days at Camilleri Street Park. Families, local residents, PCL volunteers and staff all rolled up their sleeves to help establish 2,500 native plants and create valuable habitat for local wildlife.

The day began with torrential rain, prompting more than a few worried glances skyward. Fortunately, by the time we arrived on site, the weather gods smiled on us and the rain cleared just long enough for the planting to begin. The result? Perfect planting conditions for the trees... and extremely muddy conditions for everyone else!

As the morning progressed, muddy boots quickly became muddy legs, muddy hands, and, in many cases, muddy faces. Before long, many of the students – and a few adults who should have known better – were sporting impressive mud streaks across their cheeks that resembled camouflage or war paint. It was hard to tell who was there to plant trees and who was preparing for an epic jungle expedition!

In total, more than 30 people contributed their time throughout the morning! The enthusiasm, resilience, and good humour shown by everyone involved demonstrated exactly what community Landcare is all about – people coming together, getting their hands dirty, and making a lasting difference for the environment.

Since planting day we've been grateful to host Aurecon's corporate volunteers who enjoyed a walk and talk, admiring the existing vegetation and getting up close with some of the creatures who call this place home, including a very sweet wallaby. They also donated their time to help us mulch the first site - a massive thanks to Aurecon for making a difference and supporting our project!



What's next....

Urban Oasis is now entering its next phase, with ongoing maintenance activities focused on ensuring the long-term success of the site.

PCL staff, volunteers, community members, local schools, and corporate volunteers, including Aurecon, will continue to support the project through regular working bees involving weed control, plant maintenance, monitoring, and infill planting where required. Mulch will also be applied to improve growing conditions, retain soil moisture, and suppress weeds.

As the habitat develops, plant survival and site progress will be closely monitored, with community volunteers encouraged to remain involved in helping create a thriving urban wildlife habitat and a greener, more connected landscape for both wildlife and the local community.

**If you're interested in being involved, contact us at PCL
community@pioneercatchment.org.au**



Clean Up Australia Day In review

Autumn 2026



The event - one of our biggest of the year!

More than 80 community members braved the elements to join Pioneer Catchment Landcare for one of our biggest and most successful Clean Up Australia Day events yet.

After a night of steady rain, participants arrived to bright blue skies, giving us hope that Mother Nature might be on our side. Armed with gloves, bags, and plenty of enthusiasm, volunteers spread out across the coastline and surrounding areas, collecting an incredible amount of marine debris before it could make its way back into our waterways and oceans.

Of course, the weather had other plans. As the morning progressed, the wind began to pick up, dark clouds rolled in, and the occasional shower reminded us that we were still very much in the middle of a wet season weather pattern. Thankfully, our hardworking volunteers were undeterred and continued the clean-up effort with smiles on their faces and a determination to leave the coastline cleaner than they found it.

By the end of the event, an astounding 312 kilograms of marine debris had been removed from the environment – a remarkable achievement and a testament to the dedication of our volunteers.

As if perfectly timed, the rain returned in earnest almost the moment the final bags were collected. It was as though the weather had kindly given us just enough time to complete the job before turning the taps back on! A huge thank you to everyone who participated, including local families, community groups including Turtle Watch and Mackay Conservation group, PCL volunteers, and supporters. A massive thanks to Coles who supplied the food to keep us going! Your efforts have made a real difference to our local environment, helping protect wildlife, improve the health of our beaches and waterways, and demonstrate the power of community action.

Together, we proved that a little wind, a few rain showers, and muddy shoes are no match for a community determined to care for its environment.



Community planting

The Pioneer River Rejuvenation Project at Melba House continues to go from strength to strength, with significant progress made on the next stage of riverbank restoration.

The project originally began with the restoration of a single site along the Pioneer River, behind Melba House. funded by DETSI's Community Sustainability Action Grants. Thanks to ongoing maintenance and care, this area is now well established, with native vegetation thriving and providing valuable habitat for local wildlife while helping to stabilise the riverbank.

Building on this success, work has recently expanded to a second restoration site, made possible by partial funding from Reef Catchments Riparian Assistance Program and our wonderful corporate sponsors, Mackay and district Woodchoppers. The area was heavily impacted by Leucaena, an invasive weed species that can outcompete native vegetation and reduce biodiversity. PCL staff worked hard to clear the infestation and prepare the site for revegetation.

