

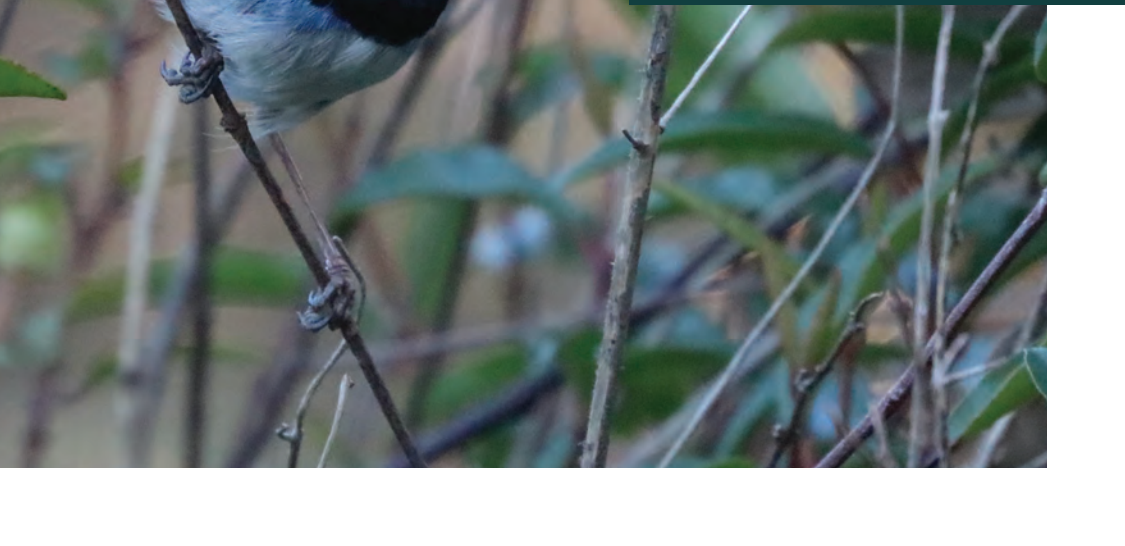


Gardens for Wildlife:

TALL FORESTS



**CORANGAMITE
SHIRE**



We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land, the Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waterways, culture and community dating back tens of thousands of years.

We pay our respect to their ancestors and to Elders, past, present and emerging. We pay respect to their language and cultural traditions, beliefs and values. We extend this respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people recognising the importance of reconciliation. We seek to move forward together with greater knowledge, with inclusion, and respecting a shared history.

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Introduction

Local plants provide for our unique wildlife and bring the beauty of nature to our home.

Joining an increasing number of communities creating wildlife gardens across the State, the Corangamite Shire has developed two Gardens for Wildlife booklets that focus on the two major bioregions of the shire: the Volcanic Plains to the north and the Tall Forests to the south.

This southern-focused booklet is intended to assist Heytesbury district residents to design and plant their garden – or even small patches of garden – to benefit our wildlife.

The Heytesbury district stretches from the woodlands of the Otway foothills to the heathland of the coastal plain. This region contains unique flora and fauna making it an environmentally significant ecosystem.

Biodiversity is declining every year. but you can turn this tide of decline and ensure the health of our ecosystems into the future by planting with a purpose using local plants. You can become a critical force for change and create a beautiful and safe haven for our unique wildlife.



If you live in the north of Corangamite Shire download the free Gardens for Wildlife:

Volcanic Plains at lismorelpg.wixsite.com/lpg/allprojects/gardens-for-wildlife-booklet

Habitat and biodiversity

Development and population growth, farmland clearance, introduced pests and weeds – together with the effects of bushfires and the impacts of a changing climate – are increasing pressure on native wildlife. As these threats increase, native animal habitat becomes more isolated and fragmented. This makes it difficult for wildlife to breed, forage, find shelter, and move across the landscape, resulting in a decline in species diversity and abundance.

Habitat

The environment where an animal naturally lives or occurs.

Biodiversity

The variety of plant and animal species in an environment, genetic difference within and between species, and differences between the ecological systems in which they live.

Indigenous plants:

- are perfectly suited to our local soils and climate
- have greater resistance to disease
- attract and provide food and shelter for local native birds, insects, and other animals
- require little maintenance to keep them looking healthy
- strengthen local wildlife corridors and so help wildlife cope with climate change
- reflect Corangamite Shire's natural character, preserving and enhancing a sense of local identity and place
- contribute to the preservation of Corangamite's natural biodiversity.

Indigenous or locally native plants are those that occur naturally in a given area, which means not only are they well suited to local conditions but also that they have evolved alongside native wildlife and will therefore provide the best source of food and shelter for native animals. The greater the variety of indigenous plant species in the landscape, the more likely native wildlife is to thrive.

A sample selection of regionally local plants, the vegetation types in which

they are found, and the benefits they provide to wildlife is featured in this guide.

An introduced plant is also commonly known as a weed. These plants can cause problems by outcompeting indigenous plants and providing harbour to introduced pest animal species. The Garden Escapees and Invaders section featured in this guide will help you to replace introduced plants with indigenous plants.

Map of Corangamite Bioregions



VICTORIAN VOLCANIC PLAIN [Purple Box]

WARRNAMBOOL PLAIN [Orange Box]

Our local vegetation

Corangamite Shire is dominated by two main bioregions: the Victorian Volcanic Plain to the north and the Warrnambool Plain to the south.

Bioregions are large, geographically distinct areas of land with common characteristics such as geology, landform patterns, climate, ecological features and plant and animal communities.

Within each bioregion there are distinct native vegetation plant communities known as Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs).

EVCs are vegetation groupings based on the type of plants, plant species, vegetation structures and ecological features found in a particular geographical area.

Detailed maps of EVCs within Corangamite can be found at:

corangamite.vic.gov.au/corangamite.vic.gov.au/NativeVegetation

Victorian Volcanic Plain Bioregion (VVP) Warrnambool Plain Bioregion (WAP)

Plains Native Grassland and Plains Grassy Woodland EVCs are now classified as Endangered with less than 2.3% of the original Plains Grassy woodland and less than 1.3% of the Plains Native Grassland in the VVP remaining.

Plains Native Grassland and Plains Grassy Woodland are now restricted to small areas of roadsides, the margins of lakes and small, scattered remnants on private land.

Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland and Estuarine Wetland EVCs in the coastal plains and Lowland Forest EVC is now classified as Depleted.

Small areas of Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland can be found on flat or undulating areas, Lowland Forest in a wide variety of geological areas and Estuarine Wetland EVC in the coastal inlets of the Shire.



Victorian Volcanic Plain



Warrnambool Plain

Healthy soils

Although indigenous plants are adapted to local soils, better results can be obtained by improving the soil.

Corangamite soils vary from the clay soil of the Volcanic Plains to the clay loam of the Heytesbury Forest to the sandier soil of the coast and east of the Shire. To determine the soil type/s across your garden conduct simple soil type tests.

If you have a clay soil that is holding too much water or dries out in summer to be very hard, add a dusting of gypsum and organic matter such as aged animal manure and compost.

A potential problem with sandy soils is that once they have dried out they can become water repellent - water will bead on the surface rather than soaking in. To improve a sandy soil, regularly apply organic matter and mulch.

To improve loam soils, apply leaf litter and mulch. This will replenish nutrients taken up by your plants.

Fungi

Soil fungi (together with microbes) play an essential role in improving soil quality and plant health.

Fungi breaks down plant and animal debris releasing nutrients back into the soil for plants to grow.

The addition of these smaller, broken down materials mesh particles together, create more air spaces, and improves water holding capacity and drainage increasing soil structure.

Fungal hyphae (fine, thread-like filaments) help decrease plant susceptibility to pests and diseases.

Encourage fungi in your garden by providing plenty of organic matter, limit the amount of soil disturbance, ensure sufficient water, and avoid chemicals.

Simple soil test

To work out your garden soil type simply take a handful of slightly moist soil and squeeze it. If it forms a smooth ball, it's a clay soil. If it does not hold form and simply falls apart, it's a sandy soil. If it roughly holds together, but falls apart readily when squeezed, it's a loam soil.



Our unique wildlife

The following species, some of which are struggling to survive the impacts of urbanisation, may be attracted to your garden.

Conservation status in this booklet refers to the current Threatened List of the Victorian Flora and Fauna Guarantee 1988 Act.



Barking Owl

Ninox connivens connivens

Conservation Status: Critically Endangered.

Habitat: Open dry eucalypt woodland, Riparian scrub, Melaleuca woodland.

Diet: Small to medium-sized mammals.

Threats: Habitat loss especially loss of hollow-bearing trees. Pesticides. Vehicle collisions. Barbed wire fences. Firewood harvesting.



Swamp Antechinus

Antechinus minimus maritimus

Conservation status: Vulnerable.

Habitat: Dense understorey cover mostly in wet heath, heathy woodland, sedgeland and dense tussock grassland, rarely above 200 m.

Diet: Invertebrates dug from the topsoil and litter.

Threats: Draining of swamps. Foxes and cats. Wildfire. Loss of habitat and corridors.



Grey Goshawk

Accipiter novaehollandiae

Conservation status: Endangered.

Habitat: Tall wet forests.

Diet: Rabbits, possums, birds, reptiles and insects.

Threats: Loss of mature forests. Shooting. Direct and secondary poisoning from fox baits and rabbit control poisons.



Southern Toadlet
Pseudophryne semimarmorata

Conservation Status: Endangered.
Habitat: Dry sclerophyll (gum) forests under bark, logs and leaf litter where it lives in small tunnels.
Diet: Small invertebrates including mosquitoes, moths and flies.
Threats: Habitat loss. Logging. Firewood collection. Rising salinity. Pesticides. Chytrid fungus.



Kreffft's Glider (formerly known as Sugar Glider)
Petaurus notatus

Conservation Status: Not threatened.
Habitat: Wet and dry forests and woodlands with mature trees and well-developed hollows.
Diet: Nectar, pollen, seeds, insects, small birds and their eggs.
Threats: Habitat loss. Cats and foxes. Bushfires. Barbed-wire fences.



Blotched Blue-tongue Lizard
Tiliqua nigrolutea

Conservation Status: Not threatened.
Habitat: Open country with lots of ground cover such as tussocky grasses or leaf litter.
Diet: Plant material, crickets, snails, slugs, caterpillars and beetles.
Threats: Poisoning from snail baits and insecticides. Cats and dogs. Vehicle collisions.



White-footed Dunnart
Sminthopsis leucopus

Conservation Status: Vulnerable.
Habitat: Dense heath understory or mid-story plants in forest and woodlands, coastal tussock grasslands, sedgeland and wet heath.
Diet: Wide variety of invertebrates, mostly insects.
Threats: Logging. Land clearing. Careless burning regimes. Foxes, cats and dogs.

