



Small actions,  
big waves



RIPPLES 2025



# Acknowledgement of Country

The EcoMarines Foundation acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters on which we live, learn, and work. We recognise their deep and enduring connection to Country, and we pay our respects to Elders past and present.

Across Queensland, EcoMarines operates on the lands of many First Nations peoples, whose knowledge and care for the environment continue to inspire our mission.

We honour their stewardship of the ecosystems that sustain us - from rivers, creeks, and wetlands to the reefs, forests, and coastlines that we strive to protect.

We are committed to listening, learning, and working in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. By supporting young EcoMarines Ambassadors to care for their local environments, we aim to reflect the values of respect, responsibility, and connection to Country that have guided Traditional Custodians for thousands of generations.

Together, we can create a future where culture, community, and environment are celebrated and protected for generations to come.



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# Message from the CEO

2025 has been a year of remarkable growth and achievement for the EcoMarines Foundation. With more than 500 schools and early learning centres now part of our expanding network, the EcoMarines movement continues to inspire thousands of young Queenslanders to lead change in their schools, homes, and communities. Through innovative initiatives such as EcoMarines On Tour, new in-school workshops, and our first Ambassador Adventure Days, we've connected students to real-world sustainability experiences while strengthening partnerships across government, industry, and community sectors.

The success of this year is a true reflection of collaboration — made possible by the passion of teachers, the enthusiasm of our Ambassadors, the dedication of our staff and volunteers, and the unwavering support of our sponsors and partners.

Together, we are building a generation of eco-leaders ready to make lasting change for Queensland's environment.

As I reflect on 2025, I am incredibly proud of how far the EcoMarines Foundation has come. What began as a small local initiative has evolved into a powerful movement ranging from Tallebudgera on the Gold Coast to Thursday Island in Far North Queensland. This growth is a testament to the commitment of our schools, the enthusiasm of our Ambassadors, and the strength of our partnerships.

This year has seen tremendous success in expanding the scope and depth of our programs.

Our new EcoMarines On Tour initiative gave Ambassadors and their teachers the opportunity to visit and experience first-hand the work of our partners and sponsors.

Highlights included tours of the Port of Townsville and Skyrail Station in Cairns, where students witnessed sustainability in action and participated in hands-on learning experiences.

We also introduced in-school workshops, giving schools access to practical sessions on topics like organic waste and composting, water audits, and creating their own Repair Cafés. These new offerings complement our existing programs and bring sustainability directly into the classroom.

Another significant milestone was the launch of our Water Audit Pack, created in collaboration with our proud sponsor Urban Utilities. This resource equips schools to better understand and manage water use — turning learning into real environmental impact.

Behind every achievement stands the incredible support of our sponsors, partners, and volunteers. Their financial contributions and hands-on involvement enable us to develop meaningful resources, deliver engaging events, and bring our mission to life in communities across the state. I extend my heartfelt thanks to all of them for their belief in EcoMarines and for helping us continue to grow.

Finally, I want to acknowledge our dedicated staff and volunteers. Their passion, creativity, and hard work have made 2025 one of the most successful years in our journey so far — and together, we're ready to make even bigger waves in the years to come.

**Angela Massy**

*CEO - EcoMarines Foundation*

# Board Forward

On behalf of the Board, I am proud to acknowledge the incredible growth and achievements of the EcoMarines Foundation in 2025.

This year has seen our program expand to more than 500 schools and early learning centres across Queensland — a milestone that reflects both the strength of our vision and the dedication of our community.

The Board is continually inspired by the creativity, commitment, and leadership shown by EcoMarines Ambassadors, and we are deeply grateful to the teachers, families, partners, and sponsors who make this work possible.

As we look to the year ahead, the Board remains committed to supporting the EcoMarines team as they empower the eco-leaders of tomorrow.

Together, we will continue to create waves of positive change across Queensland and beyond.

