



Friends of the Maroochy Regional Botanic Gardens

The Maroochy Shire Council has purchased an 82 hectare site at Tanawha - four kilometres from Buderim. This site is partly covered in eucalypt forest with some rainforest, open space areas, creeks and gullies and a large lagoon-like dam. It offers great potential for the establishment of a distinctive Botanic Garden relevant to the recreational, horticultural, educational, scientific and conservation needs of this unique region.

Friends of the Maroochy Regional Botanic Gardens is a non-profit community organisation working to support the Maroochy Shire Council's efforts. Our aim is to help facilitate the establishment of the best possible Botanic Gardens for our region and we invite everyone interested in this project to become a part of our efforts.

Why a 'regional' Botanic Gardens? A number of distinct regions of Australia have their own Botanic Gardens, based primarily on the native flora of their region. The Maroochy and adjacent Shires contain some 2 000 species of native higher plants from diverse natural habitats. These habitats, and therefore many species, constantly suffer such pressures as population growth and weed infestation.

Our region needs a focal point for the enjoyment, display, study and conservation of its native flora, and for the celebration and improvement of local horticulture, gardening and landscaping. A Regional Botanic Gardens can fulfil this need as well as providing an area for the display of plants from other parts of the world that are appropriate for our region.

Gardens need Friends! Membership is \$5 per year for individuals, \$10 for a family and \$20 for businesses and groups. We have monthly meetings where everyone has the chance to have input into this exciting project. There is a lot to be done!

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