



# At Coomera Springs, Wild-life is a **lot** like this

## ESD. What it's all about?

ESD can be defined in several (similar) ways. Firstly, from a 'macro' perspective, it is an industry acronym for 'Environmentally Sustainable Development'. In other words, a set of safeguards to ensure that the creation of new human spaces allows for the protection of existing fauna and flora; and the ongoing well-being of the eco-system in general. Secondly, on a more 'micro' level, it stands for 'Environmentally Sensitive Design' – those little, or sometimes big, provisions that make a difference. In a nutshell, it's about doing the right thing. And, that is no longer just an ethical luxury; it's a human necessity.

## Who'll stop the rain?

In keeping with Coomera Springs' commitment to ESD principles, the main lake forms part of an intricate storm water treatment system – in fact, almost 60% of our park area is devoted to this task. Water is first captured in 'macrophyte ponds', where aquatic plants act like a giant organic filter. From here, a spillway directs cleaner water into the main holding lake – where sediments settle further.

The end result being: the run-off over the eastern spillway into waterways beyond is water that meets with strict Gold Coast City Council environmental quality standards.

We allow Mother Nature to do her job – She's been at it a lot longer than us.

## Koalas need to 'get around'.

Further in sync with the needs of nature, Coomera Springs comprises two important buffer zones – one being the Main Habitat Corridor which provides for the free movement of wildlife throughout the site. This, among other things, promotes genetic diversity – koalas in particular have a 'vigorous' social life!

Our open spaces are especially crucial to the koala, along with two other threatened species: the grey-headed flying fox and the black-faced monarch. Here, all such species can move both north and south with ease. This is their motorway, so to speak, and we're giving them right-of-way.



## Some plants move!

Coomera Springs features an additional nature corridor, which provides for the free and unfettered transit of native fauna and flora (yes, plants move around too – they not only need space to grow unhindered but also the right environment in which to germinate and further their kind.) It's a sort of 'passport' for our natural friends who were, after all, here first.

Located along a natural drainage line, this area will be managed closely in terms of weed control and revegetation using native endemic species. This will provide further habitat for a wide range of wildlife – all of which makes for a desirable, more natural, living environment for the you.

## A home among the gum trees.

Another factor contributing to the positive aesthetics of Coomera Springs is the retention of significant tracts of existing native vegetation - primarily Eucalypt forest.

The community has extensive open space areas, carefully positioned to retain plant-life with ecological and/or amenity value. Certain important habitat trees have been identified and protected within these areas.

There will be no clearing of, or disturbance to, passive open spaces here at Coomera Springs. It's just a matter of integrity – ecological and ethical.

## A natural conclusion.

In terms of functionality, some of the above mentioned measures will serve multiple purposes. For instance, the creation of the lake in the eastern portion of the community will not only cleanse storm water run-off, but will encourage water-reliant flora which, in turn, provides a haven and sustenance for water-reliant fauna such as frogs and birds.

At Coomera Springs, even our road design is 'fauna friendly' to allow humans and animals to live in harmony. Every conceivable step has been taken here to create a balanced and comfortable masterplanned community – one that meets the needs of the resident without impacting on the very environment we choose to celebrate.

