

Permaculture Cairns

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES WITH SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR 10 YEARS



Care for the Earth, Care for people, Fair share the excess

Permaculture Cairns Incorporated Web Site: www.permaculturecairns.org.au

Contact is via email at info@permaculturecairns.org.au

JUNE NEWSLETTER

News from our Presiden, Justin

Ecofiesta 2022 was an illustration of a community springing to action in the name of getting more people treading a little lighter on the Earth. This year's event was packed with local environmental groups and businesses and it was great to see the wonderful initiatives and start-ups people are actioning in our community.

Permaculture Cairns also had a stall selling food plants, giving free cuttings and talking to people about living a more sustainable life. A huge thank you to all those members who gave their time to keep the stall rolling – we couldn't have done it without you! Thanks too to all those previous, current and new members who stopped by our stall. It was great to talk to such a diverse and passionate bunch of people and we hope you will stay in touch.

We have some exciting events coming up over the coming months. Read on below and make sure you keep checking your emails for updates! **Due to a somewhat busy schedules, there is a quick turn around on the June events so please check details carefully!**

Permies at the pub

A chance to chat with like-minded folk, Permies at the pub is open to all.

For this edition, we're going to the **Bungalow Hotel. 6pm next Friday June 10.**

Please RSVP to info@permaculturecairns.org.au by Thursday June 9 at the latest.

Habitat Boxes - Workshop

Date and Time: Sunday 12th June 10am

Venue: Endeavour Living & Lifestyle Building, 38 Hoare Street, Manunda

Endeavour require procedures for Covid19 which include taking temperatures and recording of names and addresses on entry. If you have any cold symptoms please stay home.

Cost: free for members \$5 for non-members

Habitat boxes are a fantastic strategy to replace the natural tree hollows that once existed across our landscapes. They encourage a range of creatures to your site, who then perform a range of ecosystem services in the area. From pollination to pest control, it is well worth the time to attract extra wildlife to your place!

Denis Moeser has developed a range of different habitat box designs to suit various native species. He has done considerable work in installing and monitoring these at the Cattana Wetlands. Join us as he discusses about how he has designed these boxes, the results he has achieved and how you can make them work at your place. Throughout this session, those that have ordered habitat box kits will have the chance to put these together with the help of Denis.

Habitat boxes have been pre ordered. Those who have placed orders will be provided payment details. There will be a small number of bird boxes available to purchase on the day. Cost is \$45.

Permaculture Cairns will have one of each design that will remain 'flat'. Members will be able to borrow these to use as templates to create their own boxes.

Permies on tour

Keep an eye on your emails for this one. This will be a members-only event so if you are reading this and haven't joined the club officially, now is the time!

We are heading north to Mossman and surrounds. Date will be mid to late July. There will be a number of stops in the day. The theme that ties all the stops together is that they are all pushing the envelope in fostering a more resilient and sustainable community here in FNQ. It will be a big day and we are looking to hire a bus for everyone. There are a few details to be confirmed before the official times, stops and costs are released, so stay tuned.

The Tropical Veggie Patch This is about growing food on the wet tropical coast.

Finally, we have some good weather for growing our cool weather crops. After a disappointing start to the season with lots of drizzle and no sun we can start some seedlings. There is usually a growing season of 4 to 5 months but our weather is unpredictable so be flexible.

Success is ensured with loose leaf lettuce but try a hearting variety now to grow in the cool part of the season. Bok choy and rocket are a given as well as Coriander (soak seed overnight for faster germination, Tarragon, Parsley. Try some Pak choy, Snowball Radish (sweet and crunchy) Thai Basil and sweet basil are a bit more difficult since the new fungus has come to Queensland but still possible to grow but will have a few yellow leaves during the growing season. Egg Plant grow for about two to three years so choose wisely.

Beans, dwarf, climbing beans grow great now. Plant in a large pot if you don't have the space.

Now the drizzle has stopped try some Tomatoes, Capsicum and Chili, both have been hard hit by the constant rain and no sun. Best tomatoes for this time of year are Tropic, Scorpio, Roma, Thai Pink, and any of the tiny tomatoes.

Greens like Cabbage and Wom Bok need to go in now so they grow in the cool months.

The Purple Calabrese broccoli are doing well against all odds of the weather, hoping for a good crop.

Just a small tip when seeding corn, beans and peas, might be a good idea to multi seed into containers (3 - 4 seeds) and not straight into the ground as the midnight raiders are digging up the seeds and having a feed.

I try new seed varieties each year, this year it is Radish varieties so fast and nutritious also the Popcorn for harvesting the baby corn for stirfrys, which are delicious, definitely worth trying, the other is Snowball Turnip which I saw on You tube from Florida the grower said they were sweet and crunchy eaten raw, and fast growing so putting in another lot as the rain kill the first try.

Plant some flowers for the bees and bugs because there are hardly any bugs around these days, poor willy wag tail following me around whenever I go outside.

These flowers do well in Cairns, Cosmos, Portulaca, Ixora, Marigold Coleus, Sunflowers, Pentas, Begonias, Salvia, Petunia, mix them into you garden with the veggies.

A short life of my favourite Tropic Veggie plants include, Okinawa and Sambung the Longivety plant for salads and stirfrys. Kang Kong for stirfry, Ceylon Spinach for sandwiches. Amaranth and Brazilian Spinach for cooking. All so easy to grow in your landscaping and always there for you.

Thank You to all for helping and supporting our Stall at Ecofiesta, you all did a great job. Carol

I have been growing and selling Tropical Vegetable plants, herbs, trees, spices and flowers for over 10 years. Message me on Facebook if you need advice/plants. Carol Laing

Please PRINT – SIGN – SCAN and RETURN by email to info@permaculturecairns.org.au.

Permaculture Cairns

Membership Form 2022

One year's membership fee - 1 Jan – 31 Dec:

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Household membership \$30 | <input type="radio"/> | Renewing Member | <input type="radio"/> |
| Individual membership \$20 | <input type="radio"/> | New Member | <input type="radio"/> |

Name(s) of all applicant(s) & DOB if under 18yrs):

.....
.....

Postal Address:

..... Postcode:

Phone(s):

Email:

Signature:

Payment may be made at Meetings, at Cairns Penny or Online Direct Deposit to Permaculture Cairns A/c at Cairns Penny in Grafton Street. BSB704-966 A/c No. 100009440 please include your Surname as reference.

If you have a Permaculture Design Certificate could you please complete the following survey.

YOUR NAME:

President:	Justin Brennan	info@permaculturecairns.org.au
Secretary:	Craig Phillipson	info@permaculturecairns.org.au
Treasurer:	Carol Laing	info@permaculturecairns.org.au
Website:		www.permaculturecairns.org.au

You can join online and pay into our account. You can also subscribe to the newsletter online.