Woodland birds

One third of birds require woodlands to survive.

Conservation Status: Threatened and declining.

Habitat: Variety of woodlands.

Diet: Nectar feeders, seed eaters, ground foragers, insectivores and predatory birds.

Threats: Land clearing. Loss of understorey plants. Loss of habitat corridors; foxes and cats: and aggressive introduced birds such as Noisy miners.



Powerful Owl
Ninox strenua

Conservation Status: Vulnerable.

Habitat: Forests and woodlands.

Diet: Mainly tree-dwelling marsupials and roosting birds.

Threats: Habitat loss, especially of large tree hollows.



Southern Brown Bandicoot
Isodon obesulus obesulus

Conservation Status: Near threatened.

Habitat: Open forest, heathland.

Diet: Invertebrates, plant roots, ferns and fungi.

Threats: Habitat loss. Cats and foxes. Vehicle collisions.



Gang-gang Cockatoo
Callocephalon fimbriatum

Conservation status: Not threatened.

Habitat: Forest and woodlands.

Diet: Mainly seeds, but also fruit, berries and insects.

Threats: Habitat loss. Aggressive pest birds.

Ways to help protect wildlife

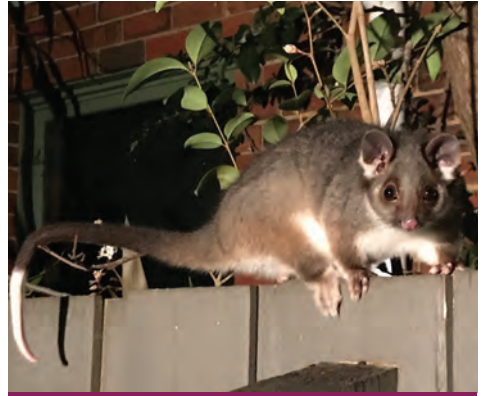
Common Brushtail and Ringtail possums have adapted very well to urban life! As their natural homes have been removed, they have relocated into our roof spaces and nest in our gardens.

How to keep possums out:

- Plant indigenous flowering shrubs and trees to provide food and nesting sites.
- Block any entry points to your roof space.
- If feasible, keep lights on at night around their nest and any entry points.
- Use tree guards or wire covers to protect young plants.
- Use adjustable collars (strips of hard plastic or soft metal) around tree trunks to stop possums climbing up trees next to your house.
- Possums are protected native animals. Fines and penalties apply for harming them.

How to protect gum trees from koalas:

- Koalas usually move on from feeding in a tree after 2-3 days.
- If you believe a gum tree in your garden needs some recovery time from koala feeding consider using an adjustable collar around the trunk of the tree until it has recovered.



Common Ringtail Possum (SM)



Common Brushtail Possum (NL)



Koala

Build an insect hotel

You can use any untreated timber to make a frame. Add a simple roof overhang to keep the rain out. Avoid glues and paints that may be toxic. Create interesting nooks and crannies with a variety of natural materials such as straw, sheoak cones, pieces of wood, rolled up cardboard and drilled timber blocks.

If you are drilling holes in wood to create burrows, drill holes of varying size ranging from 5-10 mm wide and 15-80 mm deep. Make the holes smooth and blind (not right through the timber) and slope them slightly upward to help keep them dry.

Or you can fill a pipe with clay and add some holes. Or simply bundle together some straws or bamboo and see who moves in!

Locate your insect hotel with shelter from strong sun, rain and wind. Consider making a few insect hotels and locating them in different sections of your garden such as a high sunny location and a low shady spot.



Insect hotel

Nest box

Tree hollows and nest boxes

Trees with hollows and the animals that depend on them are disappearing. Natural tree hollows are valuable and essential for the survival of many wildlife species. They provide refuge from the weather and predators, and safe sites for roosting and breeding. Destroying living or dead hollow-bearing trees displaces or kills wildlife dependant on those hollows.

In Victoria a planning permit is usually required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation. There are some exceptions from this requirement. To find out more visit environment.vic.gov.au/native-vegetation or contact Council.

Avoid removing any established trees that contain hollows. They are essential for shelter and breeding for many birds such as parrots, treecreepers, kingfishers and owls. Mammals such as microbats, sugar gliders, antechinus and phascogales also need hollows to survive. If you are concerned about the safety of a dead tree consult with an arborist and see if they can habitat prune the tree or salvage any hollows to be relocated on your property.

An effective way of providing an alternative to a natural tree hollow is by providing a nest box.

If you do not have any hollow-bearing trees on your property consider installing nest boxes. Different species of wildlife require different nest boxes to suit their needs. Seek advice on the type of nest box required, where to locate it and how to maintain your nest box.

For more information visit: swift.net.au/resources/14_nestboxes.pdf

Pet control

Domestic cats and dogs are one of the main threats to our native wildlife. Keep your dog securely confined to your property and your cat inside.

Cats do not have to roam. Providing their basic needs are met, cats live approximately three times longer when secured to their own property. For more information on keeping your cat safe and happy at home visit:

catsafe.org.au

Rodent control

Rats and mice are a common problem wherever people live. Often our response is to lay rodent bait and hope they disappear. Unfortunately if an owl or kookaburra then eats the dead mouse it will ingest the poison with potentially fatal results. Before reaching for the bait ensure you have picked up fallen fruit in the garden, limited access to pet food and sealed potential roof/cavity access points. Try snap traps or electric traps. To find out more about alternative choices visit: **birdlife.org.au/rodent-control**

Netting

Tree netting is a popular way to protect fruit from wildlife, but the wrong type of netting can trap animals resulting in injury and death. If you use netting choose a mesh size less than 5 mm x 5 mm. For more information visit: **wildlifefriendlyfencing.com/WFF/Netting.html**

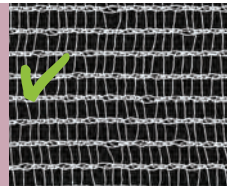


Cat enclosure attached to the house



Owl with mouse (RBT)

If you can insert your finger through the netting it is capable of trapping wildlife.



Avoid supplementary feeding

Tempting as it may be to put out seed for parrots or nectar feeder cylinders for honeyeaters, you may be causing them more harm than good.

Wildlife can become dependent on artificial food that may in some situations lead to malnutrition. They can become dependent and fail to eat a wide range of natural food types. Wildlife that expects to be fed by humans can also become aggressive and demanding. Feeding stations where birds eat and defecate can greatly increase the spread of disease.

Rather than artificially feeding wildlife, plant lots of food-producing native plants and provide a fresh, clean supply of water!

Vehicle strikes

Wildlife vehicle strikes contribute to death and injury of many wildlife species. Reducing your driving speed at dawn, dusk and night-time will give you more time to spot wildlife and the animals an opportunity to move off the road.

Expert help

If you find sick, injured or orphaned wildlife, immediately call for assistance. Do not try to unnecessarily handle the animal. Always treat wildlife with caution, especially when distressed or injured. Wherever possible, wait for an experienced person to arrive.

Be prepared in case you find injured wildlife. Add Wildlife Victoria's emergency phone number to your phone contacts: **(03) 8400 7300**.



Rainbow Lorikeets



Kangaroo warning road sign



Barking Owl caught in barbed wire (WFF)

Garden Design

Creating your indigenous garden

Whether you are designing a new garden or wanting to make an existing garden bed to be more enticing for wildlife, one of the best things you can do is observe your garden for a year. This will provide an accurate picture of light, shade and moisture variation through all the seasons. Pay attention also to your local environment and what plants thrive under local climate and soil conditions.

The starting point with garden design is to do a site analysis of your garden. Draw a rough mudmap of your site

marking the areas exposed to the hot sun and northerly winds or heavily shaded sites. This will influence what plants are appropriate for different sections of your garden and what wildlife you hope to attract.

It is important to work with your site. If you know a section of your garden is shady and damp, select plants that are suited to those conditions, such as frog attracting species, rather than trying to change the site.



Create layers
within your
garden to add
interest.

Design Elements

There are no hard and fast rules when designing a garden for wildlife, other than trying to mimic some natural conditions. Local wildlife will generally benefit most from indigenous plants, but your garden doesn't need to be exclusively indigenous.

Gardens for wildlife can be designed in different styles - they can be formal, a riot of colour in a cottage style, or an informal natural look.

Consider how you use your garden and incorporate elements such as a shady seat where you can sit and watch birds and butterflies.

Include **feature elements** such as a striking tree, a swathe of tussock grasses or a frog pond to create interest as well as habitat.

Consider the **flowering times** of different plant species and aim to have a year supply of colour and food for wildlife.

Include **habitat elements** such as bird baths near prickly shrubs for protection, large flat rocks for lizards to warm up or a pond with refuge logs for frogs.

Consider the **growing requirements** of each plant species and group together those with similar requirements for water and light to maximise efficiency of water use.

Ensure you are aware of the mature size of your plants to avoid ending up with a 60 m gum tree towering over your house!

If you are thinking of replacing lots of plants in your garden, a **staged approach** is important. This way any animals that already use your garden won't be 'shocked' when the plants are removed. Instead you will provide a slow transition to more wildlife friendly species.

Before you start to plan your new garden remember to look up for powerlines and check for services below ground. It may be a wasted effort to plant extensively in easements where access for maintenance and other works may be required.

Habitat Gardening

Native animals need food, water and shelter for their populations to survive. Each species has particular habitat needs. The following are some important factors to include when creating your garden for wildlife.

Food

Plants that produce nectar, pollen, fruit, seeds, leaves and roots provide food for many of our native animals. Dead plant material can also be a source of food. Insects that live and feed on the plants, mulch and soil in turn provide food for birds, lizards, frogs, mammals and other invertebrates.

Host plants

Some insects, such as butterflies, only lay their eggs on certain plants known as host plants. Most native caterpillars are small, shy and nocturnal leaving little evidence of their presence in your garden. If you want butterflies to visit your garden, include host plants such as Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*) for Common Brown Butterflies or Everlasting Daisies (*Xerochrysum* species) for Australian Painted Lady Butterflies.



Yellow-faced Honeyeater (NB)



Common Brown Butterfly



Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*)



Short-beaked Echidna



Striated Thornbill



Eastern Yellow Robin on nest (NB)

Water

A reliable water source, particularly in summer, will help attract wildlife to your garden. A shallow birdbath on a pedestal, next to a dense or prickly shrub will help protect small birds from predators while they drink and bathe. Clean, washed scoria in birdbaths helps to keep the water clean.

A shallow dish of water at ground level will provide a much needed drink for echidnas and lizards on a hot day. Place rocks or sticks in deeper bowls to enable animals to climb out if necessary.

Shelter

Native wildlife needs to find shelter from bad weather, predators and competitors. They need a refuge in which to build their homes and raise their young.

