

WILDLIFE HABITAT

Ecotourism Initiatives

Wildlife Habitat in Port Douglas, is committed to environmental sustainability through the education of visitors about the Wet Tropics Region and the effective use of resources. In 1998, the Wildlife Habitat received Advanced Ecotourism accreditation through Ecotourism Australia (EA). This accreditation is issued to an organisation to highlight its commitment to providing a quality ecotourism experience and product that has minimal impact on the natural environment.

In gaining Advanced Ecotourism Accreditation, EA requires the Wildlife Habitat to:

- Contribute to conservation of biodiversity;
- Sustain the wellbeing of local people;
- Include in its product an interpretation and educational experience;
- Involve responsible action on the part of tourists and the tourism industry;
- Encourage local participation;
- Require the lowest possible consumption of non-renewable resources.

Did you know...

- Wildlife Habitat is also the Wet Tropics Information Centre.
- The Wildlife Care Centre cares for over 300 injured sick or orphaned or injured animals each year.
- It is the only sanctuary in the world to successfully breed the Black Necked Stork in captivity.
- The land where the Wildlife Habitat stands used to be a degraded cane farm.

Environmental commitments in practice

- Oil waste is contained, separated and recycled.
- Alcohol soap is used to minimise water usage.
- Effluent and bore water is used for irrigation in non-public areas and koala food plantations.
- Scrap paper is recycled in animal enclosures and in the Wildlife Care Centre.
- Rats are bred onsite to feed carnivorous reptiles and birds.
- There is a eucalyptus plantation onsite to feed the resident koala population.
- Green waste is returned to the park to maintain moisture levels which reduces water consumption.
- Redundant cardboard is used locally and in the eucalypt plantations as weed retardant.

Wildlife Care and Behind the Scenes Tour

The Wildlife Habitat is committed to the conservation of native species via its Wildlife Care Centre and its extensive involvement in other conservation programs and research. You can go Behind-the-Scenes and see the ongoing work involved in caring for injured, orphaned and sick animals.

