

SO MANY BENEFITS!

It's never too late to start being physically active. Physical activity has a number of benefits, regardless of your age, which may assist to:

- boost energy levels and improve mood
- control weight
- give you time to think
- provide time with friends or family
- cut car induced air pollution.

WALKING HINTS

1. Make walking part of your day

Choose a time that suits you and that you can stick to. Opportunities include:

- walking your dog
- taking the stairs
- parking the car further away.

2. Set yourself goals

Have a target in mind eg. Sandfly Creek to Iluka Park three times a week. This can be a great incentive. Remember to start out slowly and build up gradually.

3. Go with a friend

A walking partner, such as a friend, workmate, spouse or dog can keep you motivated and on track. For more information about *Just Walk It* walking groups visit the Heart Foundation website: www.heartfoundation.com.au

HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH?

10,000 steps is the suggested daily step goal for a healthy adult. You can accumulate this across the whole day. You should aim to put together at least 30 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity on most, preferably all, days. Advances in technology mean that these days we are less active. It's up to us to make the choice to be more active.

WALKING CHECKLIST

- Wear comfortable shoes
- Wear light coloured clothing, a broad brimmed hat and apply sunscreen (SPF 30+)
- Walk in the morning and evening to avoid the heat of the day
- Drink plenty of water
- Walk at a moderate pace (can talk but not sing)
- Warm up and cool down by gently stretching
- Slow down if you feel breathless or uncomfortable
- If you have chest pain stop immediately and seek medical advice

CONTACT DETAILS

This brochure has been developed by the Mackay Regional Council with assistance from Queensland Health's Tropical Regional Services – Mackay Public Health Unit, as part of the Active Mackay CBD project.

For more information visit:

www.10000steps.org.au
www.mackay.qld.gov.au

Funded by:

*Eat Well Be Active (Queensland Government),
Queensland Health
and Mackay Regional Council*



WALKWAYS
EVERY STEP COUNTS

KEEP OUR PATHS SAFE!

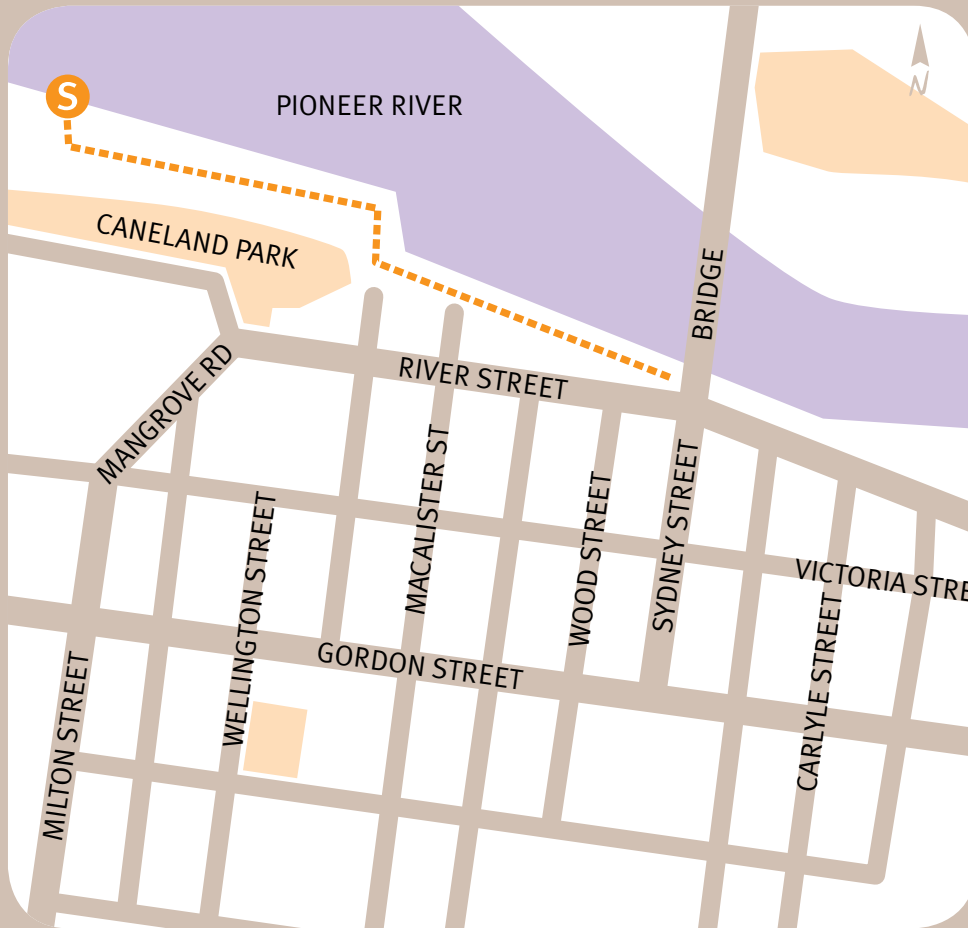
Please report paths that are in need of repair to the Mackay Regional Council.
Phone 1300 MACKAY (1300 622 529).



