



Bayside  
CITY COUNCIL

# Live Bayside **Plant Bayside**

**INDIGENOUS  
PLANT GUIDE  
FOR BAYSIDE  
GARDENS**

# Contents

## Acknowledgements

This booklet was produced by Green Gecko Publications  
Design: [www.nainak.com.au](http://www.nainak.com.au).

Photographs by Bayside City Council, Pauline Reynolds, Mary Trigger, Raf Heriot (RH), Sue Forster (SF), John Eichler (JE), Elaine Shallue (ES), Naina I Knoess, Ian Moodie (IM); [natureshare.org.au](http://natureshare.org.au) photographers Russell Best (RB), James Booth (JB), Suzanne Jones (SJ), Kevin Sparrow (KS), Chris Lindorff (CL), Lorraine Phelan (LP), Pauline McCarthy (PM) and Thoman N (TN).

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**Cover image:** Golden Pea (*Aotus ericoides*) by Pauline Reynolds



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# Introduction

## Indigenous plants and biodiversity

Indigenous plants are the original or local plants that occur naturally, in a given location. They have adapted to the conditions within the local environment such as the soil and climate.

These local plant species have also evolved alongside native wildlife, therefore providing the best possible food and shelter for native animals. A greater variety of indigenous plant species means more food and a more diverse habitat for native wildlife. Wildlife corridors connect isolated areas of habitat in a landscape.

### Habitat

The environment where an animal naturally lives or occurs.

Habitat along a creek for example, allows wildlife to move through the landscape more easily with greater access to food and shelter. Indigenous gardens act in a similar way, providing a habitat stepping stone to help local wildlife move around the landscape.

Biodiversity is important as it sustains the natural systems which provide us with clean air and water, regulate climate and maintain healthy soils for food production.

### Biodiversity

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

A high diversity of plant species improves the chances of local ecosystems to survive destructive events or processes such as weed and pest animal invasion and climate change.

### The benefits of growing indigenous plants are that they:

- 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
- strengthen local wildlife corridors and so help wildlife cope with climate change
- reflect Bayside's natural character, preserving and enhancing a sense of local identity and place
- contribute to the preservation of Bayside's natural biodiversity
- supporting indigenous planting in Bayside in line with the [Bayside Biodiversity Action Plan 2018-2027](#).

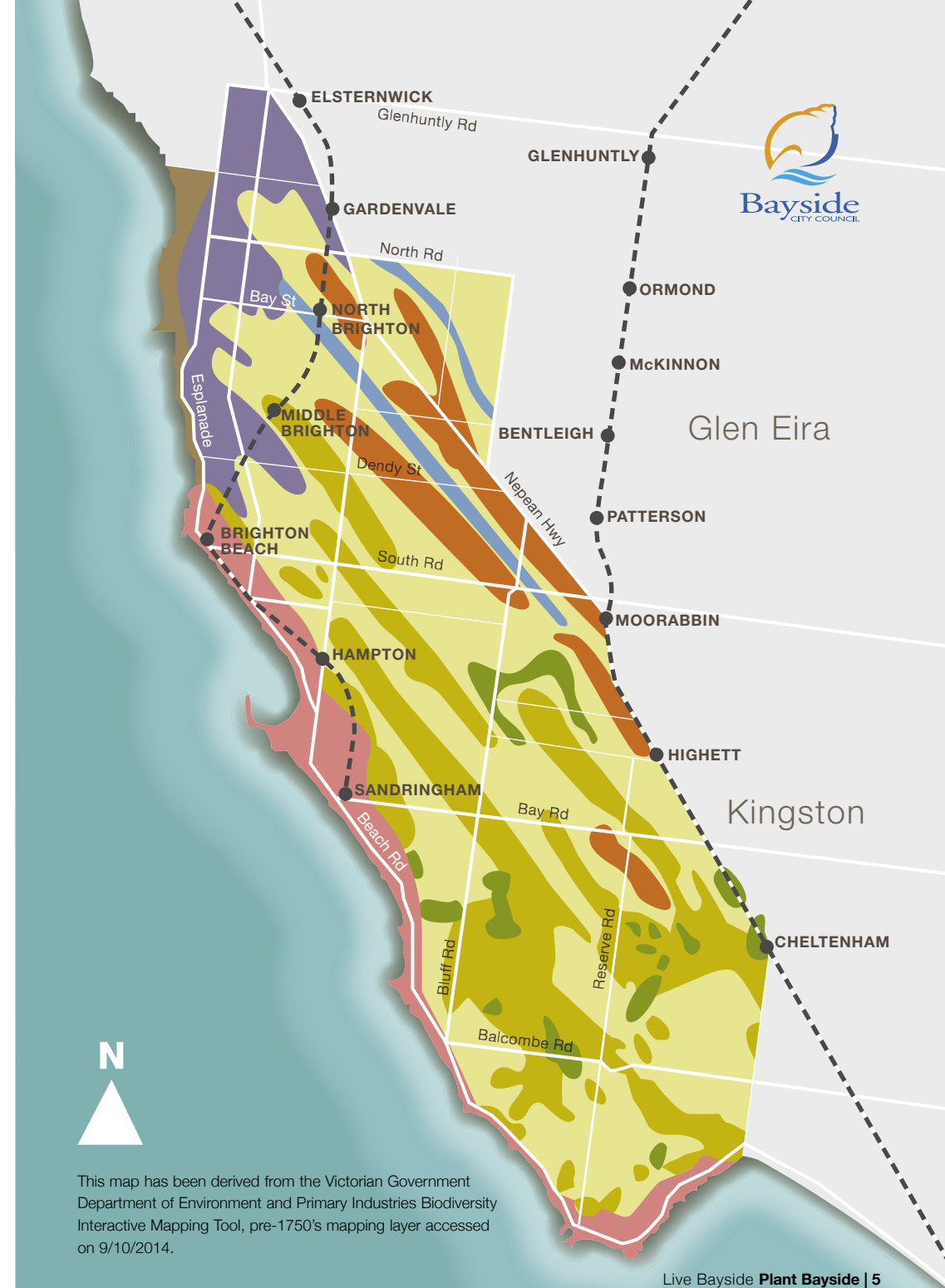




## Bayside's original vegetation communities

The vegetation of Bayside has changed dramatically since Europeans first settled in 1844. Well over 260 species have since disappeared, and many more are now considered rare or threatened. Large tracts of heathlands and woodlands were progressively cleared to make way for roads, market gardens, housing and industry. However, geological data, the location of remnant vegetation and historical field notes has enabled us to determine the location of Bayside's original vegetation communities. This information provides guidance as to the ideal location for various indigenous plants to thrive.