Once the site was ready, students from Mirani State School joined Pioneer Catchment Landcare staff and volunteers for a rewarding day of planting. Together, they established a diverse mix of native species selected to enhance biodiversity, improve river health, stabilise the fragile steep banks, and strengthen habitat connectivity along the Pioneer River corridor.

The project is about much more than planting trees. It provides opportunities for local students and community members to learn about river ecosystems, understand the challenges posed by invasive weeds, and gain hands-on experience in environmental restoration. As the new plantings establish, ongoing maintenance and monitoring will ensure the site continues to flourish. Over time, these revegetated areas will help create a healthier, more resilient river system while providing lasting environmental benefits for wildlife and the local community.

A huge thank you to our dedicated volunteers, the students and teachers from Mirani State School, and everyone involved in helping restore this important section of the Pioneer River. We look forward to watching the site grow and thrive in the years ahead.



Seeking extra funding

While we are incredibly proud of what has been achieved so far, there is still more work to do.

The success of the Pioneer River Rejuvenation Project has highlighted the enormous potential for restoring this important river corridor. Additional funding would allow us to continue expanding restoration efforts, undertake further weed management, increase native plantings, improve habitat connectivity, and provide more opportunities for schools and community volunteers to become involved. Every dollar invested in the project contributes to a healthier Pioneer River, stronger wildlife populations, improved water quality, and a more resilient landscape for future generations. We are actively seeking grant opportunities, sponsorships, and partnerships to support the next stages of this exciting project. If you know of any organisation, business, or funding program that may be interested in helping us restore and protect the Pioneer River, we would love to hear from you!



Wetland Walkabout Update

Autumn 2026



What's been happening behind the scenes?

While the Wetland Walkabout gates may not be open just yet, there's been plenty happening behind the scenes as Pioneer Catchment Landcare works towards reopening this iconic Mackay environmental asset. Over the past few months, our team has been busy building partnerships, securing funding, and developing exciting opportunities that will help transform the Wetland Walkabout into a hub for environmental education, citizen science, conservation, and community connection.

One of the first visible changes visitors will notice is the brand-new entrance sign. This upgrade was made possible through a fantastic partnership with Headwaters Mackay, who understand the importance of our wetland ecosystems.

We've also received a major boost through the Grassroots Environmental Grants Program, which will support infrastructure improvements, habitat restoration, community events, citizen science activities, and environmental education programs over the next three years. The funding will help establish the Wetland Walkabout as a thriving community conservation and learning space while continuing important wetland restoration works. Our first event was taking our wonderful PCL volunteers on a walk to seed collect and then do some major weed control around the hub. Together we removed a full large trailer full of weeds!

Adding to the excitement, North Queensland Bulk Ports Corporation (NQB) has provided funding to restore several pedestrian bridges throughout the wetlands. These important upgrades will improve safety and accessibility, allowing visitors to enjoy the full network of walking tracks and helping unlock the site's enormous potential as an environmental education and community hub.

With restoration works progressing, partnerships growing, and funding now in place for key infrastructure and programs, the future is looking bright for the Wetland Walkabout. If all goes according to plan, we are aiming for a grand public opening in August, marking the beginning of an exciting new chapter for this much-loved wetland. We can't wait to welcome the community back to explore, learn, and connect with one of Mackay's most unique natural spaces. Watch this space – there's plenty more to come!



Protected Plant Program

Bertya pedicellata

Autumn 2026



Update

It's all good news from our *Bertya pedicellata* conservation site, with the project continuing to exceed expectations and deliver positive outcomes for this rare and threatened species. Over the past few months, the plants have continued to establish well, with healthy growth being recorded across the site.

One of the biggest milestones has been the installation of a dedicated water tank, which has significantly improved our ability to irrigate the plants when required. Previously, watering involved towing a water trailer all the way to Moranbah – a time-consuming exercise that added considerable costs and logistics to site maintenance. The new tank provides a reliable onsite water source, making irrigation more efficient and ensuring the plants receive the support they need during dry periods.

Weed management efforts have also been highly successful, reducing competition for resources and giving the *Bertya* plants the best possible chance to thrive. Regular monitoring and maintenance have helped keep the site in excellent condition, with plant health and survival rates remaining strong.

