



# Plant a Tree at East Ballina for World Wetlands Day 2012

WetlandCare Australia, in partnership with EnviTE Environmental Training and Employment Inc. and the East Ballina Lions Club, would like to invite you to come along and join in the fun at our World Wetlands Day tree planting celebration. We are expecting to plant over 1000 trees while meeting new friends, getting some fresh air and making a positive difference to our unique local environment.

**Where:** Ainsworth Close, East Ballina, next to Ballina Golf Course – see map overleaf.

**When:** Sunday the 5th February

**Time:** 9am-12pm

**What to bring:** plenty of water, a hat, sunscreen, sturdy shoes and gloves (if you have them, if not we will have some available on the day).

## Why is the East Ballina Wetland Reserve so important?

This reserve is a very valuable part of the local environment. Not only does it provide habitat for important flora and fauna species but it also contains three endangered ecological vegetation communities;

- Littoral Rainforest
- Swamp Oak Forest
- Coastal Saltmarsh

The reserve also hosts migratory shorebirds such as the bar-tailed godwit, below. These birds travel thousands of kilometres (without stopping!) from their home in the northern hemisphere to spend the summer in Ballina. They can be found gracing our shores from around September to April.



The coastal hibiscus, *Hibiscus tiliaceus*, is a common tree found in coastal areas. Photo: Adam Gosling



A bar-tailed godwit, *Limosa lapponica*, relaxes at East Ballina before making the long journey back home to the northern hemisphere. Photo: Adam Gosling

## About us:

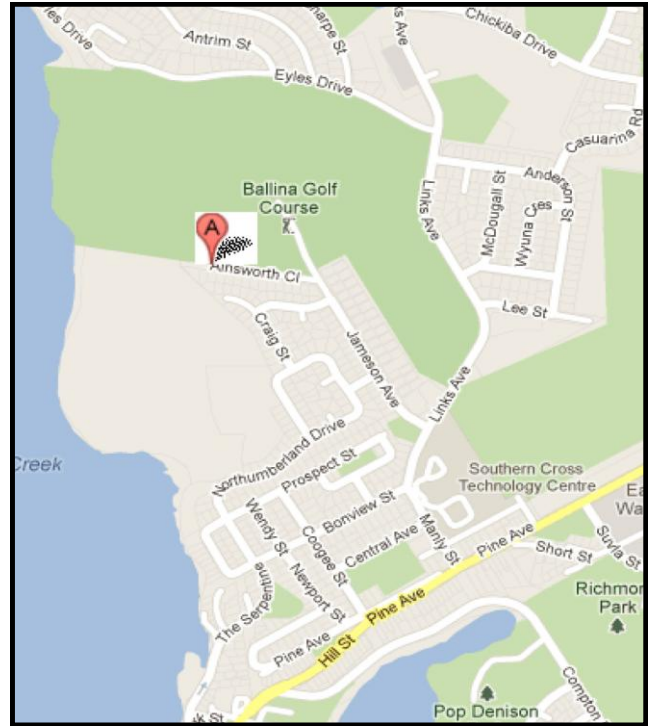
WetlandCare Australia has for over 20 years been dedicated to protecting and restoring Australian wetlands and inspiring others to get involved. Our founders envisioned a future for restoring networks of wetlands across Australia that would provide the connectivity to ensure healthy functioning ecosystems that support life.

## The Coastal 20 Project:

This tree planting event is part of WetlandCare Australia's Coastal 20 project. The Coastal 20 wetlands restoration project is a \$2.5 million project that has been funded under the Australian Government's Caring for Our Country program. WetlandCare Australia is working in partnership with community, government and industry bodies to undertake the restoration of 20 iconic coastal wetlands. These wetlands are biodiversity hotspots and have regional and international significance. They face increasing human and environmental pressures which threaten their environmental, cultural, social and economic values. North Creek is one of the important Coastal 20 sites that will receive help through this project. The trees you plant at East Ballina will help to repair some of the damage to this area that has occurred in the past.

## Want to know more about North Creek?

There will be a photographic display at the Northern Rivers Community Gallery café from 10am Thursday the 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb to 2.30pm Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> of February, that shows the changes to the North Creek environment over time. Visitors can also view the winning works from the WetlandCare Australia National Art and Photography competition while they are there. WetlandCare Australia also has many other events occurring across NSW and Qld to celebrate World Wetlands Day. Details of these events can be found on our website: [www.wetlandcare.com.au](http://www.wetlandcare.com.au)



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FOR  
OUR  
COUNTRY



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### Did you know?

World Wetlands Day is celebrated internationally every year to mark the anniversary of the signing of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (the Ramsar Convention) in Ramsar, Iran, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1971. This year's theme is Wetlands and Tourism.

For further information please contact:

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