Grasses, climbers, dense and prickly shrubs and mature trees can provide protection for a large range of insect, reptile, frog, bird and mammal species. Birds need spiderwebs, grass and small branches for nest-building. Small mammals, reptiles, frogs and insects need logs for shelter and protection. Refer to page 11 for information on tree hollows.

Layers

A key to creating a garden for wildlife is to create structural diversity – lots of plants and lots of different layers. Aim to create a mix of trees, shrubs of varying height, grasses and groundcovers.

Dead trees and shrubs can also provide habitat for many of our native wildlife. Likewise a few logs, rocks, sticks, mulch and leaves on the ground can provide habitat for many local insects and lizards.

Note that logs and rocks should not be sourced from local bushland where they are already providing habitat. If you live in a bushfire-prone area consider locating logs some distance from your house.

Diversity

A wide variety of different plants helps to provide a range of habitats, shelter and food sources for different wildlife.

A healthy balance of different predator and prey species means that no one type of creature will get out of control and become a pest problem.

Aim to achieve a mixture of different plant heights, foliage densities (including open areas), plant surfaces (i.e. leaves and bark) and a range of species that flower throughout the year to provide a consistent supply of food.



Layered garden

Mess is good!

Garden layers



TREES

Provide food and shelter for birds, possums, gliders, bats, goannas and insects.

SMALL TREES AND LARGE SHRUBS

Habitat for birds, possums, gliders, goannas and insects.

SMALL SHRUBS

Provide food and shelter for birds, possums, gliders, lizards and insects.

GRASSES AND GROUNDCOVERS

Provide food and shelter for birds, lizards, frogs and insects.

LOGS, MULCH AND ROCKS

Provides habitat for lizards, frogs and insects.

Importance of trees

Trees are a vital and abundant habitat for wildlife above and below ground. Whether you already have established large trees or you are planning to plant one or two be sure to care for them by not compressing their root area, which extends out to the drip line from the very edges of their branches, with heavy materials like wood stacks.

Design your garden with the size of the mature tree in mind, planting away from infrastructure, pipes, powerlines and boundary fences. Looking after your tree will help maintain a healthy, long-lived plant. Particularly in the first 3–5 years, your tree will benefit from regular pruning of any diseased branches or deadwood.

Tree hollows

Trees with hollows and the animals that depend on them are disappearing. Natural tree hollows are valuable and essential for the survival of many wildlife species. They provide refuge from the weather and predators, and safe sites for roosting and breeding.

Destroying hollow-bearing trees displaces and kills wildlife dependant on those hollows. Old trees may stand for 50 years or more after death and continue to function effectively as habitat trees as cracks and hollows develop and bark loosens forming new living spaces. Removing dead trees for firewood can have a significant impact on wildlife.



Powerful Owl in tree hollow (NBD)

Avoid removing any established trees that contain hollows. They are essential for shelter and breeding for many birds such as parrots, treecreepers, kingfishers and owls. Mammals such as microbats, gliders, antechinus and phascogale also need hollows to survive.

Bushfire and waterways

Careful garden design and plant selection can help reduce the impact of bushfire/grassfire and flood.

Bushfire-aware gardening

If you live in a bushfire/grassfire prone area, you may wish to consider siting your habitat garden away from buildings – with separation such as a managed lawn, a non-flammable gravel pathway or a paved or stone area.

Features conducive to wildlife habitat, such as continuity and complexity of vegetation, need to be modified near your house and other infrastructure to reduce the risk of fire.

Consider designing this area with;

- reduced leaf litter and fine fuels,
- low connectivity of vegetation – clumps rather than continuous plants,
- fewer 'middle storey' plants,
- less flammable species,
- no vegetation touching or overhanging your house.

This area may still provide some habitat and food for wildlife. Strategically placed trees can provide shelter and food, and rocky features can be habitat for reptiles and small creatures. There are bushfire design requirements for your garden if you live in an area with a Bushfire Management Overlay.

Useful Publications

Landscaping for Bushfire cfa.vic.gov.au

Gardening near waterways

If you have a garden that includes a waterway such as a river or creek, or even a drain that flows into a waterway, here are some tips to protect the banks, the water quality and the aquatic life:

- Avoid bare areas of banks and wide paths right to the water's edge.
- Before manually removing weeds from the bank, plant replacement plants to reduce exposing the bank to erosion risk.
- When planting on a bank research the 'long-stem' planting technique for areas below the flood line to anchor seedlings into the bank.
- Young seedlings may require staking and guarding to protect them from browsing wildlife, however any type of plastic guards should be avoided to minimise the chance of plastic entering the waterway.
- Plant a deep buffer of plants beside the waterway (10–20 m recommended) to provide a natural filter for runoff water before it enters the waterway.
- Do not use chemicals such as herbicides within 10m of the bank to avoid polluting the waterway.

For butterflies

Butterflies will move over large distances to find nectar-producing plants (e.g. daisies, banksias and wattles) to feed on and host plants to lay their eggs (e.g. grasses, wattles and Bursaria).

Recipe:

- Incorporate a range of plant sizes that cater for butterflies that fly at various heights, as different species will fly around grasses, groundcovers, shrubs or mature trees.
- Add a dish of damp sand. Butterflies take in water and essential salts and minerals from the soil.
- Include a flat rock or paver for butterflies to bask in the morning sun.
- Butterflies are not strong fliers. Provide protected areas where they can shelter from wind and rain. Messy patches are great!
- Practise natural pest control (pg 37).
- Plant a range of host plants for different butterflies to lay their eggs (for example, Red-fruit Saw-sedge for Sword-grass Brown butterflies, Everlasting Daisies for Dainty Swallowtail butterflies).

Threats:

- Insecticides
- Lack of habitat



Dainty Swallowtail (AA)



Magpie Moth



Meadow Argus Butterfly (IM)



Butterflies

Look for the butterfly icon in the Local Plant Selection section (pp 38–64) for plants that provide food and shelter for butterflies.

For invertebrate pollinators



Blue-banded Bee



Hover fly on Bulbine Lily



Fiddler Beetle

A wide range of invertebrates, as well as some birds and mammals, are important plant pollinators. Pollinator insects include many species of bees, flies, hover flies, moths, wasps, butterflies, beetles, thrips and some ants.

Recipe:

- Provide water that is accessible for invertebrates that can't swim (they need to stand on the edge, a plant or floating material).
- Leave some messy patches in your garden.
- Use bush mulch on your garden beds (pg 36).
- Practice natural pest control (pg 37).
- Add an 'insect hotel'.
- Plant grasses and rushes for egg-laying pollinators. Examples include Kangaroo Grass, mat-rush and flax-lily.
- Plant a range of different plants that flower across the seasons.

Threats:

- Insecticides
- Lack of habitat



Invertebrate pollinators

Look for the bee icon in the Local Plant Selection section (pp 38-64) for plants that provide food and shelter for invertebrate pollinators.

For small birds

Small birds help control insects, recycle nutrients and disperse seeds. Birds such as pardalotes, robins, wrens, fantails and thornbills feed on insects. Finches and silvereyes feed on berries and seeds.

Recipe:

- Provide a shallow dish of fresh water in an elevated position near a prickly or dense shrub.
- Create open areas for foraging.
- Mulch garden beds to attract tasty insect treats.
- Practise natural pest control.
- Plant dense or prickly shrubs for protection and safe nest sites.
- Prune shrubs to create a denser form.
- Plant a range of plants including prickly wattles, tea-trees, correas, grasses and climbers.
- Keep your pets inside at night.

Threats:

- Carnivorous birds and Indian Mynas
- Dogs, feral and domestic cats
- Pesticides



Red-browed Finch



Superb Fairy-wren (RH)



Spotted Pardalote



Small birds

Look for the small bird icon in the Local Plant Selection section (pp 38–64) for plants that provide food and shelter for small birds.

For honeyeaters



Eastern Spinebill (NB)



New Holland Honeyeater (NB)



White-plumed Honeyeater (NB)

Honeyeaters are very active birds that need a rich supply of nectar and pollen-producing flowers to keep them fuelled. They have a brush-tongue they use to collect nectar and pollen. Honeyeaters can be protective of a good supply of food and quite aggressive towards other nectar feeders. They also need insects in their diet so, despite their name, don't be surprised if you see them snapping at some bugs.

Recipe:

- Include a shallow dish of fresh water in an elevated safe position for bathing and drinking.
- Practise natural pest control (pg 37).
- Plant dense or prickly small and large shrubs for protection and safe nest sites.
- Plant a range of nectar-producing plants that flower across the seasons.
- Keep your pets inside.

Threats:

- Carnivorous birds and Indian Mynas
- Dogs, feral and domestic cats
- Pesticides



Honeyeaters

Look for the honeyeater icon in the Local Plant Selection section (pp 38-64) for plants that provide food and shelter for honeyeaters.

For parrots

Parrots feed on a wide variety of plants. Nectar-feeders such as the Musk and Rainbow Lorikeet have a brush-tongue to collect nectar and pollen. Seed-eaters such as Red-rumped Parrot, Galahs, Rosellas and Sulphur-crested Cockatoos feed on wattles, banksias, eucalypts and grasses. Long-billed Corellas dig in the ground for tubers. Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos love to find grubs hiding under tree bark and crack open seed pods and wooden fruits to extract seeds and insects.

Recipe:

- Include a source of fresh water, especially for the seed-eating parrots that become very thirsty.
- Plant a range of nectar, pollen and seed-producing plants.
- Add a tall tree for perching, roosting and nesting.
- Keep tree hollows for birds to nest in or consider installing a parrot nest box.
- Practise natural pest control (pg 37).
- Keep your pets inside.

Threats:

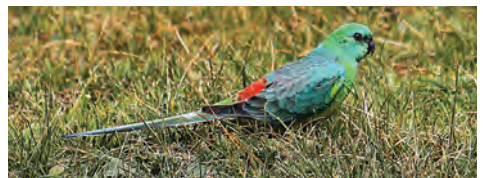
- Carnivorous birds and Indian Mynas
- Dogs, feral and domestic cats
- Pesticides
- Lack of nesting hollows
- Vehicle strikes



Crimson Rosella (NB)



Musk Lorikeet (IM)



Red-rumped Parrot



Parrots

Look for the parrot icon in the Local Plant Selection section (pp 38–64) for plants that provide food and shelter for parrots.

For large birds



Laughing Kookaburra



Grey Butcherbird (NB)



Tawny Frogmouth (IM)

Birds such as Tawny Frogmouths, magpies, owls, eagles, Laughing Kookaburras and butcherbirds are carnivorous and feed on small mammals, lizards and large insects. A few large birds, such as the Common Bronzewing and Crested Pigeon are seed-eaters that mainly feed on grass seeds.