Most exciting of all are the latest survival figures. The project target requires a minimum of 96 surviving plants to achieve a "no net loss" outcome. We are pleased to report that current monitoring has recorded 141 surviving plants – well above the required target and a fantastic result for the program.

While there is still work to be done, these early successes demonstrate the value of ongoing management and monitoring. We look forward to continuing to support the site and watching these important plants grow and contribute to the long-term recovery of this threatened species.



Junior Landcare

Autumn 2026



New Program!

Growing future Landcarers

5 schools!

Five schools, 100 students, one big adventure!

Pioneer Catchment Landcare is excited to launch our brand-new Junior Landcare Program, proudly funded by M&P Services and designed to inspire young people to connect with and care for the natural world around them.

The inaugural program has already attracted strong interest, with five local schools signing up to participate in the first round. Each school will select 20 students to become Junior Landcare Rangers, embarking on a journey of discovery through a series of fun, hands-on environmental activities. At the heart of the program is the Junior Landcare Ranger Passport, which challenges students to complete a range of nature-based activities. From planting trees and collecting litter to identifying pest plants and pest animals, each activity encourages students to get outdoors and learn more about their local environment. One of the most exciting challenges? Spotting one of Australia's most iconic and elusive species – the platypus!

The program is about much more than ticking activities off a list. It aims to foster curiosity, build confidence, and create meaningful connections between young people and the natural environment. Through hands-on experiences, students gain a greater understanding of the important role they can play in protecting and improving the places where they live.

By encouraging children to explore nature, learn new skills, and take positive action for the environment, the Junior Landcare Program is helping to grow the next generation of environmental stewards. A huge thank you to M&P Services for supporting this exciting initiative and helping us give local students a head start in caring for our world. We can't wait to see our first group of Junior Landcare Rangers begin their adventures and earn their badges along the way!



Activity # 1 Plant 5 native trees!

Why Trees Are So Amazing

Trees are like superheroes for our planet! They help us breathe by making fresh oxygen and cleaning the air we use. They give homes to animals, keep the soil strong so it doesn't wash away, and help keep our world cool and healthy. Trees also make our parks and backyards beautiful and can even help make places quieter. When we plant trees, we're helping to take care of the Earth and replace ones that have been lost. It's a simple way to make a big difference and help create a better, greener future for everyone—especially you!



Biodiversity



Climate change



Health



Water quality



Clean air



Stop erosion



Activity # 1 Congratulations!

I planted 5 native trees

at.....
on.....(date)

with (tick box)

family

teacher

friends

Stamp Here



Remember - Get your passport stamp from your teacher



Landcare Support

Schools Landcare

Autumn 2026



Has your school been part of our program yet?

Are you looking for engaging, curriculum-linked environmental education opportunities for your students? Pioneer Catchment Landcare is now taking bookings for the new financial year, and we'd love to work with you!

Our free Landcare Education Program provides hands-on learning experiences that connect children with the environment while supporting classroom learning outcomes. Whether you're planning a sustainability project, creating a nature play area, establishing a bush tucker garden, or simply looking for an exciting environmental activity, our team can help.

As part of the program, schools, kindergartens, and playgroups are eligible to receive up to 50 free native plants to support environmental projects within their grounds. Our experienced staff can also assist with project design, species selection, planting advice, and ongoing support to help your project succeed. We offer interactive sessions tailored to suit a range of year levels and curriculum areas. Some of the topics we've recently delivered include:

- Soil testing and soil science
- Sustainability and environmental stewardship
- Plastic pollution and solution-building workshops
- Erosion and deposition processes
- Bush tucker and native plants
- Species survival, extinction, and conservation planning
- Composting and worm farming
- Native bees and pollination
- Plant health and nutrient deficiencies

Our sessions are hands-on, engaging, and designed to spark curiosity while helping students develop a deeper understanding of the natural world around them.

Whether you're a school, kindergarten, or playgroup, we'd love to help bring environmental learning to life for your students.

Bookings are now open for the new financial year, so get in touch with the PCL team to discuss your ideas and secure your preferred dates.

Together, we can inspire the next generation of environmental champions, one lesson, one plant, and one muddy pair of shoes at a time!



Interested? Want to find out more?

Contact us today

Email
community@pioneercatchment.org.au

Call
0408 564 435

Check out our website
<https://pioneercatchment.org.au/>

Landcare Support

Community Landcare

Autumn 2026



Need some support for your community group?

