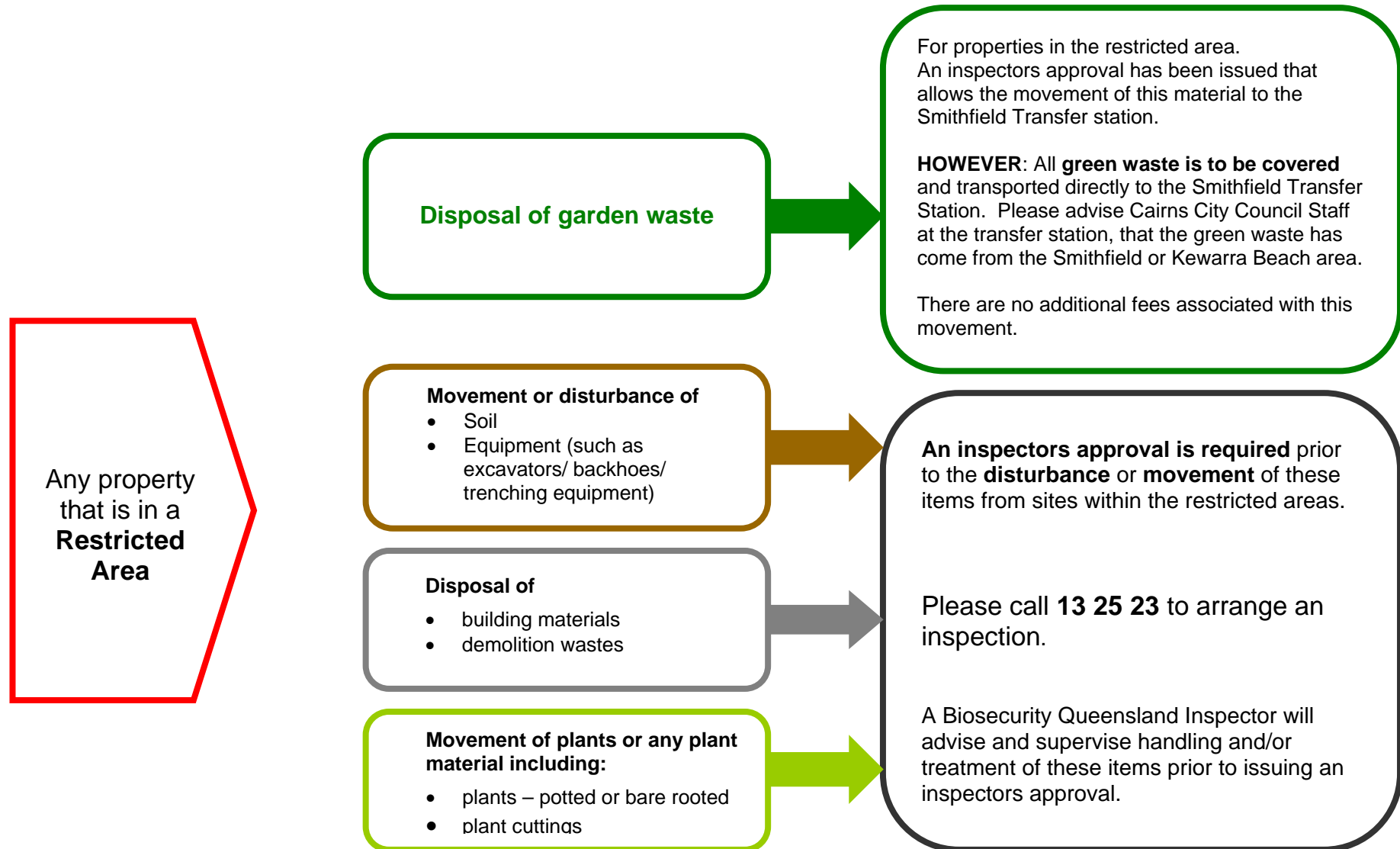


# Electric Ant Movement Control Flowchart



Penalties exist for breaching these regulations. Individuals and corporations may be prosecuted under the *Plant Protection Act 1989* if movement restrictions are not observed. There are no penalties for having electric ants but the Biosecurity Queensland Control Centre must be notified if the presence of electric ants is suspected.

# Electric Ant Eradication

August 2007

## Residential Movement Controls Fact Sheet

The invasive pest electric ant has been found in the Smithfield and Kewarra Beach suburbs of Cairns, Queensland. A treatment and surveillance program is currently being administered by Biosecurity Queensland, Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries. As part of this response, they have identified areas surrounding the known infestations in which it is necessary to restrict the movement of *high risk materials*, to contain any further spread of this invasive pest.

*High risk materials*: many items are included in this category as electric ants can nest in many different materials. When you need to move something, ask yourself “could ants live in this?” and take the necessary precautions. If unsure, please contact the DPI&F to check.

### High risk materials include:

- **plants** and plant related items such as pot plants, cuttings,
- **soil** and anything with soil attached such as turf,
- **waste** material other than soil, such as building wastes and other material extracted from the ground as part of building construction,
- **containers** such as bee hives, bins, cartons, crates, pallets, pots,
- **baled hay or straw**,
- **equipment** used for disturbing the soil or in construction such as earthmoving machinery, gardening tools, formwork, scaffolding etc.

**When dealing with high risk** materials or activities, residents and businesses must comply with the following restrictions:

1. **Disposal of garden waste.** All garden cuttings and garden waste must be taken to Smithfield Transfer Station and disposed of in the special area set aside for Smithfield and Kewarra Beach green waste.

An Inspectors Approval is required **prior** to the disturbance or movement of the following items (points 2 – 4) from sites within the restricted area. Please call 13 25 23 to arrange an inspection.

2. **Disposal of building materials, construction and demolition waste.** All building materials are to be transported to Lemura Sands Landfill site at Yorkey’s Knob Road. Lemura Sands must be advised that materials have come from a property under movement restrictions.
3. **Movement of potted plants.** All potted plants moved from the restricted area must be chemically treated and an approval issued by a Biosecurity Queensland Inspector.
4. **Disturbance or movement of soil.** Prior to disturbing the soil for any earth works (eg: landscaping, building a pool, digging a driveway etc) call to arrange a site inspection.

**For further information or to arrange an inspection please call DPI&F on 13 25 23.**