**David James**

*Chairman - EcoMarines Foundation*





# EcoMarines in 2025

2025 has been a milestone year for the EcoMarines Foundation - a year defined by growth, connection, and action across Queensland.

At the centre of it all has been the continued expansion of our program, now involving more than 500 schools and early learning centres. This remarkable growth demonstrates the power of collaboration between schools, students, partners, and communities working together for a sustainable future.

A key highlight was the launch of our Ambassador Adventure Days, giving students a chance to connect with nature and one another in some of Queensland's most iconic environments - Green Island, Osprey House, Magnetic Island, Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, and Tangalooma Island Resort. These events provided an unforgettable experience for Ambassadors and teachers, building their knowledge and confidence as environmental leaders.



Young EcoMarines - Clean Up Australia Day

We also took our message on the road through EcoMarines On Tour, and for the first time, introduced in-school workshops. Schools embraced the chance to dive deeper into sustainability through hands-on sessions exploring composting, water conservation, and waste reduction. These new programs have helped embed sustainability into daily school life.

Our Ambassadors were also outstanding at the Global Link Conference, winning in their category and showcasing the creativity and leadership that defines our program.

Throughout the year, EcoMarines proudly participated in a wide range of community events, from the Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser and Clean Up Australia Day to the Sustainable BNE Festival, Our Townsville, and the Redland City Council Environment and Community Fair.



Young EcoMarines - Clean Up Australia Day

In June, we celebrated a month-long campaign that saw schools, communities, and local landmarks Go Green for EcoMarines! Through competitions, fundraising, and student-led activities, the campaign amplified awareness of environmental action across Queensland.

*To end the year, we hosted our inaugural Making Waves events - joyful celebrations recognising the dedication of Ambassadors, teachers, and schools. These gatherings reflected the collective effort of everyone involved in making 2025 such a success.*

Our partners and sponsors have continued to play an invaluable role in supporting these activities - from attending events and delivering workshops to co-creating new educational opportunities for our schools. Their commitment ensures that the EcoMarines Foundation can continue to inspire young Queenslanders to protect the environment and their communities.

As we look back, 2025 stands out as a year of momentum and collaboration - a year when small actions created big waves of change across the state.



Composta Workshop



Brisbane City Council Waterways Adventure Day





## Ian Molloy

*Amberley District State School - Yamanto*

### ***What inspired you to become an EcoMarines teacher?***

Teaching young people about the environment is crucial for a sustainable future. When children and teenagers learn how ecosystems function and the effects of human activities on the planet, they are more likely to adopt responsible behaviours.

### ***Can you share an example of a successful EcoMarines project or activity in your classroom or school?***

A few years ago, the EcoMarines surveyed tuckshop conveners to identify where waste could be minimised. With poppers, plastic bottles, and chip packets as the main products, the school joined the “Containers for Change” program after the suspension of Red Cycle in 2022. This initiative has successfully recycled over 20,000 containers. The EcoMarines actively monitor the bins and mentor students from different year levels as needed.

### ***What advice would you give new teachers starting with EcoMarines or enhancing their environmental education programs?***

Instilling purpose and ownership in students is vital for the success of EcoMarines programs. While strategic guidance is important, student engagement and collaboration are key. A strong school community enhances the effectiveness of EcoMarines initiatives.

### ***Can you tell us why the EcoMarines program is so important to schools?***

The guidance, competitions and challenges provided by the EcoMarines Foundation allows students to demonstrate their creativity and develop life-long leadership skills.



## Shelby O'Neil

*Caravonica State School - Cairns*

The thought of leaving a healthy, thriving planet for our students' futures inspires me, and ensuring the next generation will be there to protect it is so important. Becoming an EcoMarines teacher gave me the opportunity to actively contribute to that vision and empower our students to make real change.

Two initiatives I'm proud of introducing at our school are the 10¢ container recycling program, and Waste-Free Wednesday. Both have significantly reduced our school's footprint and encourages students to think more critically about the waste they produce.