Looking for environmental support? Let's work together!

At Pioneer Catchment Landcare, we believe the best environmental outcomes happen when communities work together. That's why we're inviting community groups, not-for-profits, sporting clubs, and local organisations to partner with us to bring environmental projects, events, and ideas to life.

Whether you're dreaming of creating a native garden, improving a community space, hosting an environmental event, or delivering a conservation project, our team can provide practical support, technical expertise, and hands-on assistance to help make it happen.

How we can help

- **On-ground support and resources**

Eligible groups can access up to 50 free native plants to support local projects. We can help with species selection, planting advice, site preparation, and ongoing maintenance recommendations. Community groups can also join PCL revegetation activities and participate in wildlife monitoring projects that help build understanding of our region's unique ecosystems.

- **Planning, design and technical advice**

Not sure where to start? Our experienced team can assist with landscape design, habitat restoration planning, site assessments, and project development. We work with groups to create practical, achievable projects that deliver lasting benefits for both people and the environment.

- **Community events and education**

Looking for something different at your next event? PCL can attend community days with our mobile display, interactive activities, and environmental resources. We also offer guided excursions, educational workshops, and hands-on learning experiences that connect people with local conservation issues and natural areas.

- **Grant writing and promotion support**

Finding funding can be challenging, but you don't have to do it alone. Our team can provide grant writing support and advice, drawing on years of experience securing funding for environmental and community projects. We can also assist with promotional materials, including posters, flyers, and event promotion to help maximise community participation.

Stronger together

Every community group has ideas, passion, and local knowledge. By combining those strengths with PCL's environmental expertise and resources, we can create projects that strengthen communities, improve local environments, and inspire people to take positive action.

If your group has an idea, a project, or simply wants to explore what's possible, we'd love to hear from you.

Get in touch with the PCL team today and let's work together to create positive environmental change across our region.



Environmental Services

Autumn 2026



Woodlands Andergrove

New project

Woodlands Andergrove: Restoring Nature, Connecting Community

An exciting new chapter in urban environmental restoration is underway at Woodlands District Park in Andergrove, where Pioneer Catchment Landcare, Sarina Landcare Catchment Management Association and the Yuwi Aboriginal Corporation are working together to bring new life to an important local waterway corridor.

The Woodlands Andergrove project aims to transform a highly modified drainage channel and detention basin into a thriving natural landscape that supports wildlife, improves water quality, and creates a more attractive and connected green space for the community. Over time, much of the site's natural vegetation has been lost, reducing habitat opportunities for native species and limiting the environmental benefits that healthy waterways provide. Through this project, native trees, shrubs, grasses, and wetland plants will be reintroduced to create a more natural ecosystem and strengthen habitat connections throughout the area.

Contracted by project managers, Healthy Land & Water through funding from the Australian Government's Urban Rivers and Catchments Program, Pioneer Catchment Landcare will restore approximately 175 metres of waterway and surrounding habitat, creating lasting benefits for local wildlife and the wider community.

As works progress, we look forward to sharing updates on planting activities, habitat improvements, community engagement opportunities, and the transformation of this important urban green space. Together, we're creating a healthier waterway, stronger biodiversity, and a place where nature and community can thrive side by side.



Photos

Left: Before maintenance the site was covered in Singapore Daisy and Guinea Grass

Right: After clean up showing cleared land ready for planting

Plant of the Season

Autumn 2026



Common name: Bower of beauty Family: Bignoniaceae
Botanical name: *Pandorea jasminoides*



Image: Donna Jackson



Image: Brian Walters

Description: *Pandorea jasminoides* is an evergreen, vigorous woody climber. Typically found in tropical and subtropical rainforests and warm temperate areas of eastern Queensland to northern New South Wales.

Leaves: The glossy dark green leaves are mostly opposite or in whorls of three and 12 to 20 cm long. Each leaf consists of 4 to 7 leaflets with lanceolate to ovate leaves.

Flowers: The large flowers are tubular, ending in five spreading lobes. The flowers are usually pale pink with a deep pink throat with hairy centres and are about 35 mm long. Flowering occurs over a long period, spring, summer, although still flowering now.