WALKWAYS AVAILABLE IN MACKAY CITY CENTRE

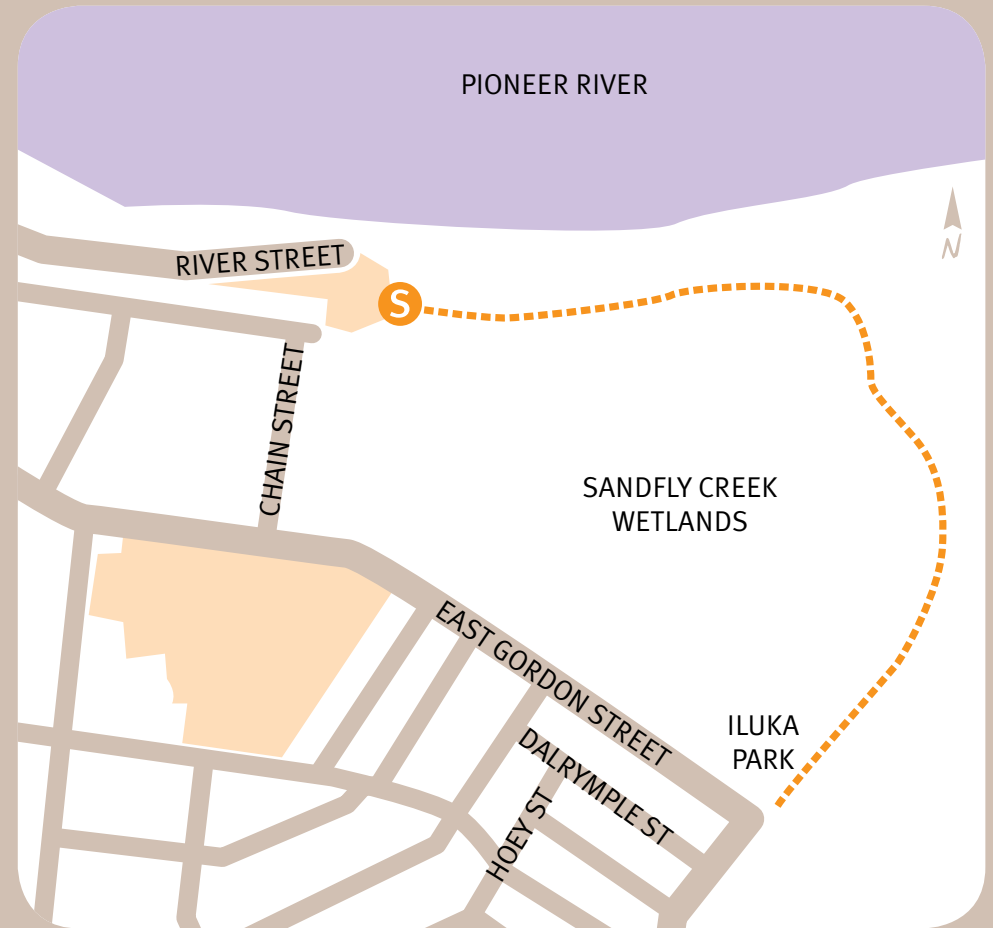
CANELAND PARK TO FORGAN BRIDGE:

1580 STEPS (ONE WAY) / 1200 METRES





SANDFLY CREEK TO ILUKA PARK:

(SANDFLY CREEK ENVIRONMENT WALK) 2730 STEPS (ONE WAY) / 2080 METRES



MAP KEY: **S** START/FINISH **---** WALKWAY **P** PARKING ***** PLAYGROUND

Every 250 steps a stencil  or distance marker  will guide your walk. Walks differ in distance as the average step varies from 0.6-0.8m.