

Koalas in Noosa

Introduction

Koalas are of great interest to residents and visitors and are listed under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act as 'vulnerable' in Queensland. A Noosa Shire Koala Conservation Policy has been developed to help guide Council and the community with the conservation and protection of Noosa's koalas. The Policy can be found on the Noosa Council website

<http://www.noosa.qld.gov.au/policies>

Threats to Koalas

There are a number of threats to koalas, including:

- Attack from domestic and wild dogs
- Being hit by cars
- Disease, such as Chlamydia and koala retrovirus
- Habitat loss

How you can help

You can help with the conservation of koalas:

- Always keep domestic animals in control at all times
- When driving, be on the look-out for koalas, observe koala road signs and reduce your speed in bushland areas
- Protect koala food trees on your property and be involved with tree planting projects such as National Tree Day.

What to do if you come across a sick or injured koala

The following organisations provide support for sick and injured koalas:

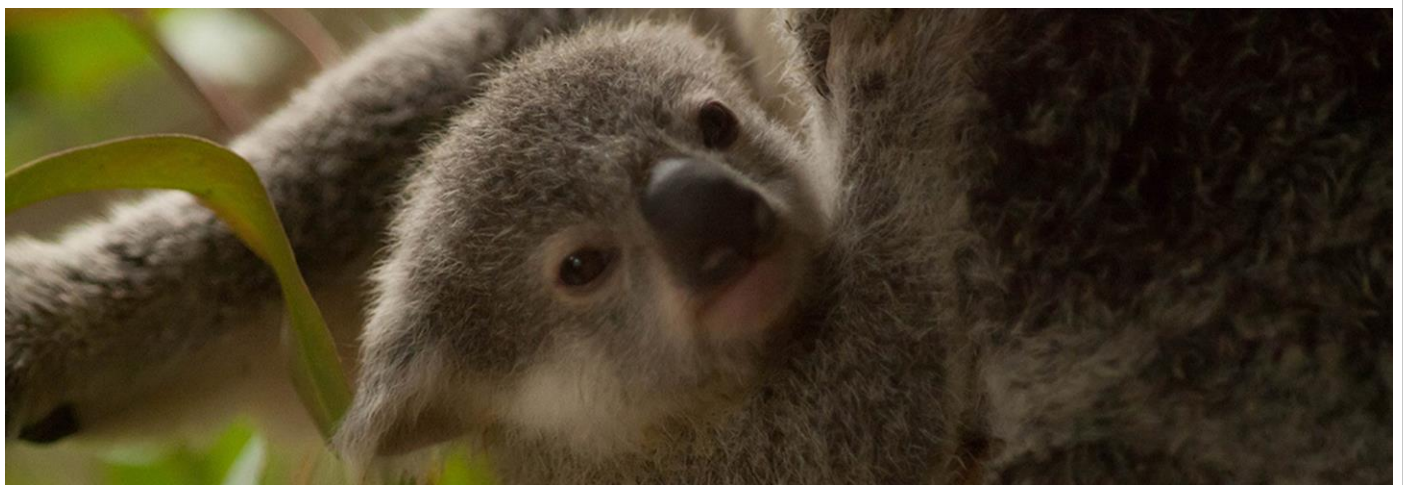
- RSPCA 1300 264 625
- Sunshine Coast Wilvos 5441 6200
- Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital 1300 369 652
- Wildcare Australia 5527 2444
- Sunshine Coast Koala Rescue 0423 618 740
- Wildlife Rescue 0415 839 554
- Wildlife Care and Rehabilitation Centre 5442 8057

What Council is doing

Now that the Koala Conservation Policy has been developed, Council will commence the development of a Noosa Koala Conservation Management Plan. This will involve identifying koala 'threat' areas where there is a history of koala injury and mortality and investigating measures to reduce these risks.

Examples include:

- More road signs and potentially reducing speed limits in some areas
- Improving vegetation corridors for safe koala movement
- Public education on responsible dog control
- Improved development planning and controls



September is 'Save the Koala Month'