Start small, be consistent, and involve the students in every step. Ownership builds motivation. Celebrate success along the way, no matter how small, because they encourage momentum and pride in the work being done.

EcoMarines provides the tools, support, and motivation for schools to reduce their environmental footprint actively. It makes ecological education hands-on, meaningful and engaging, turning ideas into real, measurable action. Their competitions and consistent sharing of success stories provide a fun and engaging way to learn about sustainability.



## Angela Betteridge

*St Anthony's Catholic College - Townsville*

### ***What inspired you to become an EcoMarines teacher?***

I am a Design and Technology teacher and attempt to use recycled materials for class projects as much as possible. I met EcoMarines when they came to Townsville in 2023, and the passion and enthusiasm they have made it easy to decide to join the program.

### ***Can you share an example of a successful EcoMarines project or activity in your classroom or school?***

We noticed the amount of waste going to the landfill from classroom crayons. This year, the students developed the idea to deconstruct the twistable crayons, melt the crayons into new shapes in the oven, use the casings for an art project, and the smaller plastic inside pieces for garden markers.

### ***What advice would you give new teachers starting with EcoMarines or enhancing their environmental education programs?***

I would say, jump in, sign up and browse all the EcoMarines ideas and project suggestions. Then look around your school or classroom, talk to the students, and they will lead.

### ***Can you tell us why the EcoMarines program is so important to schools?***

Schools are overwhelmed with work, and teachers are under significant pressure. However, the environment is in crisis, and young people are expected to tackle these issues. Encouraging students to discuss, research, and present their ideas is impactful.



## Michael Turnbull

*Redcliffe Special School - Redcliffe*

I was inspired to become an EcoMarines teacher after my daughter became an EcoMarines Ambassador at Clontarf Beach State School. During our family holiday at Tangalooma Island Resort, I witnessed the impressive training activities, engagement, and motivated staff firsthand.

Our successful “Waste Streaming Program” was initiated with help from EcoMarines and the City of Moreton Bay Council. Our waste minimisation program now operates independently, with a thriving compost system that supports our garden and reduces landfill waste by about 75%, sending thousands of bottles and cans to recyclers each year.

My advice for teachers who are thinking about whether EcoMarines is right for their school is simple. It just is. Hundreds of schools can't be wrong. Make the contact and jump in!

For our Ambassadors, it provides an excellent opportunity for students to develop leadership skills like public speaking and teamwork, which are crucial for their future. Being a part of EcoMarines has also led our school towards significant environmental benefits through years of small, incremental changes.



# Belgian Gardens State School

## A Living Reef in the Classroom



For more than 11 years, Belgian Gardens State School has looked after its very own aquarium - home to some amazing sea creatures like clownfish, starfish, a turtle, a pufferfish, a shark, and even a giant gourami!

But this isn't just any fish tank. It's part of the school's special Reef Project, where students learn first-hand about marine life and caring for our oceans.

Located in the heart of Townsville, Belgian Gardens State School joined the EcoMarines program in 2023 and has quickly become a shining example of what passionate teachers and students can achieve together.

Led by their dedicated teacher, Mr Brett Murphy, and the school's EcoMarines Ambassadors, the team runs several exciting environmental projects at once. They take care of every detail - from feeding the fish and cleaning the tanks every week, to running assemblies to teach other students about sustainability.

Every student plays a part in the school's eco mission. Each year, Year 3 students create colourful posters about caring for the environment. The best designs are voted on and proudly displayed on bins around the school - a creative reminder for everyone to keep the school clean and green.



Behind the classrooms, there's even more happening! The Black Soldier Fly Larvae Project turns food scraps from lunchboxes into food for animals - including the school's friendly bearded dragon, Sandy. The project began with the Year 4 class and is now run by the younger students in Year 3.

Not far away, the school's bird aviaries are home to endangered species like Golden-shouldered Parrots, Gouldian Finches, and Black-throated Finches. The aviaries sit next to the school's aquaponics system, where fish waste is used to grow plants - another clever way the school connects nature's cycles.