Recipe:

- Provide a source of fresh water for birds to bathe in and drink.
- Include a few tall trees for perching, roosting and nesting.
- Keep tree hollows for larger birds such as owls..
- Practise natural pest control (pg 37).
- Keep your pets inside.

Threats:

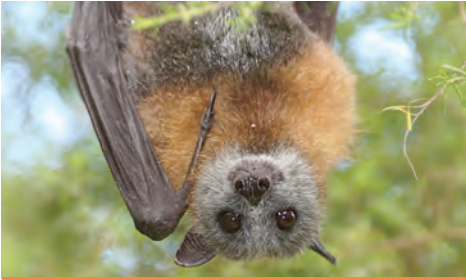
- Other carnivorous birds
- Dogs, feral and domestic cats
- Pesticides
- Lack of habitat, especially tree hollows for owl nesting
- Secondary poisoning from rodent bait
- Vehicle strikes



Large birds

Look for the large bird icon in the Local Plant Selection section (pp 38–64) for plants that provide food and shelter for large birds.

For bats



Grey-headed Flying-fox (IM)



Common Bent-wing Bat (BV)



Little Forest Bat (CL)



Lesser Long-eared Bat (JB)

Megabats such as the Grey-headed Flying-fox fly out at night in search of pollen and nectar from eucalyptus flowers. Little microbats, such as Lesser Long-eared Bat enjoy a feast of insects. The Little Forest Bat is known to eat around 1,000 mosquitoes in one night! Some microbats fly above the trees catching insects, while others fly close to the ground to feed.

Recipe:

- Provide a safe roost to sleep during the day and winter. Large, old trees with hollows or loose bark are ideal, or install a bat nest box.
- Set up a loose pile of rocks for the Lesser Long-eared Bat that roosts on the ground.
- Practice natural pest control (pg 37).
- Add mulch to your garden to encourage insects.
- Keep your pets inside.

Threats:

- Carnivorous birds
- Dogs, feral and domestic cats
- Pesticides



Bats

Look for the bat icon in the Local Plant Selection section (pp 38–64) for plants that provide food and shelter for bats.

For reptiles

Blue-tongue Lizards, Marbled Geckos and little Garden Skinks generally prefer to snack on insects, but are opportunists that will also eat berries and seed. Avoid using snail baits, even pet-friendly ones can harm wildlife. Many a Blue-tongue Lizard has unfortunately died after eating either the snail bait or the dead snails.

Recipe:

- Provide flat rocks or pavers in a protected, sunny spot to warm up.
- Mulch garden beds to attract insects to eat.
- Practise natural pest control (pg 37).
- Include a fresh, shallow water supply on the ground.
- Plant tussocky grasses for protection.
- Provide cool shelter such as dense shrubs.
- Keep your pets inside.

Threats:

- Carnivorous birds and Indian Mynas
- Dogs, feral and domestic cats
- Pesticides



Reptiles

Look for the lizard icon in the Local Plant Selection section (pp 38–64) for plants that provide food and shelter for lizards, skinks and geckos.



Marbled Gecko (JB)



Blue-tongue Lizard

Snakes

As the weather warms up snakes may appear in open spaces, parks and even our own gardens, usually in search of water, food or somewhere to hide.

If you encounter a snake, leave it alone and slowly walk away. If you see a snake on your property it's safest to have it taken away by a professional wildlife controller.



Tiger Snake (LL)

For frogs

Frogs need water to lay their eggs and for tadpoles to grow into frogs. Tadpoles feed on algae and decaying vegetation. Frogs spend their non-breeding life away from water and eat insects. They are very quiet during this time.

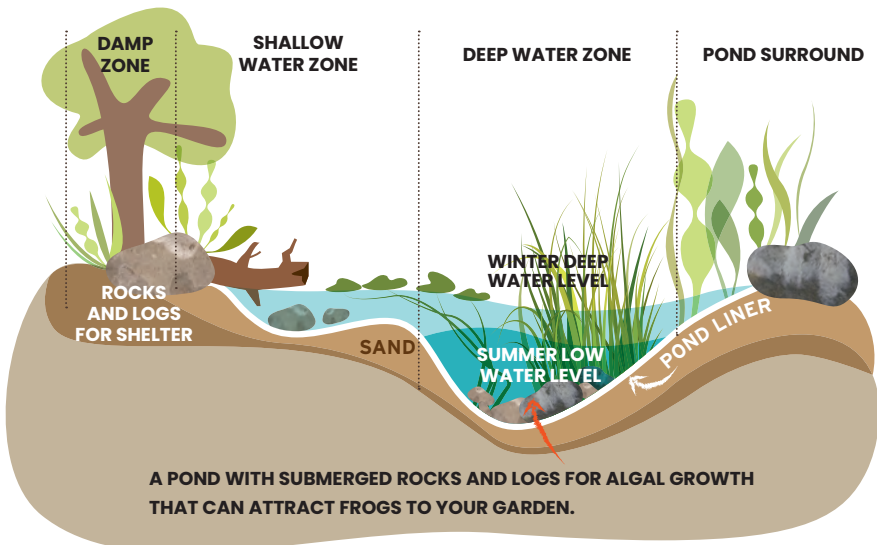
You have two options for attracting frogs to your garden. One is to build a frog pond that will attract breeding frogs to sing their chorus to attract a mate and lay their eggs. The second option if you have a moist, shady area in your garden is to create a Frog Hideaway for non-breeding frogs to burrow under a log or mulch and quietly hop about feeding.

Refer to the aquatic and semi-aquatic plant category in the Local Plant Selection section for appropriate plants (pp 38-64).

Recipe for a frog pond:

- Locate your pond in a low-lying section of your garden that has 70 per cent shade.
- Avoid locating your frog pond under deciduous trees that drop leaves.
- Include shallow entry points and deeper sections for potted aquatic plants.
- Add rocks and logs and cover the bottom with gravel.
- Fill with rainwater or tap water (chlorinated tap water needs to stand for five days).
- Add a variety of native aquatic and semi-aquatic plants, and plant species on the pond edges that thrive in moist soil.
- Control pets and prevent cats from entering your pond.
- Avoid pumps and do not add fish.

Cross-section of frog pond



For frogs (continued)

Recipe for a Frog Hideaway:

- Find a moist, shady area in a quiet part of your garden.
- Provide shelter such as hollow logs with holes, loose bark or rocks.
- Plant lots of groundcovers, grasses and small shrubs.
- Add chunky wood-based mulch.

Threats:

- Carnivorous birds
- Dogs, feral and domestic cats
- Pesticides and herbicides
- Vehicle strikes



Pobblebonk (NF)



Striped Marsh Frog (IM)

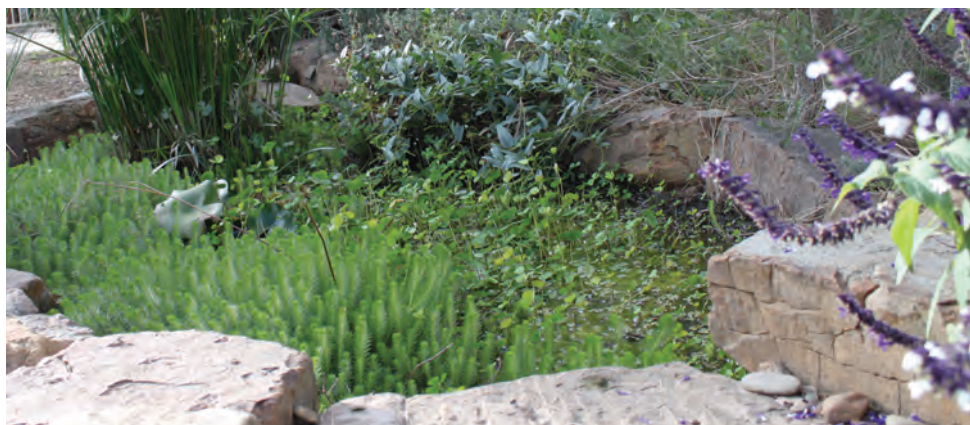


Frogs

Look for the frog icon in the Local Plant Selection section (pp 38–64) for plants that provide food and shelter for frogs.



Spotted Marsh Frog (JB)



A garden frog pond.

Planting and maintenance

There are four important elements to successful planting:

PLANT SELECTION | SITE PREPARATION | PLANTING TECHNIQUE | MAINTENANCE

Plant selection

When it comes to selecting indigenous plants for your garden always consider which species are most appropriate for your site.

For example, a Swamp Gum is well suited for planting in a gully but would not do well if planted on a dry hilltop. To find the ideal spot for your plant, consider its soil, moisture and sunlight requirements and potential size when fully grown.

Also consider how plants may interact with each other, especially the impact large trees may have in your garden as they mature. If they are not carefully selected and positioned, large trees may shade out sun-loving plants underneath them, impact nearby buildings or plumbing with their vigorous roots, or create problems with leaves dropping into gutters.

When choosing plants from a nursery, remember that tall plants in larger pots will not necessarily give you better results. Tubestock (plants in 15cm tall plastic tubes) will generally catch up with and outgrow larger, more mature stock. They are not only cheaper, but easier to establish in difficult sites with poor soils.

For information on plants which are local to the Corangamite region refer to pages 38-64. Or download the Corangamite Indigenous Planting Guide: corangamite.vic.gov.au/NativeVegetation

Site preparation

The success of your planting will be enhanced if your new plants are not competing with weeds.

Weeds

Weeds should be controlled prior to planting to reduce competition and post-planting maintenance.

Hand-weed any pest plants from the site. Avoid spraying the weeds with chemicals as they can build up in the soil and are harmful to soil organisms and all wildlife within the food chain.



Pre-planting mulch

Good quality mulch should be spread over your garden to a minimum depth of 10 cm prior to planting. Water your soil before laying mulch.

Covering the soil surface with mulch can improve soil structure, nutrient availability and water retention, and prevent future weed growth. Check if there is any existing indigenous vegetation to ensure you do not mulch over the top of it.

Ensure that the mulch you select is made from a sustainable resource. Chipped waste wood and green waste mulches are generally a good option. Always ensure that any green waste has been well composted before use to kill any weed seeds that may be present.

Stakes and guards

A plant will grow with greater strength if it is not tied to a stake. When a plant is blown around by the wind, plant hormones are released by this movement creating a stronger plant. Most plants only need to be staked if they are in danger of toppling over. If staking is required, ensure that the ties allow for some movement. Ensure the ties do not ringbark the plant as it grows.

Young plants may need protection from wildlife. Position three stakes in a triangular formation and add a guard.

Plastic guards should be avoided around waterways or exposed, windy sites as they can become a litter problem. Consider instead biodegradable guards. Remove the guard once the plant is producing lots of new growth, generally after two years.

Planting technique

Once your site is well prepared you can begin planting. Generally, planting after the first heavy autumn rain is the best time for dry or exposed sites. For frost-prone or very wet areas, spring may be a more appropriate time for planting. Try to avoid any planting during the summer period.



