

Composition of Pittwater's Littoral Rainforest

Littoral Rainforest is influenced by its proximity to the ocean. It can occur on sand dunes, however in Pittwater it generally occurs on shale soils in gully areas. Dependent upon exposure to prevailing winds and soil moisture, the closed forest may vary in height and from 6 – 30 metres.



Livistona australis

Broad leaved Lillypilly (*Acmena smithii*) with its shiny, dark green leaves and bright red new growth is the most common canopy species. Other species that make up this community, will vary dependent upon location with plants such as Scentless Rosewood (*Synoum glandulosum*), Guoia (*Guoia semiglauca*), Common Achronychia (*Achronychia oblongifolia*). Groundcovers can be dense layers of native ferns or sedges, thick native vines twine through the shrub layer up into the canopy. Native animals such as the Threatened Powerful Owl along with Ringtail Possums, Antechinus, and rainforest birds such as the Wonga Pigeon, Coucal Pheasant & King Parrot often inhabit this community.

Disturbance

Littoral Rainforest is degraded by many actions; small changes can, in the long run, have long lasting impacts. Weed invasion, illegal and inappropriate clearing, dumping of vegetation, garden encroachments, feral and domestic animals and soil pathogens (e.g. *Phytophthora*) can have a detrimental effect.

Properties surrounding Littoral Rainforest areas play a vital role in the health and ultimate survival of this community. Creating and maintaining a sympathetic boundary between the reserve and your property will decrease the spread of weeds and other edge effects.

What is Council doing to help?

Council has ongoing bush regeneration programs and supports bushcare groups where Littoral Rainforest occurs. Grant funds through the Environment Trust is helping conserve core Littoral Rainforest areas.

The main objectives of Council and the Environmental Trust are to:

- Restore and conserve Littoral Rainforest in Pittwater.
- Conserve significant species within the community.
- Promote conservation awareness within the local community particularly with landholders, to discourage threatening processes on private property.
- Undertake weed control in core Littoral Rainforest sites
- Encourage bushcare volunteer groups to help with regeneration
- Establish buffer areas to protect remnant bushland
- Ensure long-term management by council and the community of Littoral Rainforest

How can you help?

- Join your local bushcare group - enjoy the outdoors, learn more about the bush and get to know your neighbours. Email pittwater at www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au.
- Encourage your children to care for and value this rare bushland.

Are you a good neighbour?

- ✓ Protect native vegetation on your property.
- ✓ Plant natives local to your property and help maintain a diverse plant community
- ✓ Compost garden and lawn clippings, don't dump in bushland. If you don't want it on your property, the community doesn't want it on public land.
- ✓ Identify, control and remove weeds on your property.
- ✓ Restrict pets (dogs and cats) from entering bushland. Keep cats indoors to protect our wildlife, especially at night.

FREE LOCAL NATIVE PLANTS (propagated from seed collected from the area) may be available from Council. Become involved by contacting Pittwater Council's Natural Resources Unit on (02) 9970 1111 or email us on: www.pittwater.nsw.gov.au



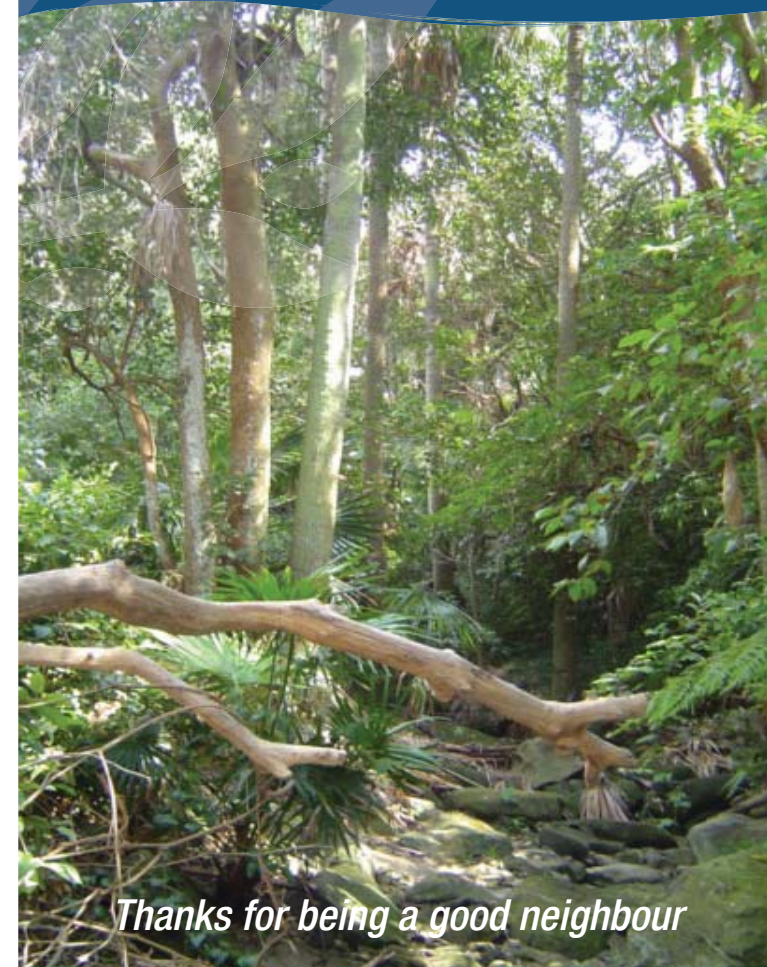
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Littoral Rainforest

*An Endangered Ecological
Community in NSW*



Thanks for being a good neighbour