Finally, the school garden ties everything together. It grows tasty produce like basil, corn, and potatoes, which are either cooked for students to enjoy or sold at the tuckshop.

Belgian Gardens State School truly shows how small actions can make a big difference - with every project working together to create a healthier, greener world for everyone.





# Adventure Days 2025

## Action-packed Experiences

EcoMarines Adventure Days 2025 were action-packed, educational experiences that brought sustainability to life for hundreds of young ambassadors and their teachers. From the Gold Coast to Cairns, students explored ecosystems, connected with nature, and discovered how our partners across Queensland are protecting the environment.

Whether travelling by bus or ferry, participants enjoyed hands-on workshops, engaging presentations, and the chance to see sustainability in action — from the wonders of the reef to the wetlands, wildlife sanctuaries, and city parks.

## Queens Park & Nature Centre, Ipswich



At Queens Park, Ambassadors immersed themselves in a day of discovery, hosted by the EcoMarines team alongside Urban Utilities and the Ipswich City Council.

Students took part in interactive science demonstrations showing how water travels from our taps and toilets back into the urban water cycle, learned about the vital role of pollinators, and explored the park on a guided nature walk.

## Tangalooma Island Resort



One of the most anticipated days of the year, the Tangalooma Adventure Day offered a full schedule of sustainability workshops and island exploration — ending, of course, with the much-loved dolphin feeding.

Students rotated through a range of educational stations run by EcoMarines, Port of Brisbane, Veolia, Seqwater, Coral Watch, Downer, Energex, Brisbane City Council and Urban Utilities.

Each session deepened their understanding of marine ecosystems and inspired creative thinking about environmental solutions.

## Green Island



Ambassadors experienced the magic of the Great Barrier Reef up close through curriculum-aligned activities, guided eco-walks, and glass-bottom boat tours.

They also learned about reef restoration, coral health, and conservation from rangers and partners — including Ergon Energy, who shared insights into local sustainability initiatives and the importance of protecting this global treasure.



## Osprey House, Moreton Bay



New to the Adventure Day program in 2025, Osprey House quickly became a favourite among schools.

Led by the Osprey House Environmental Education team, students conducted water quality experiments and explored the ecosystems of Southeast Queensland's waterways.

In the afternoon, Energex educators guided Ambassadors through sessions on local sustainability actions and community stewardship.

## Magnetic Island

On Magnetic Island, Ambassadors enjoyed a day of friendship, learning and exploration surrounded by turquoise waters and coral reefs.

Workshops led by the Healthy Waters Partnership and the Port of Townsville encouraged students to consider the impacts of human activity on regional waterways.

Experts from James Cook University and Coral Watch showcased the fascinating underwater life of turtles and corals, while Townsville City Council helped students turn recyclable lids into colourful pens — a creative reminder that small actions make a big difference.



## Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary



*City of Gold Coast Workshop*

Another exciting new addition to the 2025 Adventure Days was the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary on the Gold Coast, with some amazing help from the City of Gold Coast Council.

Home to over 1,500 animals, this heritage-listed sanctuary gave Ambassadors the chance to meet native wildlife up close and learn about conservation and habitat protection from the experts.

Hands-on workshops included the ever popular turning of organic waste into compost with Brad from Composta.

## A Year of Exploration and Inspiration

Across all regions, Adventure Days 2025 showcased the power of hands-on learning and collaboration. By connecting with partners including local councils, environmental organisations, and industry leaders, EcoMarines Ambassadors gained a deeper understanding of Queensland's ecosystems — and the inspiration to keep making waves for a sustainable future.



# Everton Park State School

## *Leading the way to a waste-free future*

At Everton Park State School in Brisbane, the journey towards sustainability is more than a goal - it's a community-wide mission led by passionate EcoMarines Ambassadors and their teachers.

