



Small Actions, Big Waves

March has been an incredibly exciting time to be a part of the EcoMarines community! Between a packed calendar of sustainability events, as well as our high-energy EcoMarines on Tour sessions and online events, the momentum across our network is truly inspiring.

It is outstanding to see so many schools already diving headfirst into their sustainability initiatives for the year. The dedication and creativity shown by our EcoMarines Ambassadors is a testament to their commitment in creating greener futures.



From local school projects to regional collaborations, your voices for change are louder and more impactful than ever!

Clean Up Australia Day: Big Waves at Wynnum Foreshore!



The shores of Moreton Bay are looking brighter thanks to an incredible effort from our EcoMarines Ambassadors at the Wynnum Foreshore Whale Park. It really goes to show that when our community dives in together, we can create a massive ripple effect for the environment.

From the parklands to the shoreline, volunteers rolled up their sleeves to protect the habitats of our local turtles, dugongs, and dolphins. This impact was made possible by our dedicated partners: Urban Utilities, who kept our team fuelled and worked right alongside us in the mud, and Brisbane City Council, for their ongoing commitment to a clean, green city.

Our EcoMarines Ambassadors were the heart of the day. Seeing student leaders and their families take charge reminds us that the future of our shore, oceans, and environment is in capable hands. We would especially like to call out the Ambassadors and Support Crew from schools such as Lota State School, Oakleigh State School, and Wilston State School, amongst others, who all turned out in force!



Beyond collecting bags of soft plastics and litter, the morning allowed us to share stories and transform environmental awareness into tangible action.

Every piece of debris removed is one less threat to marine life. While this was a highlight for March, it is only the beginning of our 2026 journey. Let's keep this momentum flowing, we look forward to seeing you at our other exciting events throughout the year!

Welcome-Back-Workshops!



Our EcoMarines workshops for 2026 are officially in full swing, with our crew rolling out in Ipswich, setting a high bar for environmental action! It has been inspiring to visit schools in the region and see students turning their passion into practical, real-world projects.

At Raceview State School, Ambassadors are dreaming big with a new edible garden project. They've designed creative "Action Plans" that includes an exciting "Go Green" fundraiser featuring garden-fresh smoothies, as well as assembly skits to raise awareness for and tackle school waste.

Meanwhile, St Mary's Catholic College Primary is back in the composting game, revitalising their school systems with new watering schedules and scrap-collection duties as they prepare to scale up to larger worm farms.



North Gold Coast, you're next! We are bringing our workshops to your region in Week 10. While our Composting sessions are already fully booked, we still have limited spaces available for:

- Citizen Science
- Environmental Fundraising
- Water Conservation

Make sure to snag a spot for your school before they're all gone! We can't wait to see the incredible ideas the Gold Coast crew brings to the table as we continue building a greener future together!

School Spotlight: Minimbah State School & Pallara State School

This month, we are shining a bright light on two schools that are masterfully turning environmental education into action. From hands-on clean-ups to creative digital storytelling, these EcoMarines Ambassadors are showing us exactly how to lead a movement!



At Minimbah State School, the EcoMarines Ambassadors took full charge of their very own Clean Up Australia Day event. By organising a school-wide effort, these student leaders were not only picking up litter but fostering a culture of responsibility and pride across their entire campus! Their initiative is a fantastic example of how a small group of dedicated leaders can mobilise an entire school to protect our local environment.

The Secret Lives of Things We Use



The creative team at Pallara State School has continued their brilliant educational video series, "The Secret Lives of...", tackling two common party staples: glitter and balloons. The videos do a fantastic job at raising awareness about the negative impacts these items have on our environment, as well as providing alternatives!

- **The Secret Lives of Glitter:** This episode dives into the environmental impact of traditional glitter and introduces a sparkling alternative in biodegradable glitter!

[Watch Now](#)

- **The Secret Lives of Balloons:** The crew explores how long balloons persist in our ecosystems and suggests vibrant, eco-friendly alternatives to celebrate using reusable banners, flags, and even student-created art.