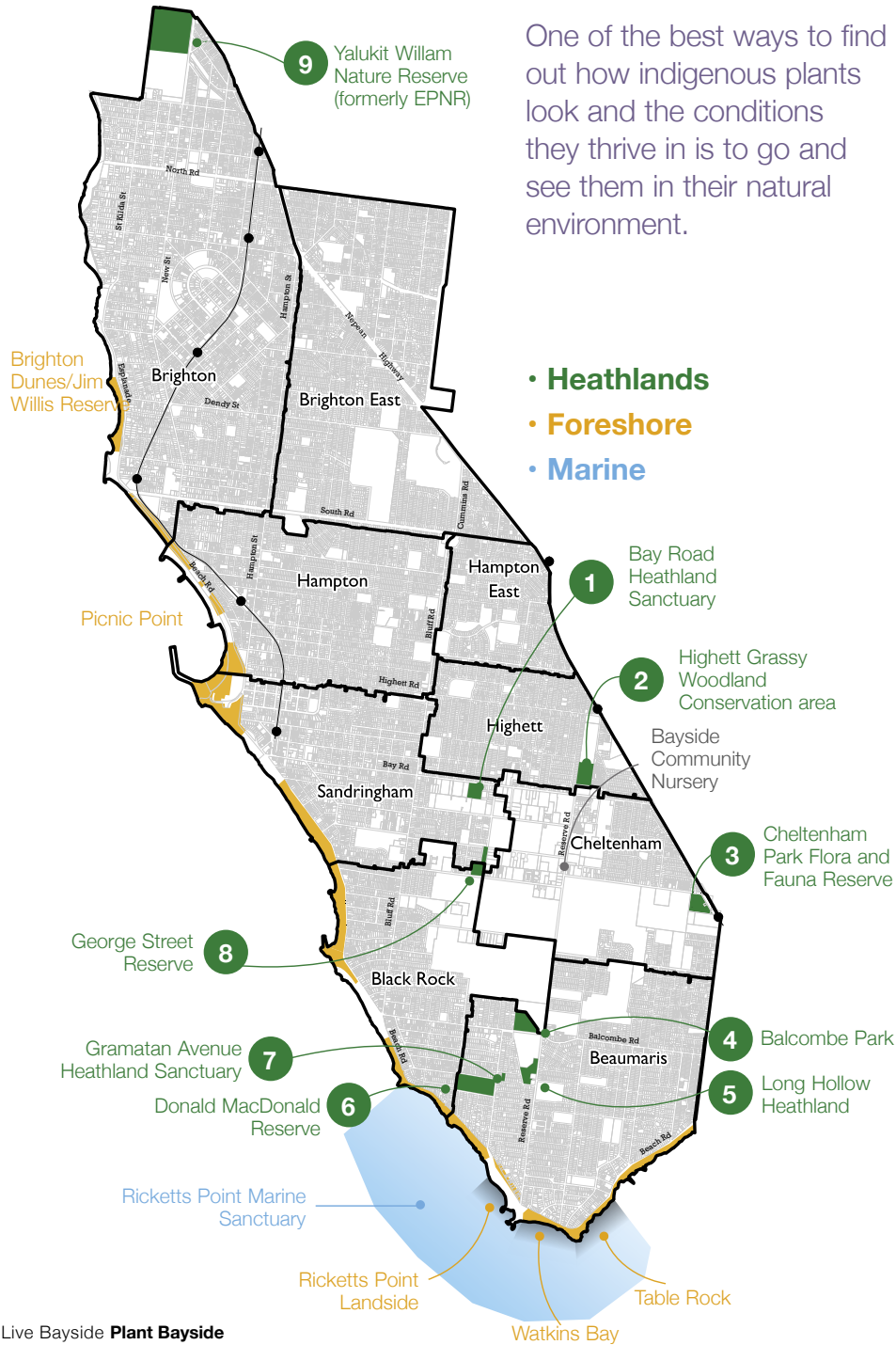
- Coastal Dune Grassland/Scrub
- Coastal Banksia Woodland/Dune Scrub
- Swamp Scrub
- Herb-rich Woodland
- Sedgy Swamp Woodland
- Heathy Woodland
- Heathy Scrub/Woodland
- Grassy Woodland



This map has been derived from the Victorian Government Department of Environment and Primary Industries Biodiversity Interactive Mapping Tool, pre-1750's mapping layer accessed on 9/10/2014.



# Bayside's Natural Bushland Reserves



One of the best ways to find out how indigenous plants look and the conditions they thrive in is to go and see them in their natural environment.

## Our bushland reserves

Along with over 17 kilometres of coastline, we have 9 inland bushland and conservation reserves to explore. These are:

- 1 Bay Road Heathland Sanctuary**, Bay Rd, Sandringham
- 2 Highett Grassy Woodland**, Graham Road, Highett
- 3 Cheltenham Park Flora and Fauna Reserve**, Cheltenham Rd, Cheltenham
- 4 Balcombe Park Reserve**, Balcombe Rd, Beaumaris
- 5 Long Hollow Heathland**, Reserve Rd, Beaumaris
- 6 Donald MacDonald Reserve**, Haydens Rd, Beaumaris
- 7 Gramatan Ave Heathland Sanctuary**, Gramatan Ave, Beaumaris
- 8 George St Reserve**, George St, Sandringham
- 9 Yalukit Willam Nature Reserve (formerly EPNR)**, New St, Brighton



## Bayside plant communities

Many plant communities were once more widespread but are now only found in patches in the local area. While a number of plant communities are present in Bayside, the three key types are:

Heathland	Coast Banksia Woodland	Grassy Woodland
Dominated by a low, very open woodland to 15m tall with a sedgy/grassy understorey and a component of small heath shrubs and grass-trees.	Distinguished by dominance of Coast Banksia; ground layer frequently has succulent creepers.	Dominated by open eucalypt woodland to 15m tall over a diverse ground layer of grasses and herbs. The shrub component is usually sparse.



## Our changing environment

Our native bats, birds and butterflies need your help! Many native animals depend on indigenous plants for food, shelter (from predators, competitors or the weather), or somewhere safe to breed. Likewise native plants benefit from native animals through pollination, seed dispersal, pest control, waste breakdown and soil maintenance. Loss of habitat is a major factor driving population decline of our wildlife.

### Urbanisation

In Victoria, over half the native vegetation that originally existed has been cleared since European settlement for houses, roads and other infrastructure. Vegetation in the landscape now exists as isolated patches which are not well connected. This makes it difficult for wildlife to move around and reproduce, resulting in a decline in species numbers.

### Climate change

Changes in our global climate are impacting our native flora and fauna. Ongoing lower rainfall and an increase in heatwaves and storm events are predicted to continue. It is difficult for plants and animals to adapt quickly to new conditions, resulting in a loss of species and diversity.

### Pests

Many non-indigenous species can become invasive. Weeds compete with local plants for space, nutrients, water and light. This results in a reduction of native habitat for wildlife and a loss of biodiversity.

Feral cats, dogs and foxes have decimated our native bird, frog, reptile and small mammal populations.

### Pollution

Herbicides, pesticides and fertilisers from our gardens can enter our stormwater system, where they end up polluting our local waterways and harming plants and wildlife.

Frogs are sensitive to pollutants in water because their skin is very sensitive and their eggs have no hardened shells.



## Wildlife corridors

Creating a habitat garden using indigenous plants will provide a haven for native insects, birds, frogs, lizards and small mammals. If more Bayside gardeners incorporate habitat design into their gardens we can create stepping stones, or resting places, for wildlife to move through our neighbourhoods. Ideally our gardens can create a wildlife corridor for animals to safely move between the large bushland reserves that exist across Bayside.