What started as a simple idea by last year's Ambassadors - asking students to take home any lunchbox rubbish - has transformed into one of the school's proudest achievements. The impact was immediate and impressive; by the end of Term 3, a school of more than 550 students had reduced their general waste to just two bags per week. Teacher Sarah Minnis says that the motivation came from seeing how much the school was spending just to manage waste.

"We had spent over \$40,000 solely on waste management," Sarah explained. "The students decided to take ownership, and together we turned that challenge into real savings and real change."



Building on this success, the 2025 EcoMarines Ambassadors have launched their Eco-Warriors Project, an initiative focused on helping everyone in the school community understand exactly what belongs in each bin. Colourful student-designed posters now brighten hallways, and recycling stations are clearly labelled thanks to the Ambassadors' efforts.

"Our Eco-Warriors are leading by example," Sarah said. "They're teaching others what can go into each bin and what should stay in lunchboxes. They've even shared our Containers for Change ID through the school's newsletter so families can get involved too."

Through their creativity and teamwork, Everton Park's Ambassadors are showing how young people can make a measurable difference. What began as a drive to cut costs has grown into a culture of responsibility - proving that when students lead the way, sustainable habits become second nature.

# Southport State High School

## *Sprouting creative ideas*

Creative sustainability ideas can sprout from the most unexpected places — and at Southport State High School, inspiration bloomed through poetry.

Led by the school's passionate EcoMarines Ambassadors, the Environmental Poetry Competition invited students to use their creativity and flair for languages to express their care for the planet. The challenge was simple, yet powerful; write a poem that included one of the following words; Pollution, Extinction or Recycling.

Teacher Suzanne Grant, who helped coordinate the initiative, said the idea grew organically from the students themselves.



"We saw a poetry competition advertised elsewhere and thought, why not run one at school? We offered tuckshop vouchers as prizes — and wanted to raise awareness about the environment in our community." She explained.

Funding for the prizes came from the school's Containers for Change program, with the dedicated bins set up around the campus. The EcoMarines Ambassadors led a spirited campaign encouraging students to recycle their 10-cent containers correctly and to avoid tossing in general waste like banana peels!

Entries poured in, each one revealing a personal perspective on environmental issues. During their lunch breaks, the Ambassadors met to read, reflect, and vote on their favourites. The top entries recieved \$15 and \$10 tuckshop vouchers —small but meaningful rewards for big ideas.





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The winning poem “The Last Koala Lost Today,” moved the judges deeply. It’s haunting imagery and heartfelt emotion captured both the fragility of Australia’s wildlife and the urgency of environmental protection. It stands as a beautiful reminder of the connection between creativity and care for our planet.

### The Last Koala Lost Today

The sun bled orange as it began to fall,  
A burning wind whispered its cruel call.  
The koalas so peaceful asleep in the trees,  
Were roused by the fire’s hunger and plea.

A mother clutched her baby joey tight,  
Shielding her baby from the glowing light,  
But the flames came fast, the air turned black,  
And there was no turning around, there’s no way back.

You were a dream we could not save,  
A quiet soul so soft, so brave.  
Her voice was choked, trembling with fear,  
As the fire drew closer, the end drawing near.

The leaves they had trusted, the trees they had known,  
Now crackled with death, left no shelter, no home.  
The sky bled red, the ground turned to ash,  
And in the heat, the scared koalas dashed.

But there was no escape, no safety in sight,  
Only the smoke that swallowed everything bright.  
And one by one, the brave ones fell,  
As the fire brought its unholy hell.

A mother’s cry echoed through the polluted air,  
Her child, her joy, lost in despair.  
The last koala, alone in the wreck,  
Looked into the sky with no hope to protect.  
Now only smoke and sorrow to say —  
The last koala, lost today.

## Whitfield State School

### Solar Soldiers



Nestled near the Great Barrier Reef, Whitfield State School understands better than most just how important it is to protect the environment. This connection to one of the world’s greatest natural wonders inspires the school’s EcoMarines Ambassadors to lead by example — and their efforts are truly making waves.

