# living with Mildlife

### Koalas

## The six misconceptions about koalas and dogs

#### 1. My dog wouldn't hurt anything.

Your dog may never have seen a koala. Most dogs feel threatened by the sight of a koala in the yard and will naturally attack.

#### 2. My dog would only play with it.

Even a quick bite is enough to kill a koala. Their skin is very soft and internal organs are easily punctured.

#### 3. It's cruel to confine or restrain a dog.

By restraining dogs, especially at night when koalas are most active, many attacks can be avoided. Dogs soon enjoy the routine of being 'put to bed' or 'denned' each night.

## 4. I want my dogs loose on my property for protection.

Unrestrained dogs can be baited or distracted. Your dog is much safer at the house where he or she can guard you best.

#### 5. But I have a fence and no trees in my yard.

Koalas can climb most fences and often cross yards to reach other nearby trees.

## 6. There's plenty of bush for koalas at the end of the street.

Koalas no longer rely on remnant bushland. Suburban gardens are a part of their territory.

#### Did you know?

At least two koalas are killed by dogs every week in South East Queensland. For a koala, a dog bite can easily lead to a cruel death.

Please don't let this happen in your backyard!

This information was supplied by the Koala Action Group (KAG)

