

**Friends of Wireless Hill**

**Volunteering Opportunity**

**September 2020**

Weather permitting, the Friends of Wireless Hill will survey the macrofauna (mostly the invertebrates such as insects and spiders but also reptiles and amphibians) at Wireless Hill.

We need volunteers for three shifts per day:

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| Monday 7th September:  | Morning: Digging and establishing pit traps |
|  | Afternoon: Monitoring traps, netting |
|  | Evening: Monitoring traps, monitoring light trap |
| Tuesday 8th September | Morning: Monitoring traps, netting |
|  | Afternoon: Monitoring traps, netting |
|  | Evening: Monitoring traps, monitoring light trap |
| Wednesday 9th September | Morning: Monitoring traps, netting |
|  | Afternoon: Monitoring traps, netting |
|  | Evening: Monitoring traps, monitoring light trap |
| Thursday 10th September  | Morning: Disassembling pit traps |

David Knowles from Spineless Wonders will undertake the survey with help from the Friends and the local community. Animals are caught and photographed then released.

Training and equipment will be provided. Please contact Margaret Matthews 0402 105 649/ s3mmatthews@hotmail.com if you would like more information or if you would like to be involved.

This will be the first invertebrate survey done in the City of Melville. It is very important for the ongoing health of the plants and animals at Wireless Hill that we have the right pollinators, especially for orchids, and enough insect food for birds, many of which are also pollinators. Insect populations are in decline throughout the world, mostly due to the use of pesticides and insecticides and habitat loss. There are actions we can take if we need to assist insect populations, such as particular plantings and managing light pollution sources.

The money has been provided by the Federal Government Community Environment Program through the Electoral Office of our local member the Hon Ben Morton MP.