With more than 1,000 solar panels powering the campus, Whitfield is a shining example of renewable energy in action.

The school’s system generates clean electricity, reduces carbon emissions, and saves thousands of dollars each year — funds that can be reinvested in new sustainability projects. EcoMarines Ambassador Hugo said the initiative helps students understand how renewable energy benefits everyone: “We’re so pleased that we’re able to reduce our carbon footprint by using so much solar energy,” he said.

The Ambassadors have also championed waste reduction across the school. Through the Containers for Change program, students collect eligible drink containers and exchange them for funds that support new environmental projects. “Each container is worth ten cents — so for every ten containers, we earn a dollar to put towards something amazing for our school,” explained Ambassador Olivia.

One of those amazing projects is the school’s kitchen garden, established with the funds raised by the EcoMarines team. Students have planted herbs and vegetables, using the produce in the tuckshop and selling extras at a small market stall on campus. EcoMarines Ambassador Riley said the garden has created a new sense of community and pride among the students. Those who help keep the garden clean even receive small “green” rewards for their efforts.

Beyond the garden, the school continues to innovate with paper recycling, pen and battery collection, and other eco-friendly programs. These everyday actions are helping to build lifelong habits and a culture of environmental responsibility. When it’s time to relax, Ambassadors can be found exploring the school’s nature-based playgrounds or spending time in Naturopolis — a rainforest-inspired outdoor learning area that nurtures curiosity, wellbeing and a love for nature.

At Whitfield State School, sustainability isn’t just a project — it’s a way of life. With such passionate Ambassadors leading the charge, the future of the reef, and our planet, is in good hands.

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# Go Green for EcoMarines!

Queensland goes green for our planet!



In June, schools all across Queensland joined forces for Go Green for EcoMarines — a month full of action, colour, and excitement to celebrate our amazing environment!

The celebrations kicked off on World Environment Day (June 5th) and quickly turned into a state-wide movement. EcoMarines Ambassadors led the charge, inspiring their classmates, teachers, and families to make greener choices and help protect our planet.

From recycling drives and bake sales to litter-free lunches and tree planting, every school found their own special way to Go Green.

And it didn't stop there — schools shared their photos and videos online using #GoGreenForEcoMarines, filling social media with awesome ideas and happy faces!

One of the highlights was the competition “What does it mean to be an EcoMarine?” where schools showed what being an EcoMarine means to them. Payne Road State School won the top prize — a brand new Foodcube garden system to help them grow their own veggies and herbs, wonderfully donated by the Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation. How cool is that?

Even Queensland's most famous landmarks joined in on the fun! The Story Bridge, Surfers Paradise Sign, Wharton Reef Lighthouse, and Ipswich City Council Building all lit up green to show their support for young environmental heroes across the state.

Go Green for EcoMarines was an incredible reminder that every little action - like picking up rubbish, reusing containers, or planting a tree — can make a huge difference when we all work together.

We can't wait to see how you go Go Green next year — let's make it even bigger, brighter and greener!

How Your School Can Take Part In...

## Go Green for EcoMarines 2026



1

### Sign Up early!

All registered EcoMarines schools are invited to take part in the Go Green for EcoMarines campaign — kicking off on World Environment Day! (June 5th)

2

### Get Creative!

Plan a fun activity, event, or challenge that celebrates sustainability at your school. Think green dress days, waste-free lunches, recycling drives, or even a community clean-up!

3

### Share Your Story!

Post your school's photos and videos using the hashtag #GoGreenForEcoMarines and show how your Ambassadors are making a difference.

4

### Join The Competition!

Take part in our annual challenge, “What does it mean to be an EcoMarine?” for the chance to win an amazing sustainability prize for your school.

Together, we can make 2026 the biggest and greenest Go Green for EcoMarines yet!