So, plant local plants in layers from groundcovers to trees, add a birdbath, leave some logs on the ground, practice natural pest control, lock up your cat at night, add a nest box and encourage your neighbours to help build Bayside's wildlife corridors.

To learn more about how Bayside are creating green corridors for local wildlife as part of our habitat linkage plan see [www.bayside.vic.gov.au/our-community/environment-and-sustainability/habitat-linkage-plan](http://www.bayside.vic.gov.au/our-community/environment-and-sustainability/habitat-linkage-plan)



Blue-tongue Lizard (JE)



# Wildlife of Bayside

The following live in Bayside or pass through regularly. Many of them are under pressure from habitat loss, habitat degradation and habitat fragmentation. Create a habitat garden using a good mix of indigenous and native plants and keep your cat indoors at night and some of these beautiful animals may frequent your garden. For more information visit [www.bayfonw.org.au](http://www.bayfonw.org.au).

## BIRDS

### Brown Goshawk (*Accipiter fasciatus*)



**Size:** 40-50cm, wingspan to 1m  
**Habitat:** open forests, woodlands and scrublands  
**Diet:** small mammals, birds, reptiles and insects.

### Common Bronzewing (*Phaps chalcoptera*)



**Size:** 32-36cm  
**Habitat:** forests, woodlands, coastal tea-tree and heathland  
**Diet:** seeds and plants.

### Eastern Rosella (*Platycercus eximius*)



**Size:** 29-34cm  
**Habitat:** open grassy woodlands, parks and gardens  
**Diet:** seeds, flowers, nectar and insects.

### Eastern Spinebill (*Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*)



**Size:** 15cm  
**Habitat:** forest, woodlands and heathlands  
**Diet:** nectar and insects.

### Australian Magpie (*Gymnorhina tibicen*)



**Size:** up to 45cm  
Males are jet black with white upper back, while females are black with a grey washed upper back  
**Habitat:** Prefers open grassy areas with enough open space for foraging and large trees for roosting and nesting  
**Diet:** Forages on the ground, with characteristic long striding walk, looking for worms, insects and their larvae, and seeds.

### Tawny Frogmouth (*Podargus strigoides*)



**Size:** 33-50cm long  
**Habitat:** forests, open woodlands, roadside trees and gardens with trees  
**Diet:** small mammals, frogs, lizards and nocturnal insects.

## BIRDS

BIRDS

White-faced Heron (*Egretta novaehollandiae*)



(LP)

**Size:** 66-70cm, wingspan 1m  
**Habitat:** shallow wetlands, tidal mudflats, grasslands and beaches  
**Diet:** fish, frogs and insects.

Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus funereus*)



**Size:** up to 65cm  
**Habitat:** a variety of habitats, but favours eucalypt woodlands  
**Diet:** seeds and some insects.

FROGS

Southern Brown Tree Frog (*Litoria ewingii*)



(JB)

**Size:** up to 45mm long  
**Habitat:** streams, lakes and ponds  
**Diet:** insects.

Eastern Banjo Frog (*Limnodynastes dumerilli*)



(NC)

**Size:** up to 85mm  
**Habitat:** burrowing species found widespread in moist soils  
**Diet:** large insects.

INSECTS

Blue-banded Bee (*Amegilla cingulata*)



(JE)

**Size:** up to 12mm long  
**Habitat:** grasslands, heathlands and woodlands  
**Diet:** nectar.

Common Spotted Ladybird (*Harmonia conformis*)



**Size:** up to 8mm  
**Habitat:** grasslands  
**Diet:** aphids and scale insects.

Greengrocer Cicada (*Cyclochila australasiae*)



(TN)

**Size:** 50-80mm  
**Habitat:** eucalypt forests  
**Diet:** plant sap.

Harlequin Bug (*Dindymus versicolour*)



(RB)

**Size:** up to 12mm  
**Habitat:** grasslands  
**Diet:** plant sap.



INSECTS

**Spotted Jezabel** (*Delias aganippe*)



(JE)

**Size:** wingspan up to 70mm  
**Habitat:** a wide range of habitats where mistletoes and Cherry Ballart grow  
**Diet:** nectar.

**Katydid** (*Caedicia* sp.)



(LP)

**Size:** 40mm  
**Habitat:** grasslands and woodlands  
**Diet:** leaves and grass.

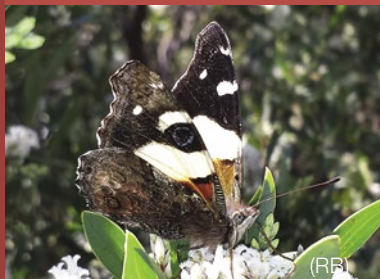
**Sooty Orb Weaver** (*Cyclosa fuliginata*)



(JB)

**Size:** 20-25mm  
**Habitat:** woodlands, grasslands and heathlands and grassy woodlands, parks and gardens  
**Diet:** insects.

**Yellow Admiral** (*Vanessa itea*)



(RB)

**Size:** wingspan to 52mm  
**Habitat:** widespread, open grasslands  
**Diet:** nectar.

MAMMALS

**Lesser Long-eared Bat** (*Nyctophilus goeffroyii*)



(JB)

**Size:** up to 55mm  
**Habitat:** grasslands and woodlands  
**Diet:** hunt near the ground for insects.

**Rakali** (*Hydromys chrysogaster*)



(IM)

**Size:** body up to 40cm in length, weight up to 1kg  
**Habitat:** near fresh water, live in burrows dug in the bank of creeks  
**Diet:** mostly fish, crustaceans and insects.

**Eastern Long-necked Turtle** (*Chelodina longicollis*)



(JB)

**Size:** shell up to 25cm long  
**Habitat:** slow moving water bodies  
**Diet:** molluscs, crustaceans, tadpoles and insects.

**Garden Skink** (*Lampropholis guichenoti*)



(JE)

**Size:** up to 40mm long  
**Habitat:** widely distributed  
**Diet:** invertebrates.

REPTILES

# Wildlife-friendly Gardens

## Key design elements

Plants and animals need food, water and shelter for their populations to survive. Each species has particular habitat needs. Here are some of the basic elements of a wildlife friendly garden. The following chapter provides recipes for attracting different forms of wildlife into your garden.

### Layers

A key to creating a habitat garden 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.

### 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.

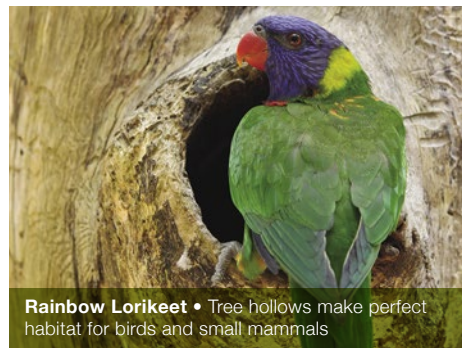
Prickly shrubs and mature trees can provide homes for a large range of insect, bird and mammal species. Old trees with hollows provide nesting sites for parrots owls and possums.