Fruit: Large elliptical fruits looking very much like a pod, but they are capsules. In this species – they are oblong to ovoid, to 6 cm long and 2 cm wide with a prominent beak. The seeds are winged, to 3 cm long.

Growing notes: It is very hardy in tropical to temperate regions although it may be damaged by frost during very cold winters. It is adaptable to any reasonably drained soils and will grow in full sun to partial shade. It is ideally suited to growing on a fence or trellis. It prefers a reliable water supply but, once established, will tolerate extended dry periods. Propagation can be carried out easily from either seed or cuttings.

Uses:

Often used to cover cyclone-fences and other structures such as pergolas in many areas. Pruning is required to keep plants in check. Very useful for creating privacy and attracting insects such as butterflies to a garden.

Name origin:

Pandorea – After Pandora of Greek mythology who allowed evil sprites to escape from a sealed box – a reference to the many seeds released from the seed pods in this genus.

jasminoides – From the Latin *jasminum*, meaning “jasmine” and the Greek *oides*, meaning “resembling”, referring to a resemblance to the genus *Jasminum*.

Reference: https://anpsa.org.au/plant_profiles/pandorea-jasminoides/
<https://www.anbg.gov.au/gnp/interns-2014/pandorea-jasminoides.html>
<https://resources.austplants.com.au/plant/pandorea-jasminoides/>

Pest Spotlight

Autumn 2026



Common name: Indian Myna Bird

Family: Sturnidae

Botanical name: *Acridotheres tristis*



Image:

<https://www.logan.qld.gov.au/community/environment-and-sustainability/wildlife/bird-management/indian-mynas>

Description: The Indian myna (*Acridotheres tristis*) is one of the world's top 100 invasive species. It poses a serious threat to Australian native animals.

Native to Asia and India, it now lives in a large part of coastal and inland south-eastern Queensland. Left uncontrolled, the Indian myna will decimate local populations of many native animal species.

- Height: around 25 centimetres.
- Colour: chocolate-brown with black head and neck. Yellow beak, yellow eye patch, yellow feet and legs. White patches on underside of wing, visible when in flight.
- Mobility: Walks or struts, rather than hops.

It is important not to confuse the Indian myna with the Noisy miner (*Manorina malanocephala*) - a native honeyeater with a grey body.

Habitat: Indian Myna's live in a range of climates and habitats and are extremely adaptable. They prefer warm to hot climates and are more abundant in tropical, subtropical and warm temperate areas. Open areas where there is little tree cover, such as suburban open parks and gardens, are their prime habitats. It also inhabits cleared agricultural areas, especially open grasslands, cultivated paddocks, cane fields and plantations.

Environmental threats: The Indian myna is an intelligent and aggressive bird. It competes with native wildlife for food, habitat and survival. Indian mynas will:

- evict native animals from nests and nest boxes, including possums, gliders, parrots, lorikeets, rosellas and owls.
- scavenge and out-compete native wildlife for food
- eat the eggs and young of native birds
- spread bird mites and exotic weeds
- damage fruit, vegetable and cereal crops
- nest in roofs and make noise at night in communal roosts near housing areas.

Control: Controlling Indian mynas takes a community effort. Here's how you can help:

- Limit access to food and waste so that Indian mynas can't scavenge.
- Landscape your garden with local native plants to give native birds extra habitat.
- Try not to scare them - they are fast learners and we need their trust to trap them.
- Install nesting boxes for local wildlife. Use a baffle or a backward-facing entry, so that small gliders, possums, bats and native birds can access the box. This will also stop Indian myna birds entering.
- Maintain a longer lawn approximately 50 millimetres deep - Indian mynas prefer to feed on a shorter lawn.
- Join Mackay Indian Myna Bird Action Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/412887944902474>

References:

<https://www.logan.qld.gov.au/community/environment-and-sustainability/wildlife/bird-management/indian-mynas>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/412887944902474>

Upcoming Events...

Autumn 2026



Landcare Week

Where and when?

3rd - 9th August

Event date to be confirmed

Wetlands Walkabout

Grand opening!

Join Pioneer Catchment Landcare as we celebrate Landcare Week with the Grand Opening of the Wetland Walkabout – a special community event showcasing one of Mackay's most exciting environmental restoration projects.

After months of hard work, partnerships, and behind-the-scenes improvements, we're thrilled to welcome the community back to this unique wetland environment.