# Together for a sustainable future

The EcoMarines Foundation proudly acknowledges the outstanding contribution of our partners and sponsors who make our programs possible. Their generosity, collaboration, and shared belief in the power of education to create lasting environmental change are the foundation of our success. We are especially grateful to our major supporters - the **Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation**, **Tangalooma Island Resort**, and the **Port of Brisbane** - whose significant contributions have enabled EcoMarines to expand our reach across Queensland and inspire the next generation of eco-leaders

## Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation

As the key funder of the EcoMarines program, the Department ensures the ongoing delivery of our initiatives to schools and communities throughout Queensland. In 2025, the Department provided the major prize for the “Go Green for EcoMarines” competition - a Foodcube garden system - and continued to support all major events, including Adventure Days and Making Waves, helping students connect real-world sustainability with classroom learning.



## Tangalooma Island Resort

A long-standing friend of EcoMarines, Tangalooma Island Resort remains at the heart of our story. The resort team continues to provide generous in-kind support, from raffle prizes to the expertise of the Tangalooma Eco Rangers, who regularly contribute to EcoMarines workshops. This year, two Adventure Days were held at Tangalooma, with the resort subsidising the experience for participating schools and offering engaging activities that brought environmental education to life. EcoMarines schools were also invited to participate in the resort's 2025 Global Link event – bringing together students and industry professionals from across the globe to share knowledge, ideas and experience in a multi-day sustainability summit.



## Veolia

As a sustainability leader, Veolia brings valuable knowledge and resources to the EcoMarines network. Their ongoing partnership and presentations at EcoMarines events support education on waste management and recycling, encouraging students to see how industry and community can work together for a cleaner future.



## Port of Brisbane

A valued long-term supporter, the Port of Brisbane brings not only financial backing but also a deep commitment to sustainability education and youth leadership. The Port's team shares our belief in empowering students and schools to make hands-on environmental change. Throughout 2025, the Port of Brisbane delivered engaging workshops at both the Tangalooma Adventure Day and multiple Brisbane and Ipswich Making Waves events, inspiring Ambassadors to think big about their role in protecting our waterways whilst we plan for the future.



## Brisbane City Council

Brisbane City Council has continued to create opportunities for EcoMarines Ambassadors to learn about sustainability in action. Council staff attended the Tangalooma Adventure Day and delivered an incredible workshop, while several events were proudly hosted at Brisbane City Council's Environmental Education Centres – including the Karawatha Forest Discovery Centre and the Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre – giving students the chance to connect with local ecosystems and migratory birds.



*Dedicated to a better Brisbane*

## Urban Utilities

As a valued long-standing partner, Urban Utilities continues to play a central role in EcoMarines' water education initiatives. In 2025, they collaborated on new educational resources, including the Water Audit pack, helping students understand how small changes in water use can make a big difference. The Urban Utilities team have also continued their strong support at EcoMarines events with their engaging workshops, demonstrating what goes on beneath our streets.



## Composta

Through generous in-kind support, including raffle prizes, discounts, workshops and event engagement, Composta have contributed immense value to EcoMarines students and schools, highlighting the importance of composting and growing local. The all-in-one Composta worm farm and garden unit has been a huge hit with EcoMarines schools across the state!



## Children's Health Queensland

Children's Health Queensland continues to provide innovative ways to support EcoMarines students and to encourage their voice in the future of sustainability. This year the team at Children's Health Queensland exemplified circular economy in action for our students by recycling wooden medical supply pallets into valuable wildlife hotels, generously donated to EcoMarines schools to help protect native species.





### Redland City Council

Redland City Council provides wonderful ongoing support for EcoMarines schools in the Redlands, helping to grow awareness of the EcoMarines message across the community and involve student voices in the future of sustainability in their region. Council representatives supported the Tangalooma Adventure Day and later attended several Making Waves events alongside much-loved Ranger Stacey - a highlight for Ambassadors and teachers alike!



### Ipswich City Council

This year, EcoMarines was proud to expand our program in Ipswich, with the Council providing exceptional local support. The partnership helped deliver the region's first-ever Queen's Park Adventure Day and Making Waves event- both milestone moments for EcoMarines and a celebration of community-led sustainability.