### Food

Plants that produce nectar, pollen, seeds, fruit, leaves and roots provide food for many of our native animals. Dead plant material can also be a source of food. Insects that live on the plants, mulch and soil also provide food for birds, lizards, frogs and mammals. Add a good mix of different plants to provide a range of food sources for different animals.

### 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 birds from predators while they bathe and drink. Frogs need a permanent or semi-permanent water source to keep their skin moist and provide opportunities to breed. Butterflies love to gather on a wide dish of damp sand or a small puddle in the soil.



**Rainbow Lorikeet** • Tree hollows make perfect habitat for birds and small mammals



**Brown Thornbill** • Birds need fresh water for bathing and drinking

## Give wildlife a helping hand!

Friends of Native Wildlife Inc provide more detailed information on how to support native wildlife in your garden in their Habitat Recipes.

[www.bayfonw.org.au/information/gardens-wildlife](http://www.bayfonw.org.au/information/gardens-wildlife)

## Garden Layers



Trees

Large Shrubs

Small Shrubs

Grasses & Groundcover

Logs & Mulch



## Attracting butterflies



Australian Painted Lady (ES)



Spotted Jezebel (JE)



### Butterflies

Look for the butterfly icon in the Indigenous Plant Guide (pp 38-59) for plants that provide food and shelter for butterflies and other invertebrates.

Butterflies are a welcome addition to any garden. They will move over large distances to find nectar-producing plants to feed on host plant to lay their eggs. Don't be too concerned about the resulting caterpillars as they are not destructive like the introduced Cabbage White Butterfly caterpillars that chomp through your garden.

#### Recipe:

- add a dish of damp sand. Butterflies take in water and essential salts and minerals from the soil.
- include a flat rock or paving to bask in the morning sun
- create a shady retreat from the midday sun and somewhere to shelter from rain e.g. broad-leaved plants enable them to cling safely to the underside
- practice natural pest control (p 35)
- plant a range of host plants for different butterflies to lay their eggs (e.g. Kangaroo Grass for Common Browns, Everlasting Daisies for Australian Painted Ladies, Austral Indigo for Common Grass-blue)
- plant lots of open, nectar-producing flowers particularly blue, red and yellow coloured flowers. Examples include daisies such as Coast Daisy, pea flowers including Running Postman, grasses such as Kangaroo and Wallaby-grass; and many of our flowering wattles, banksias and eucalypts.

#### Threats:

- insecticides and lack of habitat.

## Attracting other invertebrates

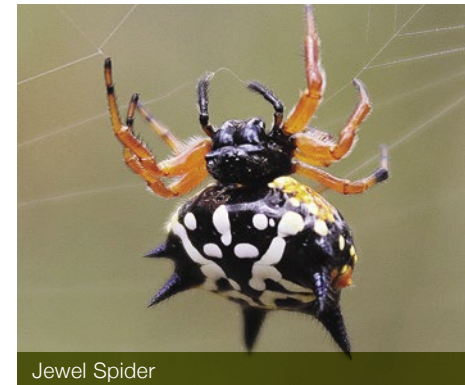
Native invertebrates such as bees, ladybirds, ants, beetles, hoverflies, spiders, lacewings and dragonflies benefit the environment and health of your garden in many ways. They are our plant pollinators, our waste recyclers, our pest eaters and an important source of food for many native birds, frogs, reptiles and mammals.

#### Recipe:

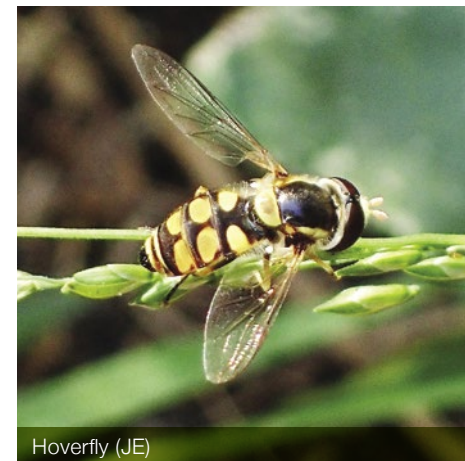
- add bush mulch to your garden beds to provide food and shelter for leaf litter munchers
- leave a few logs and branches of varying size in your garden beds
- tidy up a small area of your garden at a time, not the whole garden at once. This enables insects to relocate safely
- add a shallow dish of water for drinking or a shallow pond for breeding
- practice natural pest control (p 35)
- plant a range of different indigenous plants from trees that shed bark for insects to hide, grasses for egg laying and nectar-producing flowering plants for food. Examples include wattles, paperbarks, banksias, eucalypts, mat-rush, grasses, daisies, Sweet Bursaria and Hop Goodenia.

#### Threats:

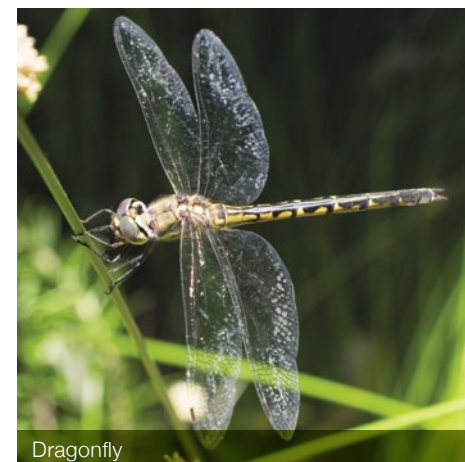
- insecticides and lack of habitat.



Jewel Spider



Hoverfly (JE)



Dragonfly



## Build an insect hotel



### Have fun with the kids and make 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 5-10mm wide and 15-80mm deep. Make the holes smooth and blind (not right through the timber) and slope them slightly upward to help keep them dry.

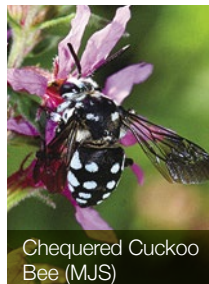
Or you can fill a pipe with clay and add some holes. Or simply bundle together some straws or bamboo and see who moves in!

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.

You are now open for business!

### Native bees

are different from the introduced honeybee. They are solitary and nest alone. A single female bee will build a small burrow in soft ground, timber or a rock crevice.



## Attracting small birds

Small garden birds are delightful to watch as they forage around the garden or queue up to take a bath. While finches are seed-eaters and silvereyes berry-eaters, the majority of small birds are insect-eaters. Great pest controllers!

### Recipe:

- provide a shallow dish of fresh water in an elevated safe position for bathing and drinking
- create open areas for foraging
- mulch garden beds to attract tasty insect treats
- practice natural pest control (p 35)
- plant dense or prickly indigenous shrubs for protection and safe nest sites
- prune indigenous shrubs to create a denser form
- plant a range of plants including prickly wattles, tea-trees, correas and climbers
- lock up your pets at night.

### Threat:

- carnivorous birds, wattlebirds, noisy miners, cats and dogs (night curfew essential) and pesticides.



Small birds

Look for the small bird icon in the Indigenous Plant Guide (pp 38-59) for plants that provide food and shelter for small birds.





## Attracting honeyeaters

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
- practice natural pest control (p 35)
- plant dense or prickly small and large shrubs for protection and safe nest sites
- plant a range of nectar and pollen-producing plants
- lock up your pets at night.