Step 2



Step 4

Step 1 **Prepare the planting**

The hole should be approximately twice the width of the plant container and slightly deeper. Remember to dig the hole into the soil below the mulch – if you plant straight into the mulch your plant will dry out and die.

Step 2 **Pre-soaking**

Give your plants a thorough pre-soaking in a bucket of water prior to planting. In dry soils, fill the hole with water and allow it to drain before planting.



Step 3 **Prepare the plant**

Any particularly long or coiled roots protruding through the bottom of the pot can be pruned with sharp secateurs before removing the plant from the pot. Plants tolerate some root disturbance, but be careful not to damage living roots.



Step 4
Remove the plant from pot

This is best achieved by turning the pot upside down and striking the rim gently against a solid object. When planting good quality tubestock, it is not necessary to 'tickle', or tease out the plant's roots.

Step 5
Place the plant

Place the plant a little lower than the original soil level. Firmly replace the soil around the plant, breaking up any lumps as you go. Fashion a circle of raised soil to create a watering basin.

Step 6
Water the plant in well

Water the plant in well. Initially all plants need to be watered individually to settle soil around the root system. Plants may require a good deep soaking once a week when establishing, particularly during dry periods.

Keep an eye on your plants in their first year. If your plants are wilting (drooping leaves and stems), give them a good soak.

Sustainable products

Buying furniture, pots, timber and pebbles for the garden can have an impact on the natural environment. For example, River Red Gum trees grow in woodlands which are part of an intricate ecosystem that supports a wealth of native wildlife. They are a slow-growing tree that lives for more than 500 years. Avoiding Red Gum products, such as sleepers, tomato stakes and posts will help preserve our valuable River Red Gum. Consider the following choices when sourcing product for your garden.

1. Use natural products.

- Collect seeds and cuttings from your garden to propagate new plants.
- Use fallen branches and trees on your property as garden borders or seats.

2. Reuse materials.

- Reuse pavers, bricks, pots, garden stakes and guards.
- Repurpose materials to create bird baths and garden art.

3. Source recycled materials.

- Consider garden furniture, decking, posts, sleepers and stakes made from recycled plastic and waste timber.

4. Buy sustainably sourced new products.

- If you cannot source recycled timber buy Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified timbers.
- Use small amounts of quarried rocks that have been tumbled rather than river stones.

- Buy locally produced gas-fired ceramic pots that have a lower environmental impact compared to overseas pots that have been wood or coal fired.
- Consider solar pumps for garden water features.

5. Never take material from the bush, beach or natural environment.

- Removing natural material from the environment alters the habitat for numerous animals.

Birdbath made from recycled metal (LS)



Maintenance

Gardens planted with indigenous plants generally require less maintenance than gardens planted with introduced plants.

Watering

- Indigenous plants generally need less water than introduced plants.
- Water in the evening or early morning to prevent water evaporating before it reaches your plant roots.
- Give your plants a slow, deep watering at a rate that the soil can absorb the water.

Mulch

Top up your mulch as it breaks down. This will vary with climate, but is generally once a year in early summer.

Don't mulch right up to the stem of your plants as this can cause diseases such as collar rot.

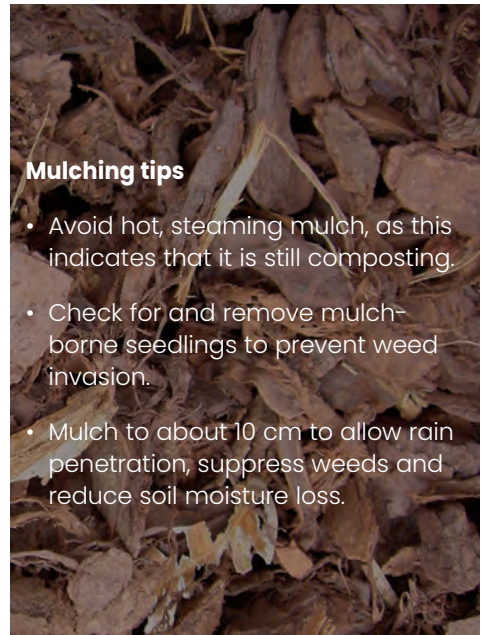
Avoid bark mulch that is too fresh (e.g. recently chipped branches) as it depletes the soil of nitrogen as it breaks down causing nitrogen drawdown and your plants look a bit yellow.

Mulch conserves water,
reduces weeds, helps keep
the soil temperature even,
adds nutrients and creates
habitat!

Bush mulch is ideal for a native garden. When spread on your garden it will create a natural leaf litter look and provide habitat for insects and lizards to shelter and feed. It is low in nutrients and preferable for indigenous plants.

Also avoid using very fine mulch or grass clippings as a mulch as they tend to mat together forming an impenetrable layer. Better to compost your clippings.

Generally for an indigenous garden, bush mulch, which is a mix of coarse and fine particles, or a chunky-sized mulch is best.



Mulching tips

- Avoid hot, steaming mulch, as this indicates that it is still composting.
- Check for and remove mulch-borne seedlings to prevent weed invasion.
- Mulch to about 10 cm to allow rain penetration, suppress weeds and reduce soil moisture loss.

Non-chemical pest control

Herbicides and pesticides may harm our garden, and can enter our stormwater systems, where they pollute local waterways and harm plants and wildlife. By using non-chemical pest control we create healthier habitats.

Consider:

- checking your garden regularly for pests.
- attracting predatory animals to your garden. Not only do birds, bats, frogs and lizards eat pest insects, but so do ladybirds, praying mantis, hover flies and dragonflies.
- removing pests by hand or spraying with a jet of water.
- trying home remedies such as linseed oil in a shallow dish to catch earwigs.
- Spraying pest infestations (such as white fly, scale, mites and aphids) with a botanical oil or natural soap.



Ladybird eating aphids

Fertiliser

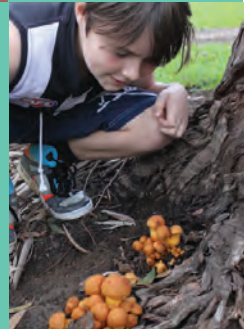
Indigenous plants generally do not require fertilising as they have adapted to suit local soils. A good mulch will slowly break down and add nutrients to the soil. If you do fertilise your indigenous plants, there are commercial products available for native plants that are slow-release and low in phosphate.

INVOLVE THE KIDS



Gardening is a great activity for children to have fun, learn new skills and spend quality time with family.

Garden spaces big and small are a perfect outdoor play space.



Local Plant Selection

The following section contains information on a selection of plant species indigenous to the Heytesbury district and the local wildlife they support.

THE FOLLOWING FAUNA KEY INDICATES WILDLIFE THAT MAY BE ATTRACTED TO DIFFERENT PLANT SPECIES IN YOUR GARDEN.



Butterflies such as Australian Painted Lady and Sword-grass Brown Butterflies.



Large birds such as owls, kookaburras, butcherbirds and magpies.



Invertebrate pollinators such as native bees, wasps, hover flies and ants.



Reptiles such as skinks, geckos and goannas.



Small birds such as wrens, robins, pardalotes, finches and fantails.



Frogs such as Pobblebonk and Spotted Marsh Frog.



Parrots such as rosellas, lorikeets, grass-parrots and cockatoos.



Bats such as microbats and Grey-headed Flying-fox.



Honeyeaters such as spinebills, wattlebirds and honeyeaters.

Please note: All plant sizes listed in this publication are approximate. Environmental conditions will influence the final height and width of a plant.

Plant categories

The following descriptions reflect the plant categories used by vegetation type descriptions and nurseries. A diverse range of plants from each category will create layers, diversity and attract a wide range of different wildlife to your garden. This combined with mulch, logs, rocks and a water source will create a resilient and complex garden structure to attract and support wildlife.

Creepers and climbers

Creepers spread horizontally across the soil while climbers will cling to other plants or a trellis to climb upwards. They provide a valuable source of food for plant-eating insects, seed-eaters and insect-eating animals. Climbers provide excellent shelter for small birds and insects and creepers provide protection for insects, small birds, lizards and frogs.



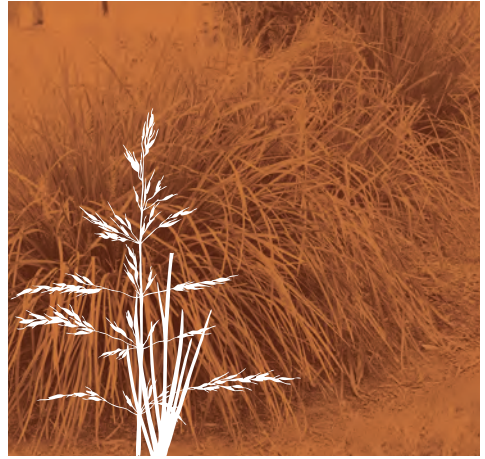
Groundcovers

These plants are herbaceous (i.e. not forming woody stems) and low-growing under 1 m. They provide a variety of food for plant-eaters, seed-eaters and insect-eaters. Groundcovers provide a safe haven for small birds, insects, lizards and frogs.



Grasses and tussocks

These plants all have long, narrow leaves, and if they grow in a clump or tuft they are known as a tussock. They provide food for the larvae of butterflies and moths, small birds and seed-eating parrots. Their leaves provide protection for lizards, frogs, insects and small birds. Birds use dry grass for nest building.



Aquatic and semi-aquatic

Aquatic plants are adapted to living submerged or floating on water while semi-aquatic plants cope with periods of water inundation. These plants provide food and shelter for a multitude of insects and small birds and shelter for frogs. They also provide access for non-swimming insects to drink.



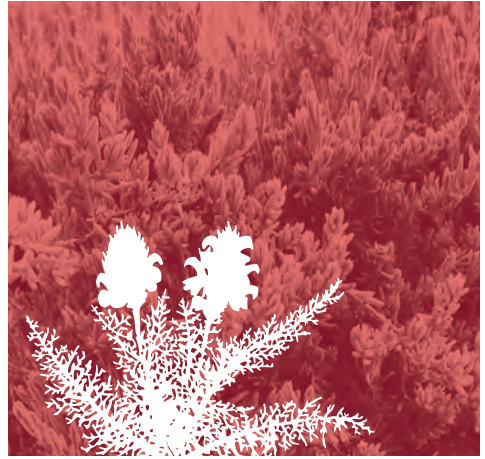
Ferns

Ferns are non-flowering plants that reproduce by spores. They have feathery fronds and come in a variety of forms. Ferns provide a protective foraging space for small birds, insects and lizards and an ideal hiding place for frogs. The fibrous trunk of tree-ferns provide nesting material for small birds and provide shelter for invertebrates and small lizards.