### City of Gold Coast Council

EcoMarines' partnership with the City of Gold Coast Council supports schools across the region with educational resources, community connections, and event participation that highlight the importance of protecting local waterways and coastal environments.



### Townsville City Council

Townsville City Council has been a key partner in bringing the EcoMarines program to North Queensland. Their support helped deliver the successful Magnetic Island Adventure Day and EcoMarines on Tour Townsville event, engaging schools and sponsors in hands-on sustainability learning and highlighting the region's leadership in environmental education.



### Powerlink Queensland

Powerlink's partnership has strengthened EcoMarines' mission to connect schools with industry leaders committed to sustainability. Their continued involvement helps students understand how large organisations can make a positive impact on the environment through innovation and community engagement.



### Downer Utilities

Downer Utilities' partnership with EcoMarines reflects their strong corporate commitment to sustainability and education. Their involvement in 2025 included sponsoring the Platypus Program and supporting Eco-Training and Adventure Days, giving students a hands-on experience in environmental stewardship.



### Seqwater

Seqwater continues to inspire students through its involvement in water conservation education. Their contribution ensures that EcoMarines Ambassadors gain real-world insights into the importance of sustainable water management for Queensland's future. The partnership helped deliver EcoMarines first online careers event for secondary school students on the program themed Women in Water, inspiring the next generation of industry professionals through their keynote address.



### Energy Queensland, Ergon Energy, Energex

Through its support, Energy Queensland empowers EcoMarines students to explore innovative ideas for reducing energy use and caring for the planet. Ergon Energy and Energex teams have participated in EcoMarines events in their respective regions across the state with engaging workshops and presentations, promoting awareness around renewable energy and resource efficiency.



### Healthy Waters Partnership for the Dry Tropics

Through their engagement and support, Healthy Waters Partnership for the Dry Tropics continues to deliver innovative opportunities for EcoMarines students across North Queensland to be the leaders for sustainability in their local community and network with industry professionals. The team at Healthy Waters Partnership for the Dry Tropics have been integral to the 2025 EcoMarines on Tour Townsville event and have delivered engaging workshops at EcoMarines events centered on their annual Report Card, assessing the health of local waterways.



### Port of Townsville

The Port of Townsville continues to play a major role in supporting EcoMarines' work in North Queensland. Their partnership contributes to regional growth of the program and helps connect students with industry experts who are actively protecting marine and coastal environments.



### Clean Up Australia

Clean Up Australia work closely with the EcoMarines community to clean up and conserve our environment through preventing and eliminating litter. Their support has seen a brand-new EcoMarines community workshop and clean up event held in Cairns this year, bringing together like-minded individuals to clean up their local area and turn trash into treasure.



### CoralWatch

CoralWatch remains a dedicated supporter of EcoMarines, providing hands-on learning opportunities for students on the importance of coral health monitoring and protecting our valuable reefs. Attending numerous EcoMarines Adventure Days and Making Waves events, the CoralWatch team continues to inspire the next generation in reef conservation and management.







GO GREEN!

As we close our 2025 EcoMarines year, we want to say thank you. This program continues to grow because of the passion, leadership, and creativity of our Ambassadors and teachers across Queensland. Every conversation held, every project led, every moment spent inspiring others to care for our environment has real impact. You have helped young people feel confident to lead change, and you have strengthened a movement that reaches from classrooms and homes to waterways, coastlines and community spaces.

We are also deeply grateful to our partners and sponsors. Your support provides the resources, opportunities, and experiences that make EcoMarines possible. Together, we are showing our young leaders that collaboration, respect, and care for our environment are powerful forces for change.

The difference you have made this year matters. The ripples of your efforts extend far beyond the school gate. Thank you for believing in our mission. Thank you for being part of this community. Keep going. Keep encouraging. Keep inspiring. Our environment needs leaders like you - and our future is brighter because of you.





SMALL ACTIONS



BIG WAVES