### Threats:

- carnivorous birds, wattlebirds, Noisy Miners, cats and dogs (night curfew essential) and pesticides.



### Honeyeaters

Look for the honeyeater icon in the Indigenous Plant Guide (pp 38-59) for plants that provide food and shelter for honeyeaters.



Eastern Spinebill



Little Wattlebird (SF)

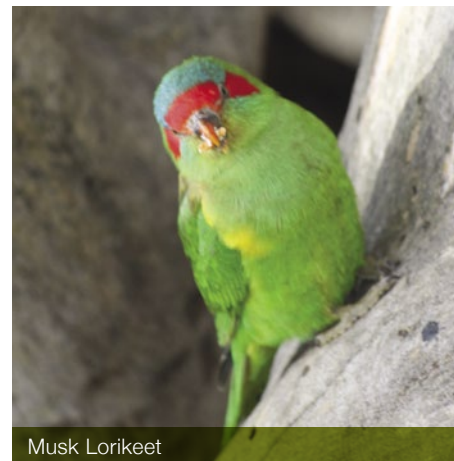


White-plumed Honeyeater

## Attracting parrots



Crimson Rosella (RH)



Musk Lorikeet



Eastern Rosella (JE)

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-rump Grass-parrot, Galahs and Sulphur-crested Cockatoos feed on wattles, banksias, eucalypts and grasses. Long-billed Corellas dig in the ground for tubers and the Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo loves to find grubs hiding under tree back.

### Recipe:

- include a source of fresh water, especially for the seed-eating parrots
- plant a range of nectar, pollen and seed producing plants
- one tall tree for perching, roosting and nesting
- provide tree hollows to nest in, or a nest box especially designed for parrots
- practice natural pest control (p 35)
- lock up your pets at night.

### Threats:

- carnivorous birds, Wattlebirds, Noisy Miners, domestic cats and dogs (night curfew essential) and pesticides.



### Parrots

Look for the parrot icon in the Indigenous Plant Guide (pp 38-59) for plants that provide food and shelter for parrots.



## Attracting large birds and owls

Birds such as Tawny Frogmouths, Magpies, Owls, Kookaburras and Butcherbirds are meat-eaters that 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 to bath and drink
- include a few tall trees for perching, roosting and nesting
- provide tree hollows, or a nest box for some large birds such as owls
- plant a range of different plant types to attract their food
- practice natural pest control (p 35)
- lock up your pets at night.

### Threats:

- other carnivorous birds (to eggs and fledglings), Wattlebirds, Noisy Miners, domestic cats and dogs (night curfew essential) and pesticides.



### Large birds & owls

Look for the large bird icon in the Indigenous Plant Guide (pp 38-59) for plants that provide food and shelter for large birds and owls.

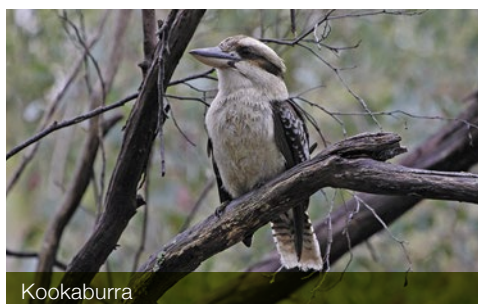


Tawny Frogmouth



Powerful Owl

(IM)



Kookaburra

## Attracting lizards and skinks



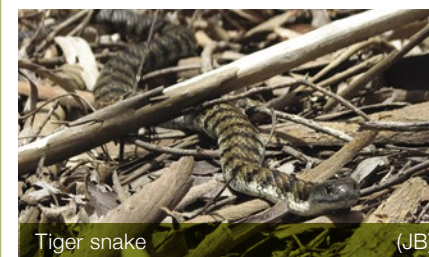
Marbled Gecko (JB)



Blue-tongue Lizard

### Snakes

Snakes are mostly found along the coastal bushland and occasionally in heathlands, but are most noticeable during warmer weather. When not out hunting for food such as rats and mice, snakes mostly prefer their burrows and thick bush away from human interference. Only during warmer months are they likely to be found warming themselves across pathways, but usually in less frequented areas.



Tiger snake

(JB)

Blue-tongued 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, including the pet friendly ones, in your garden. Many a Blue-tongue Lizard has unfortunately died after eating either the snail bait or the dead snails.

### Recipe:

- provide flat rocks or paving in a protected, sunny spot to warm up
- mulch garden beds to attract insects to eat
- practice natural pest control (p 35)
- include a fresh, shallow water supply on the ground
- plant tussocky grasses for protection
- provide shelter under shrubs to avoid overheating
- lock up your pets at night.

### Threats:

- carnivorous birds, domestic cats and dogs (night curfew essential) and pesticides.



### Lizards & skinks

Look for the lizard icon in the Indigenous Plant Guide (pp 38-59) for plants that provide food and shelter for lizards, skinks and geckos.



# Attracting frogs

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

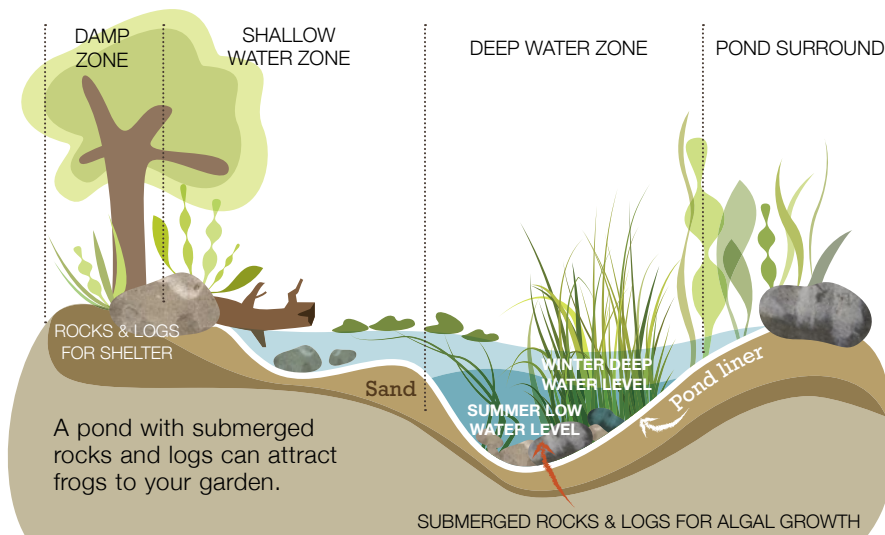
You have two options for attracting frogs to your garden. One is to build

## Recipe for a frog pond:

- locate your pond in a low-lying section of your garden that has 70% shade
- avoid locating your frog pond under trees which may drop leaves
- ensure your pond includes 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 5 days)
- add a variety of indigenous aquatic and semi-aquatic as well as plants that thrive in moist soil
- lock up your pets or prevent cats from entering your pond surround
- avoid pumps and do not add fish.

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

## Cross-section of Frog Pond



Eastern Banjo Frog (NC)



Striped Marsh Frog (NC)



Spotted Marsh Frog (NC)

## Recipe for a Frog Hide-away:

- find a moist, shady area in a quiet part of your garden
- provide shelter such as logs with holes and loose bark or rocks
- plant lots of groundcovers, grasses and small shrubs
- add chunky wood-based mulch.