Small shrubs

Small shrubs generally grow to a height of 2 m depending on conditions. Their leaves, flowers, fruit and seed are important food sources for insects, reptiles, small birds and honeyeaters. Dense and prickly small shrubs in particular provide important shelter and protection for nesting small birds.



Large shrubs and small trees

These plants grow from 2-6 m and provide a range of food sources for insects, birds and small mammals. In addition large shrubs and small trees provide valuable nesting sites and protection for these animals. Large birds perch, roost and nest in small trees.



Large trees

Large trees grow to a height of 10 m+. Their leaves, flowers, fruit and seed provide food for insects, small birds, honeyeaters, parrots and mammals. Large birds use their height to perch and search for prey, roost and nest. The bark of large trees can be used as nesting material or shelter for insects, skinks and microbats. Hollows in larger trees are critical for parrot, owl and mammal protection and breeding.



CREEPERS AND CLIMBERS

**Bower Spinach***Tetragonia implexicoma*

Excellent for stabilising sandy soil. Often scrambles over small shrubs providing shelter for small birds, invertebrates and small lizards.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Scrambling plant with a 2-4 m spread.

Flowers and foliage

- Thick, bright-green, succulent leaves.
- Small, scented yellow flowers from August to February.
- Succulent red berries containing 1-3 small seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Well-drained sandy soil.
- Tolerates extreme dry conditions.
- Full sun.

CREEPERS AND CLIMBERS

**Mountain Clematis***Clematis aristata*

An attractive climber that can be trained along a fence or trellis. Grows well under established trees and shrubs.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Vigorous woody climber to 15 m.
- Fast-growing.

Flowers and foliage

- Dull-green, ovate leaves to 8 cm long.
- Perfumed white flowers from October to November.
- Followed by feathery seedheads.

Preferred growing conditions

- Easily grown in well-drained to moist soils.
- Part-shade to full shade.

CREEPERS AND CLIMBERS

**Purple Apple-berry***Billardiera macrantha*

A light climber that displays well on a trellis. Grows well under established eucalypts provided it has an extra water in summer.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Fast-growing 3-4 m climber.

Flowers and foliage

- Shiny, dark-green leaves.
- Yellow-green tubular flowers tinged with purple from August to January.
- Glossy-purple fruit to 3.5 cm long.
- Small brown seeds within fruit.

Preferred growing conditions

- Part-shade to shade.
- Moist clay and loam soil.

CREEPERS AND CLIMBERS

**Purple Coral-pea***Hardenbergia violacea*

A very showy scrambling climber or creeper with many forms and cultivars. Will grow on a fence or trellis to form a light screen.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Very hardy plant.
- Fast-growing creeper.

Flowers and foliage

- Dark-green leaves to 10 cm.
- Purple pea flowers from July to November.
- 4-5 mm long seeds contained in pods.

Preferred growing conditions

- Grows in most well-drained soils.
- Full sun to part-shade.

CREEPERS AND CLIMBERS



Running Postman
Kennedia prostrata



Trailing, hardy and adaptable plant. Grows well in rockeries or hanging baskets where the plant can cascade down the sides.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Open trailing or densely matting plant.
- Spreads to 2.5 m.

Flowers and foliage

- Crinkly grey-green leaves.
- Red pea flower with yellow throat.
- Flowers from August to December.
- 3-4 mm black seeds in pod.

Preferred growing conditions

- Grows in heavy clay soils to sandy soils.
- Full sun or part-shade.

GROUNDCOVERS



Black-anther Flax-lily
Dianella revoluta



An attractive, easily maintained clumping plant, ideal for growing under trees. Plants sucker and can cover a large area over time.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Grows to 1 m high and 2 m wide.
- Strappy green leaves.

Flowers and foliage

- Blue to purple flowers with bright yellow centres.
- Flowers from September to January.
- Purple berries to 10 mm long.
- Small, flat seeds within fruit.

Preferred growing conditions

- Grows in a wide range of soils from heavy clay to sand.
- Full sun to shade.

GROUNDCOVERS

**Clusted Everlasting***Chrysocephalum semipapposum*

A long-flowering plant with attractive contrasting foliage and flowers.
A variable species with several forms.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Grows to 30 cm high and 1-3 m wide.
- Responds well to a hard prune after flowering.

Flowers and foliage

- Narrow grey-green leaves to 50 mm long.
- Dense clusters of yellow flowers from October to February.
- Releases many small seeds with a feathery top.

Preferred growing conditions

- Moist to dry soils.
- Full sun to part-shade.

GROUNDCOVERS

**Common Everlasting***Chrysocephalum apiculatum*

An excellent rockery plant with contrasting foliage and a long flowering period. Several different forms.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Grows to 30 cm high and 1-2 m wide.
- Responds well to a hard prune after flowering.

Flowers and foliage

- Silver-grey leaves to 60 mm long.
- Clusters of yellow flowers from September to February.
- Small seeds topped with feathery bristles.

Preferred growing conditions

- Well-drained sand and loam soils.
- Full sun.

GROUNDCOVERS

AQUATIC AND SEMI-AQUATIC



Ivy-leaf Violet

Viola hederacea sensu Willis (1972)



A prolific grower once established. Grows well in moist soil of pond surrounds coping with partial inundation.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- A fast-growing groundcover with creeping stems.
- 10-15cm high and 1-2 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Dark-green kidney-shaped leaves.
- White flowers with a violet centre most of the year, especially June to March.
- Capsules release many small 1-2 mm seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Moist to wet soil.
- Part-shade to shade.

GROUNDCOVERS



Karkalla or Native Pig Face

Carpobrotus rossii



Very hardy and long flowering. Suitable for rocky escarpments, retaining walls or for planting under eucalypts. An excellent soil binder on sandy, exposed locations.

Bioregion

- WaP

Size and habit

- A trailing groundcover to 1-2 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Succulent, triangular blue-green leaves to 10 cm.
- Pink-purple flowers to 5 cm wide most of the year.
- Fleshy purple-red fruit contains numerous small seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Sandy soil.
- Full sun to part-shade.

GROUNDCOVERS

**Kidney-weed***Dichondra repens*

An excellent plant to grow in shady areas of the garden. Can be used as a lawn alternative where traffic is light.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- A matting plant that spreads to 1-2 m.
- Easily divided and transplanted.

Flowers and foliage

- Light to dark-green kidney-shaped leaves to 2 cm.
- Inconspicuous creamy-green flowers.
- Flowers from September to December.
- Small, brown seeds released from capsule.

Preferred growing conditions

- Grows in heavy clays to sandy soil.
- Grows best in part-shade to shade.

GROUNDCOVERS

AQUATIC AND SEMI-AQUATIC

**Tasman Flax-lily***Dianella tasmanica*

A hardy plant that will grow in a wide range of conditions including partial inundation. Excellent habitat for frog pond surrounds.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Grows 0.6-1 m high and 0.5-2 m wide.
- Strappy, green leaves.

Flowers and foliage

- Blue-purple flowers with pale-yellow centres from October to February.
- Attractive purple berries.
- Each berry contains 3-4 mm long seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Heavy clay to sandy soils.
- Part-shade to shade.

GRASSES AND TUSSOCKS

**Common Tussock-grass***Poa labillardierei*

An attractive tussock that copes with a wide range of conditions. Plant individually in the garden, *en masse* or beside a pond.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Grows to 0.5 to 1.2 m high and 0.5 to 1.5 m wide.
- Large, fast-growing tussock.

Flowers and foliage

- Dull-green to grey-green leaves that dry to a straw colour.
- Open plume-like green to purplish flowerheads.
- Flowers from October to February.
- Numerous small seeds released.

Preferred growing conditions

- Grows in heavy clay soils to sandy soils.
- Copes with waterlogging.
- Full sun to part-shade.

GRASSES AND TUSSOCKS

**Red-fruit Saw-sedge***Gahnia sieberiana*

An important host plant for the Sword-grass Brown butterfly.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Grows 1.5–3 m high and 2–3 m wide.
- A tall, clumping tussock plant.

Flowers and foliage

- Long green to brown leaves with sharp edges.
- Flowers from October to January.
- Yellow-brown flower spikes arch to 3 m and turn black.
- Bright red, shiny seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Moist sandy soil ideal, but tolerates drier soil.
- Full sun to full shade.

GRASSES AND TUSSOCKS

AQUATIC AND SEMI-AQUATIC

**Pale Rush***Juncus pallidus*

An attractive tussocky plant that is ideal for wet and temporarily inundated areas.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Dense tussocks from 0.5-1.5 m high.

Flowers and foliage

- Linear dull-green to bluish-green leaves.
- Pale-green to brown flowerheads.
- Flower in the summer months.
- Numerous small, round seeds produced.

Preferred growing conditions

- Adaptable to most soil types provided they are moist.
- Full sun to part-shade.

GRASSES AND TUSSOCKS

**Spiny-headed Mat-rush***Lomandra longifolia*

A graceful tussock for difficult spots, embankments and gardens in general.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

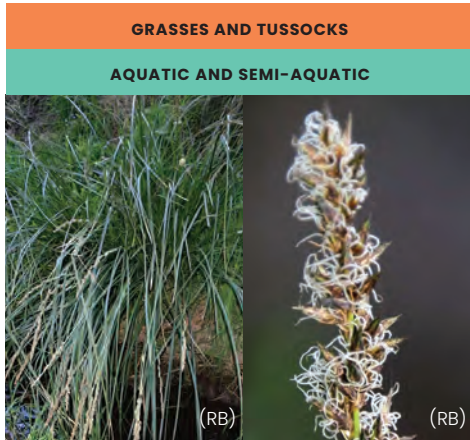
- A fast-growing tussock.
- Grows 0.5-1 m high and 0.5-1.2 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Bright-green strappy leaves.
- Clusters of scented cream flower spikes.
- Flowers from September to December.
- Brownish-orange seed capsules contain many yellow seeds 2-3 mm long.

Preferred growing conditions

- Well-drained soils.
- Full sun to part-shade.



GRASSES AND TUSSOCKS

AQUATIC AND SEMI-AQUATIC

Tall Sedge

Carex appressa



Excellent as an accent or habitat plant in frog ponds, waterways or moist sites. Ideal plant for stabilising eroding stream banks.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

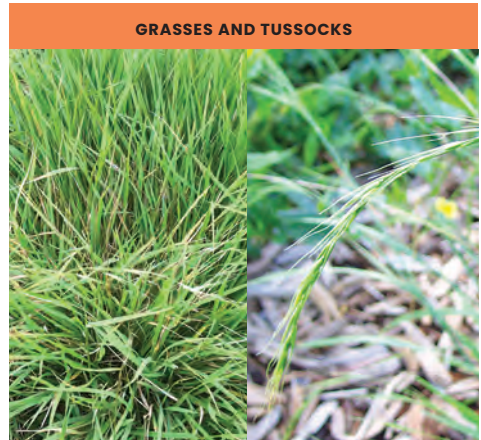
- Grows from 0.5-1.2 m high and 0.5-1 m wide.
- Forms a rounded, dome-shaped tussock.