The day will begin with a guided walk through the Wetland Walkabout, where visitors can learn about the site's history, restoration journey, local wildlife, and future plans. Following the walk, there will be a range of environmental activities, interactive displays, and community stalls offering something for all ages.

Whether you're a nature enthusiast, birdwatcher, student, family, or simply curious about the wetlands, this is a fantastic opportunity to explore the site, meet local environmental groups, and discover how Landcare is making a difference across our region.

Event highlights include:

- Official Wetland Walkabout opening
- Guided wetland walk and site tour
- Learn about local wildlife and wetland restoration
- Opportunities to connect with local conservation groups

Come along, celebrate Landcare Week, and be part of the next chapter in the Wetland Walkabout story.

Together, we're restoring habitats, connecting communities, and creating a greener future for our region. *Everyone is welcome – we can't wait to see you there!*



Landcare



Mangrove Mouse monitoring

Where and when?

Dates and times to be confirmed **Shellgrit Creek and Wetlands Walkabout**

Join the Hunt for the Mangrove Mouse!

Could one of Australia's most elusive and vulnerable mammals be living right here in Mackay? Pioneer Catchment Landcare is inviting community members, families, students, and nature enthusiasts to join us for two exciting Mangrove Mouse Monitoring Events at Shellgrit Creek and Wetlands Walkabout.

Recent sightings of the vulnerable Mangrove Mouse (*Xeromys myoides*) have sparked a community conservation project aimed at confirming the species' presence and learning more about its local population. Now, we're looking for volunteers to help us uncover the secrets of this fascinating little creature.

Participants will learn about the unique ecology of saltmarsh and mangrove habitats, discover why the Mangrove Mouse is so important, and gain hands-on experience using trail cameras to monitor wildlife. Together, we'll deploy monitoring equipment in key habitat areas and later return to review the footage, identify species, and contribute valuable data to local conservation efforts.

Event Highlights

- Learn about the vulnerable Mangrove Mouse
- Discover how trail cameras are used in wildlife monitoring
- Explore the ecology of local saltmarsh and mangrove ecosystems
- Help collect and analyse real conservation data
- Meet like-minded community members and conservation enthusiasts
- Contribute to the protection of local biodiversity

This is a fantastic opportunity to become involved in citizen science, learn new skills, and help build knowledge about one of Mackay's most intriguing native species.

Whether you're a wildlife enthusiast, budding scientist, student, or simply curious about our local environment, we'd love to have you join us.

Come along and help us answer an important question: Is the Mangrove Mouse calling Shellgrit Creek or the Wetlands Walkabout home?



Wetland Walkabout Working Bees

Monthly

Next event date to be confirmed

Wetlands Walkabout

As the weather begins to cool, we're excited to launch a series of regular working bees to help restore and care for our new wetland walkabout – and we'd love you to be part of it!

Our working bees will include guided walks through the wetland, opportunities to learn about local habitats and wildlife, and plenty of time to share coffee, cake, and stories with fellow volunteers. It's a wonderful way to connect with nature, learn new skills, and make a genuine difference close to home.



Midge Point Community Field Day

Sunday 21st June

10.00AM – 12.00PM

Midge Point Road, next to Marine Rescue Queensland

Join us for a free sausage sizzle and practical demonstrations including:

- **Hands-on Expo Day** focused on restoring local beach scrub
- **Live demonstrations** of forestry mulching in action
- **Learn innovative** tree-injection techniques for invasive Leucaena control
- **Interactive displays** from local organisations
- **Pest species education** and awareness
- Check out the latest vessel from Marine Rescue Queensland
- Connect with the community and learn about the threatened ecological community of Beach Scrub.



Wetland Walkabout Bridge Repair

Date in July to be confirmed

We are currently looking for expressions of interest in helping us repair some of the bridges at the Wetlands. No experience necessary, just some energy and willingness to help! All materials and tools supplied and of course refreshments!

Contact community@pioneercatchment.org.au
or on 0408 564 435



Corporate membership

Autumn 2026



Join today. Actively fund conservation and landscape restoration.

Pioneer Catchment Landcare offers businesses of all sizes the opportunity to support our local community, conserve our precious environment and help make a difference in conservation with a PCL Corporate Membership.

Choose from Bronze, Silver and Gold to support our community and our environment.