## Threats:

- pesticides, carnivorous birds, cats and dogs (night curfew essential).

For advice on appropriate indigenous aquatic and semi-aquatic plants visit Bayside Community Nursery



Frogs

Look for the frog icon in the Indigenous Plant Guide (pp 38-59) for plants that provide food and shelter for frogs.





## Attracting bats and microbats

Megabats such as the Grey-headed Flying-fox fly out at night in search of pollen and nectar from eucalyptus flowers. Little mouse-sized 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 sometimes even landing to snatch a juicy grasshopper.

### Recipe:

- provide a safe roost to sleep during the day and winter. Large, old trees with hollows or loose bark are ideal
- set up a loose pile of rocks for the Lesser Long-eared Bat that roosts on the ground
- install a bat box or two in a sheltered location
- mulch to encourage insects
- plant a range of indigenous plants that attract insects.

### Threats:

- carnivorous birds, cats and dogs (night curfew essential) and pesticides.

For further information on bats and bat boxes visit: [www.bayfonw.org.au](http://www.bayfonw.org.au)



### Bats & microbats

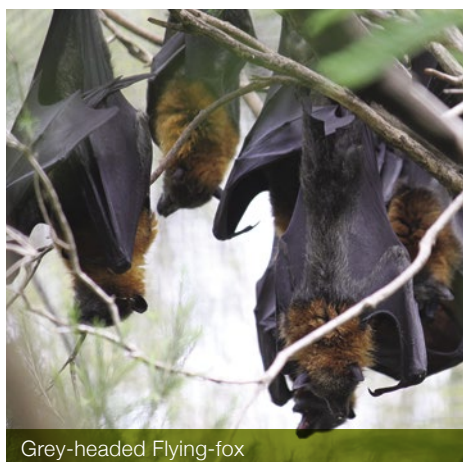
Look for the bat icon in the Indigenous Plant Guide (pp 38-59) for plants that provide food and shelter for bats & microbats.



Lesser Long-eared Bat (JB)



Gould's Wattled Bat (JB)



Grey-headed Flying-fox

## Living with possums

Common Brushtail and Ringtail possums have adapted extremely well to the urban environment. They feed on a variety of plants eating leaves, flowers and fruit. As their natural habitat has been removed they have relocated to our roof spaces to nest and our gardens for an abundance of highly nutritious food! They are a protected native animal. Fines and penalties apply for harming them.

If possums are becoming a problem consider some of the following techniques:

- possums are nocturnal and leave their nesting site each night to find food. This is the time to block known entry points to your roof
- install a possum nest box to encourage possums away from your house

- build a floppy fence of chicken wire around your garden beds. Bend the wire to curve outwards. The wire roll should be about 80cm wide with the bottom 20cm buried. String high tensile wire between your posts and attach the chicken wire loosely so that is a possum attempts to climb it the wire will sway
- 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
- some people swear by home-made garlic spray to keep possums away from their prized plants (2 tablespoons of crushed garlic to 1 litre of water, leave to stand overnight. Strain and spray)
- possum trapping must be undertaken by a licensed professional.

They are a protected native animal.



Common Brushtail Possum



Ringtail Possum

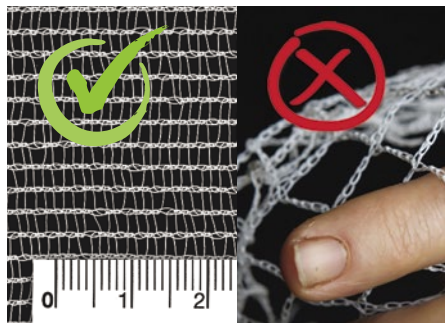


## Sick or injured wildlife

Native wildlife generally does not benefit from artificial feeding. In many situations it can make them sick. Artificial nectar feeders can ferment in warm weather making birds ill. Birds can also become dependent on a food supply of bread, nectar or seed and fail to eat a wide range of natural food types. Animals that expect to be feed by humans can also become quite aggressive and demanding. Feed pets indoors or where birds cannot access their food bowl.

Loosely woven garden netting will trap bats, birds, reptiles and mammals often resulting in their death. As a rough guide if you can insert your finger through the netting it is capable of trapping wildlife. If you must net your fruit trees for example, choose densely woven netting with a mesh size less than 1cm<sup>2</sup>. Ensure your netting is securely fixed to the ground or tied to the base of the tree above ground level. Remove nets when not required.

Please lock up your pets at night as domestic cats and dogs are one of the main threats to our native wildlife. Cat collar bells have limited success.



## Expert help

If you find sick, injured or orphaned wildlife, timely help may be critical. Do not try to unnecessarily handle the animal, but immediately call for assistance. Always treat wildlife with caution, especially when distressed or injured, as they may react unpredictably and can be dangerous. Wherever possible, wait for an experienced/qualified person to arrive.

Contact the following organisations for help:

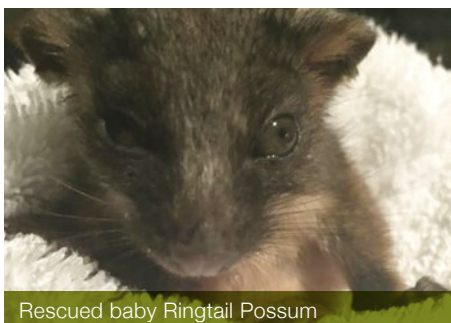
**Wildlife Victoria  
Emergency Response:**  
Tel - 8400 7300

**South Oakleigh Wildlife Shelter:**  
Tel - 0411 600 591

**AWARE Wildlife Rescue:**  
Tel - 0412 433 727

**AEC (Animal Emergency Centre):**  
Tel - 9532 5261.

If you use netting choose a densely woven net with a mesh size less than 1cm<sup>2</sup>.



Rescued baby Ringtail Possum

# Creating your Indigenous Garden

Indigenous plants can be used to beautiful effect in almost any style of garden. Whether you prefer a formal, cottage, contemporary or bush garden, indigenous plants are suitable. Many can be hedged, grouped for stunning effect or grown as a beautiful feature tree. If you have an existing garden featuring exotic plants, you can introduce indigenous plants to attract more native wildlife. You don't need to do a complete garden makeover. Plant a bed of indigenous daisies, add a dish of damp sand and the local butterflies will delight you!



Create layers within your garden to add interest.



