

Media Release

17 May 2021

Council's winter Biosecurity Surveillance Program is underway

Gladstone Regional Council is committed to keeping our region safe and beautiful by undertaking the winter Biosecurity Surveillance Program.

The winter Biosecurity Surveillance Program has commenced and is due to run until 30 October 2021.

Gladstone Region Councillor and Capricorn Pest Management Group committee member Chris Cameron said the program aims to monitor the presence, absence, compliance and levels of numerous invasive plant species.

"Species include the African tulip tree, giant rat's tail grass, groundsel bush, harrisia cactus, mesquite, parkinsonia, parthenium, prickly pear, rubber vine and tilapia," Councillor Cameron said.

"The program also aims to monitor landholder compliance with requirements regarding prohibited matter or restricted matter.

"Council officers will conduct property inspections to carry out controlled actions on pests in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act 2014* and Council's Biosecurity Surveillance Program."

Cr Cameron said landholders and residents need to ensure their actions or activities do not spread a pest, disease or contaminant.

"Gladstone Region landholders are responsible for managing pest species and must take all reasonable and practical steps to prevent or minimise each biosecurity risk," he said.

"It is integral that Council monitors these pests and measures the effectiveness of control methods implemented by landholders."

The winter Biosecurity Surveillance Program is available to view online at www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/biosecurity and copies are held at all Council offices and Rural Transaction Centres.

ENDS