Partner with Purpose – Become a Corporate Member of Pioneer Catchment Landcare

Join us in protecting what makes our region thrive – its land, water, wildlife, and community. By becoming a Corporate Member of Pioneer Catchment Landcare, your organisation will be part of a respected local movement making a real, lasting impact on our environment.

This is more than just a membership – it's an opportunity to:

- **Receive organisation naming right on events that membership fee has enabled**
- **Strengthen your ESG and CSR credentials**
- **Opportunities for your staff to engage with meaningful volunteer events**
- **Align your brand with on-ground environmental activities that matter**
- **Gain brand visibility through our events, media, and communications**
- **Demonstrate your commitment to sustainability and community values**
- **Gain community recognition for supporting Landcare and our environment**

From restoring bushland and managing invasive weeds to supporting biodiversity and educating the next generation, our work is powered by partnerships – and we'd love yours to be one of them.



Become a Corporate Member today and show your customers, staff, and community that your business backs nature, sustainability, and local impact. We sincerely thank M&P Services and Mackay and District Woodchopping Association for their continued support.



Let's grow something great together!

PCL membership

Join today!



Check out our options for membership today!

There's something for everyone, whether you live in a unit, on a small house block, or on acreage, help support our environment today by becoming a member of Pioneer Catchment Landcare.

3
options

As a member, you'll support and be able to take part in:

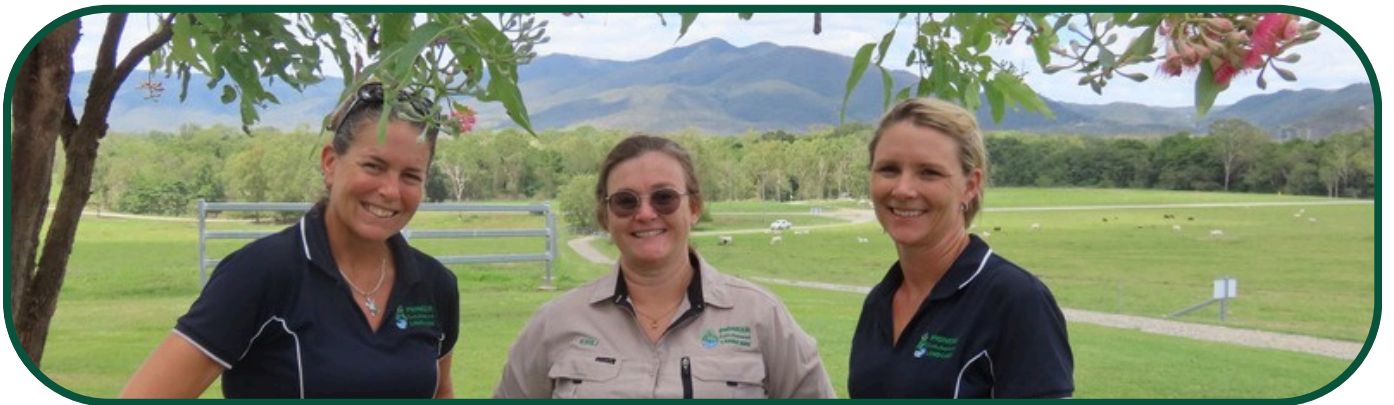
- **Ecosystem Protection** – Tackle invasive species & restore native habitats
- **Biodiversity Conservation** – Help protect threatened species
- **Landholder Support** – Get tailored advice for sustainable land care
- **Community Education** – Attend workshops & local events
- **Volunteer Opportunities** – Join clean-ups & hands-on projects
- **Research & Monitoring** – Contribute to surveys & citizen science
- **Sustainable Practices** – Promote eco-friendly farming & reforestation
- **School & Group Engagement** – Inspire the next generation
- **Social Events** – Enjoy our annual BBQs & networking sessions



Thank You *for your support*

Thank you to everyone who walks alongside us—our volunteers, partners, members, and supporters. Your passion, dedication, and belief in what we do are the heartbeat of PCL.

Together, we are creating a legacy of care for the land, for wildlife, and for future generations. We're proud of what we've achieved, and even more excited for what we'll grow together.



Scan the code to visit our
facebook page



Scan the code to visit our
membership page

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**PIONEER**
Catchment
LANDCARE