[Watch Now](#)

As the Pallara team perfectly puts it:

“We’re not saying don’t celebrate, but asking ‘where does this go’ when we’re finished with it?”
It’s a powerful reminder to think about the lifecycle of our choices.

EcoMarines on Tour: A Wave of Success Up North!



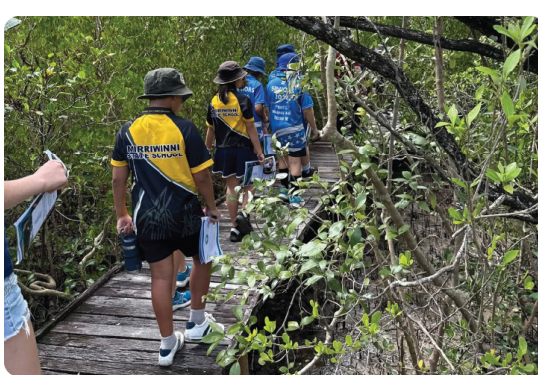
The EcoMarines momentum travelled north this month for an incredible “EcoMarines on Tour” day in both Townsville and Cairns! The energy and passion shown by local students and teachers were truly infectious as they worked together to build a more sustainable future for their communities.

In Townsville, the day was a perfect blend of technical learning and environmental connection. We kicked things off with an eye-opening visit to the local recycling facility, followed by the Rowes Bay Sustainability Centre where Ambassadors learned about how to give recyclables a second life, and helping them to dive deeper into environmental stewardship. The EcoMarines Ambassadors also took a much-anticipated stop at the Port of Townsville, taking the time to learn about how such a monumentally important port operates, and just how vital it is to the city. To wrap up an exciting day of education, we spent some much appreciated time at the beach, reconnecting with the very coastline that we’re all working so hard to protect.

During our time in Cairns, we had a full day of hands-on learning and discovery!

Beginning with a visit to the famous Skyrail, where students explored sustainability initiatives and even got to enjoy creating Bee-Hive-Hotels along the way.

EcoMarines Ambassadors then enjoyed a tour through the boardwalk and surrounding mangroves near Cairns Airport, learning all about the unique ecosystem and its amazing native inhabitants.



The final stop in Cairns was the Cairns Wharf, where EcoMarines Ambassadors discovered the detailed history behind how the wharf accommodates different ships, learning important customs and biosecurity information, as well as how vital a role tourism plays in supporting our cities and economy. The EcoMarines Ambassadors even got to witness a gigantic Cruise Ship departing from the harbour! By the end of these exciting days in Townsville and Cairns, our EcoMarines Ambassadors were full of knowledge, inspiration, and lots of great memories. What incredible experiences!

Coming Soon: Southeast Queensland! EcoMarines on Tour will be heading your way in Term 3. Get ready to sign up for a day of education, discovery, and fun!

EcoMarines Environmental Calendar

From local schoolyards to global movements, the EcoMarines network has been jam-packed with environmental action. While we are incredibly proud of our recent hands-on efforts for both Clean Up Australia Day and Global Recycling Day, our eyes are now firmly fixed on the horizon as we look forward to two major upcoming events: Earth Hour and Citizen Science Month!



☐ **Earth Hour (March 28)**

By switching off non-essential lights at 8:30 pm on Saturday, March 28, EcoMarines aims to join millions worldwide in a symbolic stand for nature. This event perfectly mirrors our belief in collective action. It reminds our EcoMarines Ambassadors that while one person switching off a light is a quiet win, millions doing it together is a loud, undeniable triumph for our planet.

☐ **Citizen Science Month (April)**

Throughout April, we are encouraging our schools to turn their curiosity into scientific data! Using apps like “Seek” by iNaturalist, students can photograph local plants and wildlife to help real scientists track biodiversity.



Remember, you cannot protect what you do not understand, and citizen science allows our students to become active, informed guardians of their local catchments, environments, and even backyards!

Whether we are picking up litter, learning how to correctly recycle, turning off the lights, or recording local wildlife, every single action counts. Let's celebrate our efforts in March and use this upcoming month to show the world the creative power of the EcoMarines community!

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