Flowers and foliage

- Slender, green leaves to 1.2 m.
- Sharply serrated leaf edges.
- Yellow-brown spikes of flowers from August to January.
- Brown nut contains numerous small seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Tolerates periods of inundation.
- Moist soils.
- Full sun to part-shade.



GRASSES AND TUSSOCKS

Weeping Grass

Microlaena stipoides var. *stipoides*



An excellent native lawn for light traffic areas. Can be mown or left to produce attractive weeping flowerheads.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Grows 20 cm high and 30 cm wide.
- Fine, green arching leaves.

Flowers and foliage

- Soft, emerald-green leaf blades.
- Weeping flowerheads on slender stems.
- Flowers from October to March.
- Numerous small, narrow tufted seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Moist well-drained soil.
- Full sun to part-shade.

FERNS



Common Maidenhair
Adiantum aethiopicum



An excellent garden plant for moist protected areas.

Bioregion

- WaP

Size and habit

- Spreading fern that grows to 10–45 cm high.

Foliage

- Delicate, lacy green fronds with slender reddish-brown to black stems.
- Fan-shaped leaflets.
- Spore cases on underside of leaflets covered by kidney-shaped flap.

Preferred growing conditions

- Moist well-drained soils.
- Part-shade.
- Protect from drying winds.
- * *Please note: Currently not readily found in indigenous nurseries, but available from standard nurseries.*

FERNS



Rough Tree-fern
Cyathea australis



The hardier of the two tree-ferns. Possums like to nest in the centre of the crown of fronds.

Bioregion

- WaP

Size and habit

- Grows 5–12 m high.
- Fibrous brown trunk 15–40 cm wide base.
- Dark-green umbrella of fronds arch from the top.

Foliage

- Fronds 2–4 m long and 1m wide.
- Prickly, rough leaf bases.
- Spore cases between veins.

Preferred growing conditions

- Moist well-drained soil, tolerates short dry periods.
- Part-shade to shade.
- * *Please note: Currently not readily found in indigenous nurseries, but available from standard nurseries.*



Soft Tree-fern
Dicksonia antarctica



Other ferns often grow on the soft bark of the Soft Tree-fern.

Bioregion

- WaP

Size and habit

- Grows 2-15 m high.
- Thick trunk covered in fibrous roots, often buttressed at base.
- Dark-green umbrella of fronds arch from the top.

Foliage

- Fronds grow to 4 m, paler underneath.
- Smooth leaf bases.

Preferred growing conditions

- Moist soil.
- Needs more water than Rough Tree-fern.
- Part-shade to shade.

* *Please note: Currently not readily found in indigenous nurseries, but available from standard nurseries.*



Austral Indigo
Indigofera australis



Graceful shrub useful for planting under trees or striking when planted in groups.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Fast-growing open shrub.
- Grows 1-2 m high and wide.
- Prune after flowering to keep compact form.

Flowers and foliage

- Blue-green oval leaves.
- Sprays of lightly perfumed pink-mauve pea flowers.
- Flowers from September to November.
- Narrow seed pod to 4 cm containing 2 mm black seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Adaptable to any well-drained soils.
- Full sun to shade.
- Prefers a sheltered position.

SMALL SHRUBS

**Common Flat-pea***Platylobium obtusangulum*

Graceful shrub useful for planting under trees or striking when planted in groups.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- A spreading, clumping or arching plant.
- Grows to 0.6-1 m high and wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Leaf shape highly variable, but generally triangular.
- Dark-green, sharply pointed leaves to 3 cm long.
- Yellow, pea-shaped flowers with red central markings.
- Attractive, winged seed pods after flowering.

Preferred growing conditions

- Dry, well-drained soils.
- Part-shade.
- Grows well under existing trees.

SMALL SHRUBS

**Cushion Bush***Leucophyta brownii*

The grey foliage is able to reflect light at night making this a useful plant for defining pathways.

Bioregion

- WaP

Size and habit

- Grows 0.2-1 m high and 0.5-2 m wide.
- Regular pruning promotes a more compact form.

Flowers and foliage

- Unique, grey scale-like leaves.
- Cream to pale-yellow globular flowers.
- Flowers from September to December.
- Tiny seeds topped with bristles.

Preferred growing conditions

- Heavy clay soils to sandy soil.
- Full sun.

SMALL SHRUBS



Dusty Miller

Spyridium parvifolium



An interesting shrub for a dry, shady area, where its most attractive feature, the floral leaves, are shown to advantage.

Bioregion

- WaP

Size and habit

- A dense, upright shrub.
- Grows 1-2 m high and wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Dark-green oval leaves to 30 mm.
- Terminal sprays of small white flowers surrounded by dusty-white floral leaves from August to November.
- Followed by formation of small brown seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Moist well-drained soil.
- Part-shade to shade.

SMALL SHRUBS



Hop Goodenia

Goodenia ovata



A versatile plant that is great for brightening up shady parts of the garden.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- A fast-growing shrub.
- Grows 1-2.5 m high and 1-3 m wide.
- Responds well to pruning to maintain a compact form.
- Propagates readily from cuttings.

Flowers and foliage

- Lush, bright-green, oval-shaped leaves to 8 cm.
- Vibrant yellow flowers from August to February.
- Small, white seeds after flowering.

Preferred growing conditions

- Favours damp soils but tolerates dryness once established.
- Full sun to part-shade.

SMALL SHRUBS

**Myrtle Wattle***Acacia myrtifolia*

An ornamental shrub providing a fast-growing low screen.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- A rounded or erect shrub grows to 1.8 m high and wide.
- A heavy prune after flowering can be beneficial.

Flowers and foliage

- Broad leaves (phyllodes) up to 20 cm long.
- New growth is bronze.
- Ribbed branches.
- Masses of cream to yellow ball-shaped flowers from July to October.
- Long, brown seed pods contain black seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Grows in all well-drained soils.
- Full sun to part-shade.

SMALL SHRUBS

**Pink Bells***Tetralochea ciliata*

An attractive, delicate plant that establishes well under mature trees.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Slender, spreading shrub.
- Grows 0.3-1 m high and 0.3-1 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Whorls of small, hairy leaves to 20 mm.
- Clusters of fragrant mauve-pink bell-shaped flowers.
- Flowers from August to December.
- Winged seed capsules 4-8 mm long contains small brown seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Well-drained clay or sandy soil.
- Part-shade to shade.

SMALL SHRUBS

**Prickly Current-bush***Coprosma quadrifida*

Quite a striking shrub when in fruit as the red berries contrast with the green leaves. A fantastic habitat plant.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Open upright, spiny shrub.
- Grows 2-4 m high and 1-2 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Thin, dark-green leaves to 15 mm.
- Inconspicuous greenish flowers September to January.
- Sweet red fruit to 8 mm January to March.
- Fruit contains small white seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Moist well-drained soils.
- Part-shade to shade.

SMALL SHRUBS

**Rigid Bush-pea***Pultenaea stricta*

A striking plant when in flower.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Slender, upright or low-lying shrub.
- Prune lightly after flowering to maintain compact shape.
- Grows to 1 m high and wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Dark-green, oval-shaped leaves to 10 mm long.
- Pea-shaped yellow to orange flowers with red streaks.
- Flowers from September to November.
- Flattened, egg-shaped seed pod containing 1-2 black seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Favours moist, sandy soil.
- Tolerates exposed, windy conditions.
- Full sun to part-shade.

SMALL SHRUBS

**Ruby Saltbush***Enchylaena tomentosa*

An attractive and useful spreading plant, especially in dry conditions. The sweet berries are edible.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Low spreading to upright woody shrub.
- Prostrate-1m high to 0.5-1 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Bluish-green succulent cylindrical leaves to 20 mm.
- Insignificant greenish flowers from September to April.
- Succulent green fruits which change to yellow or red when ripe.
- Fruit contains numerous small seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Adaptable to all soil types.
- Full sun to part-shade.

SMALL SHRUBS

**Snowy Daisy-bush***Olearia lirata*

A beautiful shrub to brighten up a sheltered position in the garden in spring.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Soft open shrub.
- Grows 2-5 m high and 2-3 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Dark-green shiny leaves to 16 cm, whitish below.
- Masses of white daisy-like flowers from September to December.
- Followed by 2 mm bristled seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Moist well-drained soils.
- Part-shade to shade.

SMALL SHRUBS



White Correa

Correa alba



A hardy shrub that responds well to pruning. Foliage an attractive contrast colour in the garden.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- A dense, spreading shrub that is moderately slow-growing.
- Grows to 1.5 m high and wide.
- An excellent hedging plant.

Flowers and foliage

- Grey-green, oval leaves to 4 cm long, pale and hairy underneath.
- Waxy, white, star-shaped flowers.
- Flowers from May to October.
- Less flowers in shady conditions.

Preferred growing conditions

- Grows in all well-drained soils, especially sandy soils.
- Once established it will tolerate extended dry periods.
- Full sun to part-shade.

LARGE SHRUBS AND SMALL TREES



Golden Wattle

Acacia pycnantha



A beautiful small tree for the garden as a feature tree or as a screening or windbreak tree. Also a useful tree for erosion control.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Spreading tall shrub or small tree with drooping branches.
- Grows 3-10 m high to 2-5 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Long, narrow, bluish-green leaves to 22 cm.
- Lemon-yellow, perfumed, ball-shaped flowers peaking from November to January.
- Narrow seed pods to 16 cm.
- Shiny, black 6mm seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Adaptable to all soils.
- Full sun to part-shade.

LARGE SHRUBS AND SMALL TREES



Musk Daisy-bush
Olearia argophylla



A very attractive tree for a shady area. Profuse flowers for several months.

Bioregion

- WaP

Size and habit

- Fast-growing plant.
- Grows 3-10 m high to 3-5 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Shiny, dark-green leaves to 12 cm, silver below.
- Leaves have a musky aroma.
- Clusters of white daisy-like flowers.
- Flowers from September to March.
- Tufted white seeds 4 mm long.

Preferred growing conditions

- Moist, well-drained soils.
- Part-shade to shade.

LARGE SHRUBS AND SMALL TREES



Prickly Moses
Acacia verticillata



Attractive in flower, this shrub also provides excellent protection for small birds.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Variable, open shrub.
- Grows 2-6 m high and 3-5 m wide.
- Prune after flowering to maintain a compact shape.
- Excellent hedging plant.

Flowers and foliage

- Narrow, sharp, dark-green leaves to 25 mm.
- Masses of pale-yellow flower spikes.
- Flower from June to December.
- Long, narrow seed pods contain black seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Suitable for most soils.
- Withstands periods of water logging in winter and drying in summer.

