



An Introduction to the Borrow Pits to Rowes Bay Learnscape

Creek to Coral Transect

What's a Learnscape?

Townsville city is nestled around the Ross River, and this location makes it ideal to study the wider catchment and diverse ecosystems that step from the Ross Dam, following the river as it meanders through the city, and finally flowing into to the sea.

The Borrow Pits to Rowes Bay Learnscape project offers a catchment-based approach to promote sustainability in the areas of water, energy and nature conservation. This project links the Upper Ross to the coast through an educational eco-trail, which links over 20 different locations across Townsville and Magnetic Island.

Two key sites on the transect

At the top of the Ross River catchment is the Borrow Pits, located next to the base of the Ross River Dam. This Learnscape is one of the two major sites focused on in this project. Powerlink Queensland has joined council as a Together Townsville partner to install further infrastructure and revegetation with local native species in order to improve access, allow interpretative studies and enhance biodiversity.

Rowes Bay Environmental Depot is the end destination along the eco-trail. This site houses the environmental reserve and wetland, as well as the Rowes Bay Sustainable House. A number of organisations have funded the expanding of infrastructure, sustainable retrofitting, and revegetation including council, Powerlink and Eco Biz.

When completed, the community will have easy access to the wetland area and opportunities to discover sustainable house features, including a dry tropics water smart garden, bush tucker garden and sustainable energy use around the home.

How to book a tour

Tours along the Learnscape can be tailored to specific needs by focusing on either water use and conservation, energy use and conservation, and conservation of nature and biodiversity, or a combination of all three topics.

Factsheets

Each Learnscape along the eco trail will have its own fact sheet, available for download from council's website, with the total suite including:

- The Borrow Pits
- Ross River Dam
- Powerlink Queensland's Ross Substation
- Baroona Trail
- Ross River Landcare
- Loam Island
- Riverway
- EcoActive Centre
- Townsville City Council Administration and Civic Centre
- Upper Louisa Creek
- Greg Jabbs Court natural channel design
- Louisa Creek gross pollutant trap
- Mundy Creek Revegetation
- Rowes Bay Sustainability Depot
- Rowes Bay Environmental Reserve (Wetland)
- Rowes Bay Sustainable House

To find out more contact council on 4727 9000 or email Integrated Sustainability Services at sustainable@townsville.qld.gov.au