



BOTANIC WALKING TRAIL WORKBOOK

At Brookwater, preserving the natural environment is very important. Almost half of Brookwater will never have houses built on it. Instead, it will remain as open space for flora and fauna to grow naturally and for you and your family to enjoy for generations to come.

As you walk along our new Botanic Walking Trail keep a look out for the 14 tree species below. As you come across each tree on the trail, read about it and then tick (✓) it off in the box beside the name of the tree. We hope you enjoy this trail for years to come.



1. Dogwood (*Jacksonia scoparia*)

A beautiful small lightweight tree. The dogwood has been known to have as timber.

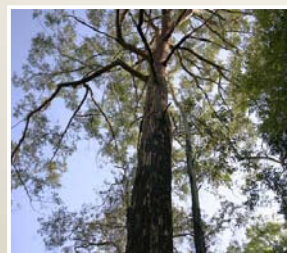
The common name of dogwood is said to refer to the smell from the wood when burnt.



2. Blue gum, forest red gum (*Eucalyptus tereticornis*)

The blue gum is a fast-growing tree that can reach 30m to 45m in height and 1m to 2m in diameter. The smooth bark is shed in irregular plates with white, grey and bluish patches. Flowers are usually white but can be pink.

This is one of the most important food trees in Queensland for koalas.



3. Tallow wood (*Eucalyptus microcorys*)

Tallow wood is a tall forest tree that is recognised by its rough, reddish-brown bark and two-toned leaves (the top of the leaf is darker than the bottom side). Tallow wood flowers in late winter-spring (sometimes summer) and grows up to 40m tall.

This is a popular hardwood in Australia for flooring, external wood-work and heavy construction.

Tallow wood is another food tree for koalas.



4. **River or red bottlebrush (*Callistemon viminalis*)**

River bottlebrush is a native to the area. It is common along creek gullies where it grows into a small tree up to 8m tall. Bottlebrush are easily recognised by their flowers.

It is commonly used for gardens.



5. **Swamp mahogany (*Lophostemon suaveolens*)**

Swamp Mahogany grows to a height of between 20m and 35m tall, making it a good tree for shade.

The swamp mahogany is a source of food for koalas and is also a pollen source for bees.

The hardwood timber of the swamp mahogany is popular as a fencing material.



6. **Baeckia (*Baeckea virgata*)**

Baeckia is a tough, disease-free small tree that can withstand drought, frost and poor soil conditions.

Baeckia blooms in summer producing small white flowers.



7. **River mat rush (*Lomandra longifolia*)**

River mat rush is a hardy plant that will grow almost anywhere. It is an important stabilising plant for river banks and streams.

It is commonly used as an ornamental grass in gardens or along driveways.

Aboriginal women gathered the smooth strap-shaped leaves from the river mat rush to make baskets.



8. **Carrol (*Backhousia myrtifolia*)**

Carrol can grow up to 30m tall but more often grows as a small tree.

Leaves can be crushed up and rubbed on skin as an insect repellent.

The tree's timber is used for tool handles, fishing rods and bows.

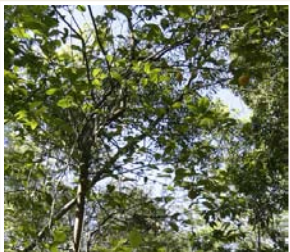


9. **Silky oak (*Grevillea robusta*)**

Silky oak is a native tree to the area. This is a fast growing evergreen tree that grows between 18-35m tall.

The leaves of the silky oak are dark green and have a similar look to a fern frond.

Silky oak is a popular timber for making furniture.



10. **Bush lemon (*Citrus x limon*)**

The bush lemon tree was introduced to the area by birds, bushwalkers or earlier landowners living nearby. The bush lemon produces large quantities of rough thick skinned juicy but sour fruit (good for marmalades).

The bush lemon tree has been retained in the area as it poses no real threat to the rainforest and surrounding bush.



11. **Grey ironbark (*Eucalyptus siderophloia*)**

Grey ironbark usually grows in sheltered valleys on the edge of flood plains.

Grey ironbark grows to 30m tall and flowers winter to early summer.



12. Chinese elm (*Celtis sinensis*)



Chinese elm is an Asian tree that was introduced to the area. Although it makes a great shade tree, it is considered the worst woody weed of the Ipswich area.

It is a fast growing species that lives along creek banks and prevents regeneration of native plants. Chinese elm seeds are spread by birds, flying foxes and water.

13. Lilly pilly (*Acmena smithii*)



Lilly pilly is a medium to large tree reaching 15m – 20m tall.

The flowers are cream/white and grow in bunches at the ends of the branches in spring and summer.

White and purple fruits follow the flowers. The fruits are edible but taste terrible!

14. Spotted gum (*Eucalyptus maculata*)



Spotted gum is a medium sized to very tall forest tree with a distinctively straight trunk.

The smooth bark is light blue-grey but spotted with yellow, dark grey, red, and other colors when the bark sheds.

Spotted grey gum is drought tolerant and flowers from May to September.