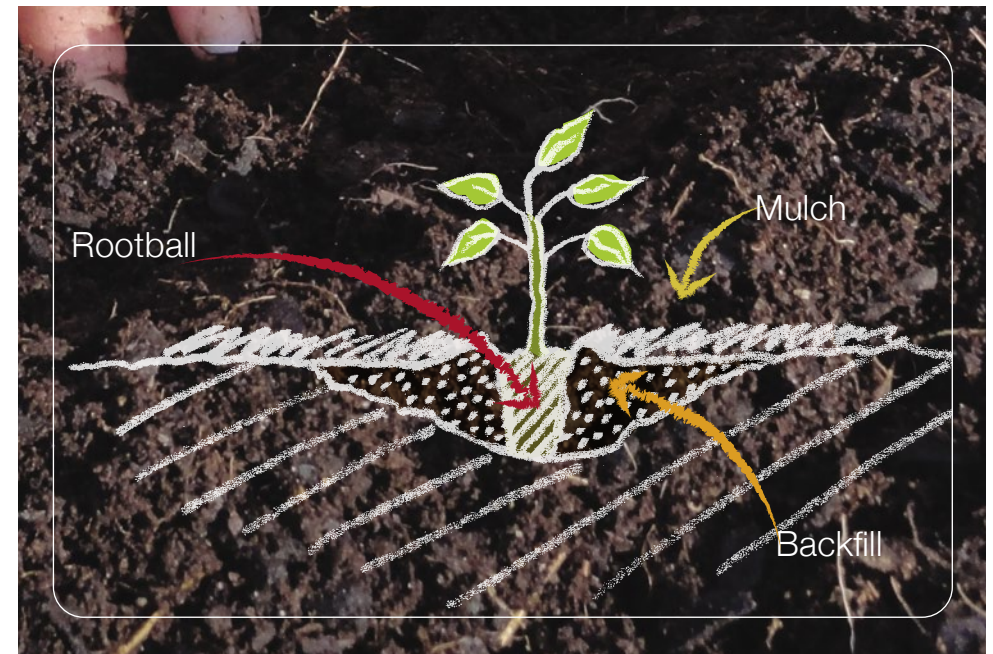


Consider the colours and textures of flowers and foliage.

## Planting

To find the ideal spot for your plant, consider its soil, moisture and sunlight requirements and potential size when fully grown. Refer to the Indigenous Plant Guide (pp 38-59) or visit the Bayside Community Nursery for advice.

- The best time to plant is in late Autumn, early winter.
- Pre-soak your plants in a bucket of water before planting.
- In dry soils, fill the hole with water and allow it to drain prior to planting.
- Prepare a hole twice the width of the container and slightly deeper.
- Remove plant from pot gently.
- Place the plant lower than the original soil level.
- Firmly replace the soil around the plant.
- Water the plant in well.
- Plants may require a good soaking once a week when establishing.





## Maintenance

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



### Watering

If you have the right plant in the right location e.g. full sun and sandy soil as opposed to shade and moist soil, your plants should only require additional watering while they are establishing. Monitor all your plants for wilting during heatwaves as climate change is causing disruptions to our rainfall and temperature conditions. Apply water to the base of the plant and provide a long, deep watering. It is best to do this early or late in the day.

### Mulch

Mulch helps keep the soil temperature down in summer, helps hold water in the soil, suppresses weeds and releases nutrients to the soil. Australian soils have low nutrient levels. They do not require

fertilising. A bush mulch is best for an indigenous garden as it slowly breaks down and creates a natural leaf litter look. Ideal habitat for insects and lizards!

### Pruning

Indigenous plants respond well to a light pruning after they have flowered. This encourages the plant to be more compact and dense.

### Weeding

Weeds are less likely to grow in an indigenous garden with a suitable layer of mulch, however some weeding is always inevitable. Weeds can be composted at a high temperatures, however weeds are also accepted in your fortnightly green waste bin or weekly bin.



## Natural pest control

Gardening with indigenous plants is a great reason to ditch your herbicides, pesticides and fertilisers as you generally won't need them and they kill our native wildlife. By growing a good diversity of plants and using non-chemical pest control you can usually control outbreaks of pests in your garden, and create healthier habitats.

### Consider:

- check your garden regularly for pests
- make sure plants are not planted too close together so there is good ventilation to prevent fungal diseases
- hand remove weeds when they are small
- attract natural predators to your garden. Create the right habitat and your garden will be jumping with ladybirds and small birds feasting on garden pests
- keep your pruning tools sharp so cuts are clean and bark isn't torn.

### Some home remedies:

- add a few drops of detergent, linseed or fish oil to a shallow dish to catch earwigs and Portuguese millipedes
- place a ring of crushed eggshell, sawdust or coffee grounds around plants to deter snails and slugs. They will also tend to gather under an upturned pot for easy collection
- make a garlic spray (2 tablespoons of crushed garlic to 1 litre of water. Stand overnight, strain and spray).



Transverse Ladybird eating aphids (ES)



Example of snail trap



## Planting for nature strips

Bayside residents are permitted to plant out their nature strips with indigenous grasses, groundcovers and low growing shrubs listed in the Bayside Nature Strip Planting Guidelines, (subject to Council or VicRoads consent) available on the Council website.

A minimum of 500mm must be kept clear from the kerb to allow people to safely exit their cars. Plants (except street trees) must be maintained at a maximum height of 600mm. Corner blocks are limited to ground cover plants to a maximum height of 250 mm within 9 metres either side of an intersection to ensure a clear line of sight for motorists and pedestrians. A minimum of 1.5 metres from the property line is to be kept clear to allow for pedestrian access, mail, paper and other deliveries.

Residents can request Council plant a street tree on their nature strip if it is absent.

Mulch or bark chips can be laid to a depth of 75mm. These must be level with the footpath and weed free. Mulch also needs to be kept on the nature strip and not spill onto the footpath.

If you would like to plant out your nature strip you will need to ensure you prune plants so they don't protrude beyond the boundary and don't exceed the height restrictions. You will be responsible for keeping your nature strip free of weeds, rubbish and any tripping hazards.

If you live on a major arterial road e.g. Bluff Road, you will need to obtain a "Works within the Road Reserve Permit" from VicRoads (Tel: 13 11 71). If you live on a local road contact Council (Tel: 9599 4444).

For further information visit:  
[www.bayside.vic.gov.au/naturestrip](http://www.bayside.vic.gov.au/naturestrip)



The **Banksia Bulletin** is a free online publication featuring articles about the latest news and events occurring throughout Bayside's natural bushland and coastal areas. Articles are provided by Friends of Bayside volunteers, Council Open Space contractors and staff. See <https://www.bayside.vic.gov.au/banksia-bulletin>



Subscribe via email: [banksia@bayside.vic.gov.au](mailto:banksia@bayside.vic.gov.au)

### Bayside Community Nursery

The place to buy healthy indigenous plants as well as advice and guidance on plant selection and maintenance.



Open to the public from April to October from 10am to 12 noon on Thursdays and Saturdays.

**315-317 Reserve Road  
Cheltenham  
Tel: 9583 8408**



For further information visit:  
[www.bayside.vic.gov.au/  
community-nursery](http://www.bayside.vic.gov.au/community-nursery)



Bayside's Gardens for Wildlife program is a free program designed to inspire and encourage Bayside residents, community groups, schools and businesses to create habitat in their gardens and open spaces, patios or balconies to support local native wildlife.

For more information on habitat gardening visit [www.bayside.vic.gov.au/sustainability-and-environment/gardens-for-wildlife](http://www.bayside.vic.gov.au/sustainability-and-environment/gardens-for-wildlife)



## Bayside

# Indigenous Plant Guide

The following section features a selection of plants you may wish to include in your garden.

