

KOALA SAFE BACKYARDS

Urban Sprawl

As the urban sprawl continues to increase to meet human population demands, more and more interactions/encounters occur between humans and our native wildlife, such as the koala. However, many koalas find themselves in dangerous situations if they find themselves in a backyard. Read below to find out what you could do to help this iconic Aussie species.



Koalas and Pet Dogs

Sadly, koalas and (most) pet dogs do not get along. Approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ of all koalas admitted to Currumbin Wildlife Hospital are due to dog attack, with most occurring in residential backyards.

One simple step you can do is install a koala pole. A simple treated pine koala securely leaning against a fence is enough to save a koala, allowing it to climb to safety and be free of danger from your beloved pooch.

Koalas and Swimming Pools

Koalas can swim over short distances relatively well. However, we often see koalas drown in backyard swimming pools if they are unable to pull themselves out and fatigue.

By simply securing a thick rope outside of the pool and having the other end floating in the pool, it may give a koala a chance to pull itself up and out of your pool (or even a small child).

Alternatively, ensure your pool has a koala-proof fence as well as a child-proof fence or cover your pool with a pool covering when not in use.

