

## Keep our koalas safe

- **Koala sightings**

Report all sightings of koalas to 4645 4601 or [koalatown@campbelltown.nsw.gov.au](mailto:koalatown@campbelltown.nsw.gov.au) or download the I Spy Koala App on Android and Apple.

- **Koalas and dogs**

If you see a dog come into contact with a koala, call a wildlife rescue group immediately. Koalas can easily sustain life threatening injuries from dogs, so simply reporting a dog attack could save a koala.

- **Pet management**

Always keep dogs leashed in bushland areas and contain dogs during twilight hours; either by keeping them inside the house, on a verandah, or confined in a dog-proof yard.

- **Conserve koala habitat**

Keep native trees on your property. Koalas need to climb down to the ground to move between trees in their search for food, so the more trees around means the better chance koalas will have to avoid these threats.



Koala hospitalised for injuries.

## Off leash dog parks

We provide leash free areas for the purpose of socialising and exercising dogs.

Our facilities are open seven days per week during daylight hours.

Suburb	Location	Description
Minto	7-9 Eagleview Road	Perimeter fencing with seating and water service within the designated area.
Raby	Hurricane Drive	Near the Raby Sports Complex, dog agility equipment and shade structure available.
St Helens Park	Kellerman Drive	South eastern corner of Mary Brookes Reserve, dog agility equipment and shade structure available.
Glenfield	Fawcett Street	Kennett Park, located next to the baseball field.
Macquarie Fields	Macquarie Road	Milton Park, perimeter fencing, separate enclosed area for smaller dogs. Entrance is via Macquarie Road, Macquarie Fields.
Bradbury	156 St Johns Road	Baden Powell Reserve, newly constructed with agility, seating and water facilities.

Always keep dogs leashed in bushland areas.

**For more information on our koalas, head to**

[Campbelltown.nsw.gov.au/koalatown](http://Campbelltown.nsw.gov.au/koalatown)

**Contact**

P: 4645 4000 or e: [koalatown@campbelltown.nsw.gov.au](mailto:koalatown@campbelltown.nsw.gov.au)

# Living with Dogs in Koala Habitat





## Campbelltown koalas

Campbelltown is home to a small but significant threatened population of koalas. Current population estimates indicate that there are approximately 300 koalas in the Campbelltown Local Government Area (LGA). This iconic species is valued highly by our community, and we place great emphasis on their protection.

Koalas have suffered a significant decline in numbers across NSW, and for this reason are a threatened species, listed as 'vulnerable' under both state and commonwealth legislation.

With so much habitat already lost and fragmented as a result of urban expansion, a number of associated risks continue to threaten our koalas; including the continued removal of vegetation, vehicle strikes, and dog attacks.

To ensure that our koala population is around for future generations, it is important that we work together to reduce impacts and threats to koalas in urban areas, such as the significant risk posed by dog attacks.

## Koala behaviour

Koalas are mostly nocturnal, meaning they are generally asleep during the day and awake at night. The home ranges of koalas are made up of several food trees, that are often referred to as 'home trees' and are visited regularly. Although each koala will have its own home range, these areas overlap with those of other koalas. The size of each home range depends on the quality of the habitat, with males having larger home ranges than females.

Land clearing and urban development have largely fragmented koala habitat into remnant patches, forcing koalas to spend more time on the ground, travelling further distances in search of suitable food trees. This exposes them to greater risks such as the threats posed by cars and dogs.

In semi-urban areas, such as Campbelltown, koala movements often involve venturing into yards that exist in between patches of bushland habitat. With a few simple pet ownership tips, the risk of dog attacks on koalas can be greatly reduced, and even prevented.

## Dogs and koalas

There are more than 33,000 registered dogs in the Campbelltown LGA, with many more unregistered. Dogs are predatory animals, and their natural instincts primarily involve hunt and chase behaviours.

### Important facts

- Dog attacks are more likely to occur during the koala breeding season (August - February).
- The majority of dog attacks on koalas take place inside backyards, and occur at night.
- If there is more than one dog in a yard, a koala attack is more likely to occur.
- 96% of attacks on koalas are by dogs weighing more than 10kg.
- More than 80% of koalas attacked by dogs don't survive injuries sustained in the attack.
- Koalas have very thin skin, making their internal organs vulnerable to attack. Koalas can still die from internal injuries, even if their skin isn't punctured.