LARGE SHRUBS AND SMALL TREES



Scented Paperbark

Melaleuca squarrosa



An attractive plant with unusual leaves and fragrant flowers.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Erect, open to compact large shrub.
- Papery bark, becoming rough on old branches.
- Grows to 2-5 m high and 1-2 m wide.
- Responds well to pruning and is suitable for hedging or screening.

Flowers and foliage

- Stiff, dark-green, oval to triangular leaves to 12 mm long.
- Profuse spikes of scented cream to yellow flowers.
- Flowers from September to February.
- Seeds develop in woody cones after flowering.

Preferred growing conditions

- Moist to wet soils of all local types.
- Full sun to part-shade.

LARGE SHRUBS AND SMALL TREES



Scrub Sheoak

Allocasuarina paludosa



A very ornamental plant that is excellent as a screening or windbreak plant.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Slow-growing plant.
- Grows 0.5-2 m high and 1-2 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Needle-like foliage to 20 cm.
- Small brown male and/or red female flowers.
- Flowers from March to October.
- Followed by cylindrical cones to 18 mm.
- Winged seeds 5 mm long.

Preferred growing conditions

- Heavy clay and sandy soils.
- Full sun to part-shade.

LARGE SHRUBS AND SMALL TREES

**Silver Banksia***Banksia marginata*

A striking feature tree or excellent screening plant.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Can be quite open or dense depending on the form and pruning.
- Grows 1-6 m high and 1-4 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Dark-green leaves, silver below, with notched tip.
- Yellow flowers in brushes borne on upright cones to 13 cm.
- Flowers from February to June.
- Woody cones open once ripe to release 6-8 mm winged seed.

Preferred growing conditions

- Heavy clay to sandy soil.
- Full sun to part-shade.

LARGE SHRUBS AND SMALL TREES

**Sweet Bursaria***Bursaria spinosa*

A beautiful tree in flower and fruit. Very important habitat plant.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Slender to rounded shrub or small tree.
- Grows 2-6 m high and 2-3 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Shiny, narrow dark-green leaves.
- Spines along branches at leaf base.
- Fragrant, white flowers from December to March.
- Followed by attractive bronze seed capsules.
- Flat brown seeds to 4 mm.

Preferred growing conditions

- Heavy clays to sandy soils.
- Full sun to part-shade.



Tree Everlasting

Ozothamnus ferrugineus



An excellent garden background plant.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Open, rounded shrub.
- Fast-growing.
- Grows 2-4 m high and 2-4 m wide.
- Prune after flowering to encourage a more compact form.

Flowers and foliage

- Narrow, dark-green leaves above and cottony-grey below.
- Clusters of tiny white flowers.
- Flowers from November to February.
- Followed by release of small seeds 2 mm long.

Preferred growing conditions

- Moist well-drained soils.
- Full sun to semi-sun.

Woolly Tea-tree

Leptospermum lanigerum



An excellent screening plant or a beautiful feature tree in the garden.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Dense shrub to open small tree.
- Pruning encourages a denser form.
- Grows 2-6 m high and 1-3 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Oblong greyish leaves ending in a point.
- Young growth is silver and hairy.
- Open white flowers to 15 mm wide.
- Flowers from September to January.
- Broad, cup-shaped woody fruit.
- Long, narrow seeds to 3 mm.

Preferred growing conditions

- Heavy clay to sandy soils.
- Full sun to part-shade.

LARGE TREES

**Blackwood***Acacia melanoxylon*

An attractive tree that is hardy and adaptable.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Fast-growing upright tree.
- Grows 5–30 m high and 4–15 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Dull-green leaves to 15 cm with raised main veins.
- Cream ball-shaped flowers.
- Flowers from July to October.
- Twisted and coiled seed pods to 15 cm.
- Black oval seeds to 5 mm.

Preferred growing conditions

- Prefers deep moist soil, but adaptable.
- Full sun to part-shade.

LARGE TREES

**Messmate Stringybark***Eucalyptus obliqua*

An excellent shelter and shade tree for the garden. Leaves eaten by Koalas.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Tall upright tree with a dense canopy and rough stringy bark.
- Grows 10–90 m high and 6–35 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Shiny, green leaves to 13 cm.
- Cream flowers from December to March.
- Wine-glass shaped fruit.
- Small dark-brown seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Moist well-drained soils.
- Full sun to part-shade.



Narrow-leaved Peppermint
Eucalyptus radiata ssp. *radiata*



A graceful, upright tree that provides shade and shelter in the garden. Leaves eaten by Koalas.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Low-branching tree with rough fibrous bark.
- Grows 10–30 m high and 6–20 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Aromatic, narrow grey-green leaves to 12 cm.
- White flowers from October to January.
- Small cup-shaped fruit.
- Small glossy brown seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Well-drained soils.
- Full sun to part-shade.



Swamp Gum
Eucalyptus ovata



An excellent shelter and shade tree for the garden. Leaves a favourite of Koalas.

Bioregion

- VVP, WaP

Size and habit

- Fast-growing upright tree with an open canopy.
- Often low branching.
- Smooth bark, though rough from the base for some way up the trunk.
- Grows 8–25 m high and 8–20 m wide.

Flowers and foliage

- Shiny, broad leaves to 17 cm with wavy edges.
- Cream flowers, usually March to September.
- Funnel-shaped, flat-topped fruit.
- Small brown seeds.

Preferred growing conditions

- Moist soils.
- Full sun to part-shade.

Garden Escapees and Invaders

A garden escapee is a garden plant that escapes from your garden into parks, bushland and other wildlife habitat areas.

Plants can spread from wind-blown and water-borne seed, dumped garden waste in reserves and waterways, seeds attached to clothing and fur and through the digestive systems of animals. Garden escapees are a problem because they out-compete native plants and change local ecosystems so that habitat no longer supports native birds and animals. The closer your garden is to a wildlife area the more careful your garden plant species selection needs to be to protect these sensitive and valuable areas.

For further information visit: corangamite.vic.gov.au/WeedManagement

Disposal of garden escapees

Once you have removed a garden escapee from your garden the question then becomes, how do you safely dispose of the plant material so that it does not spread into natural areas? There are a number of options from using your kerbside green waste bin to recycling your garden escapee material at home. Some methods include;

Compost - You can add plants to your compost bin or heap, but remember some garden escapees are hardier than others. You need to generate enough heat for the micro-organisms to break down the plant material, especially the seeds.

Chicken Feed - Chooks will happily feed on a wide variety of herbaceous garden escapees.



Weed: characteristics, dispersal and removal

Agapanthus

Agapanthus praecox
subsp. *praecox*



- Spread by seed and dumped garden waste.
- Hand-weed small plants.
- Cut off flower heads before they set seed.
- Dig out large plants including root mass.

Arum Lily

Zantedeschia aethiopica



- Seed and root fragments can be spread by water, wind and animals.
- Hand-weed small plants.
- Cut off flower heads before they set seed.
- Dig out large plants including root mass.

Banana Passionfruit

Passiflora mollissima



- Seeds spread by animals, garden centres and dumped garden waste.
- Hand-weed small plants.
- Solarise large infestations or slash/brush-cut before they seed.

Cotoneaster

Cotoneaster spp.



- Seeds spread by birds, foxes and dumped garden waste.
- Hand-weed small plants.
- Slash/brush-cut larger plants before they seed.

Replacement Plant

**Black-anther
Flax-lily**

Dianella revoluta



Tall Sedge

Carex appressa



RB

Mountain Clematis

Clematis aristata



Snowy Daisy-bush

Olearia lirata



Weed: characteristics, dispersal and removal

English Ivy

Hedera helix



- Seeds spread by birds and foxes. Root fragments reshoot.
- Hand-weed small plants including roots.
- Slash/brush-cut larger plants before they seed.

Mirror Bush

Coprosma repens



- Seeds spread by birds, foxes and dumped garden waste.
- Hand-weed small plants.
- Slash/brush-cut larger plants before they seed.

Pampas Grass

Cortaderia selloana



- Seed and root fragments spread by wind, water and dumped garden waste.
- Cut off flower heads before they set seed.
- Dig out plants including root mass.

Wandering Trad

Tradescantia fluminensis



- Mainly spread from dumped garden waste.
- Gloves required.
- Hand-weed small plants including root fragments.
- Solarise large infestations.

Replacement Plant

Purple Coral-pea

Hardenbergia violacea



Dusty Miller

Spyridium parvifolium



Red-fruit Saw-sedge

Gahnia sieberiana



Purple Coral-pea

Hardenbergia violacea



Reference and Advice

Local Native Nurseries and Groups

White Ibis Nursery

0407988182

Plants are also sold through Port
Campbell Trading Co.

27 Lord St, Port Campbell 3269

03 55 986444

facebook.com/whiteibisnursery/

Worn Gundidj Nursery

1-3 Rooneys Road, Warrnambool.

0428 318 876

facebook.com/worn.gundidj

Otway Greening

80 Pennyroyal Rd, Deans Marsh 3235

0448 605 919

otwaygreening.com.au

OzTrees Nursery and

Plantation Services

569 Warrowie Rd, Irrewarra 3249

(03) 5233 6280

oztrees.business.site

Special Effects Nursery

215A Barongarook Rd, Barongarook

0428 595 085

specialeffectsnursery.com.au

Australian Plant Society Warrnambool

facebook.com/warrnamboolsgap/

Landcare Victoria

landcarevic.org.au

Coastcare

marineandcoasts.vic.gov.au

Birdlife Australia

birdlife.org.au

Wildlife Victoria

wildlifevictoria.org.au

Australian Plant Society, Victoria

apsvic.org.au

The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria

fncv.org.au



Sweet Bursaria *Bursaria spinosa*

Key Messages Checklist

Key components	✓	Notes
I have observed my local environment and my garden before finalising my garden design.		
I have included elements from the recipes for wildlife section within my garden design		
I have included many different plants across and from within each plant category.		
I have incorporated ground level diversity by mulching and leaving branches and leaf litter on the soil.		
I have ensured adequate water supply and safe shelter for wildlife.		
Where appropriate I have included guarding young indigenous plants and reducing browsing pressure.		
I have considered the bushfire risk, as well as taken into account any waterways and potential run-off from paths.		
I have planned to plant at an appropriate time of the year for my garden's location – not too dry and not too wet and cold.		
I try to avoid the use of chemicals, including pesticides and herbicides.		
I have discussed and placed my plant orders with my indigenous nursery by October of the year prior to when I will be planting.		
I have selected the right plants for my area and the right part of my garden for them to thrive.		
I have removed weedy garden escapees and invaders and disposed of them appropriately.		



**CORANGAMITE
SHIRE**

CORANGAMITE SHIRE COUNCIL

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