If you are keen to attract wildlife to your garden the following icons indicate a section that features a selection of plants that will attract different wildlife:



**Small birds** such as Wrens, Robins and Fantails



**Honeyeaters** such as Spinebills and Honeyeaters



**Parrots** such as Rosellas, Lorikeets and Cockatoos



**Butterflies** and **Invertebrates** such as Beetles, Dragonflies and Spiders



**Frogs** such as the Eastern Banjo Frog and Spotted Marsh Frog



**Lizards** such as Skinks and Blue-tongue Lizards



**Mammals** such as Microbats, Bats and Possums



**Large birds** such as Owls, Tawny Frogmouth and Kookaburras.

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














## Herbs and Groundcovers

These plants play an important role in the landscape. Not only are they attractive, they are useful for binding soil, minimising weed growth, attracting butterflies and are important for attracting pollinators for other plants. Indigenous herbs and groundcovers are able to tolerate a wide range of growing conditions.























*Kennedia prostrata* Running Postman  
Live Bayside **Plant Bayside** | 39















## Groundcovers


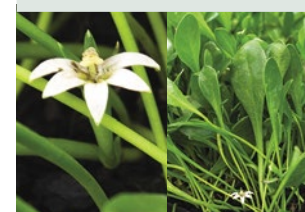

<p><i>Acaena novae-zealandiae</i></p> 	<p>Bidgee-widgee </p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• creeping groundcover that dies back in winter</li> <li>• 10cm H x 1-4m W</li> <li>• green/white globular flowers Oct-Jan</li> <li>• tolerates all soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Amperea xiphioclada</i></p> 	<p>Broom Spurge </p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• wiry shrub useful in creating natural bush appearance</li> <li>• 30-80cm H x 40-50cm W</li> <li>• tiny cream/brown flowers Sept-Feb</li> <li>• moist, well-drained soils</li> <li>• full sun, semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Apium prostratum</i> spp. <i>prostratum</i> var. <i>filiforme</i></p> 	<p>Sea Celery </p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• trailing groundcover with leaves and stems that taste like celery</li> <li>• 5-30cm H x 1-2m W</li> <li>• tiny cream/green flowers Dec-Apr</li> <li>• moist, well-drained sandy soils</li> <li>• full sun</li> <li>• tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Brachyscome parvula</i></p> 	<p>Coast Daisy  </p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a locally rare plant suitable for planting around ponds</li> <li>• 10-45cm H x 1-2m W</li> <li>• single white/mauve flower Nov-Jan</li> <li>• wet, heavier soils</li> <li>• full sun</li> <li>• tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Carpobrotus rossii</i></p> 	<p>Karkalla  </p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent soil binder on sandy, exposed locations</li> <li>• 5-10cm H x 1-3m W</li> <li>• showy pink/purple flowers Aug-Feb</li> <li>• will grow in all well-drained soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>

## Groundcovers

<p><i>Chrysocephalum apiculatum</i></p> 	<p>Common Everlasting   </p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attractive herb responds well to winter pruning</li> <li>• 10-30cm H x 50-100cm W</li> <li>• flowers Sept-Dec but can flower all year round</li> <li>• grows in all well-drained soils and tolerates dry conditions</li> <li>• full sun</li> <li>• tolerates moderately salty winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Coronidium scorpioides</i></p> 	<p>Button Everlasting   </p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• excellent rocky plant</li> <li>• 20-30cm H x 20 - 30cm W</li> <li>• yellow flower Sept-Dec</li> <li>• moist, well-drained soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• does not tolerate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Dichondra repens</i></p> 	<p>Kidney-weed  </p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vigorous groundcover can suppress weeds</li> <li>• matting plant spreads quickly to 1-2m</li> <li>• tiny cream/green flowers Sept-Dec</li> <li>• all soils, spreads widely in moist conditions</li> <li>• semi-shade to shade</li> <li>• tolerates some salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Einadia nutans</i></p> 	<p>Nodding Saltbush   </p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• excellent for dry areas</li> <li>• 10cm H x 1-2m W</li> <li>• tiny red/orange flowers Dec-Mar</li> <li>• all soil types</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Frankenia pauciflora</i> var. <i>gunnii</i></p> 	<p>Southern Sea-heath </p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attractive rockery plant that responds well to pruning</li> <li>• 30cm H x 30cm-1m W</li> <li>• delicate pink flowers most of the year</li> <li>• well-drained soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates salt spray and saline conditions</li> </ul>













<p><i>Geranium solanderi</i></p> 	<p>Austral Crane's-bill </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>easily grown plant that readily seeds</li> <li>50cm H to 50cm-1.5m W</li> <li>pale pink flowers Oct-Feb</li> <li>well-drained to wet soils</li> <li>semi-sun</li> <li>does not tolerate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Kennedia prostrata</i></p> 	<p>Running Postman  </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>trailing groundcover grows well in rockeries</li> <li>10cm H x 1-2m W</li> <li>bright red flowers Apr-Dec</li> <li>well-drained soils</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Lagenophora stipitata</i></p> 	<p>Common Bottle-daisy </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>suitable for pots or under trees provided moisture is available</li> <li>grows 5-25cm H x 10cm W</li> <li>mauve flowers Sept-Jan</li> <li>moist well-drained soils</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Laxmannia orientalis</i></p> 	<p>Dwarf Wire-lily  </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>unusual plant suited to containers</li> <li>2-15cm H x 5-15cm W</li> <li>tiny white/pink flowers Sept-Nov</li> <li>moist, sandy soils</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> </ul>
<p><i>Lobelia anceps</i></p> 	<p>Angled Lobelia </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>excellent for frog gardens or containers</li> <li>30cm H x 30cm W</li> <li>blue fan-shaped flowers most of the year</li> <li>moist soils</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> </ul>

<p><i>Pelargonium australe</i></p> 	<p>Austral Stork's-bill </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>fast-growing, matting groundcover</li> <li>30-60cm H x 30cm-1m W</li> <li>attractive pink flowers Oct-Feb</li> <li>well-drained soils</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Pimelea humilis</i></p> 	<p>Common Rice-flower  </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>attractive plant with an erect or trailing form</li> <li>10-50cm H x 30cm-1m W</li> <li>fragrant cream/white flowers Sept-Jan</li> <li>heavier, well-drained soils, moist to dry</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>does not tolerate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Platysace heterophylla</i></p> 	<p>Slender Platysace </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>narrow leaves resembling thick, bright green twine</li> <li>20-35cm H x 30-60cm W</li> <li>tiny white star flowers Oct-Jan</li> <li>well-drained soils</li> <li>semi-shade</li> <li>tolerates extra moisture in winter</li> </ul>
<p><i>Selliera radicans</i></p> 	<p>Shiny Swamp-mat  </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>fast-growing succulent attractive around ponds</li> <li>4cm H x 1-1.5m W</li> <li>fan-shaped white/mauve flowers Oct-Nov</li> <li>moist soils</li> <li>full sun to full shade</li> <li>tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Viola hederacea</i></p> 	<p>Native Violet </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>attractive plant for rockeries, pots and garden beds</li> <li>10-15cm H and spreads to 1m W</li> <li>masses of white/purple flowers from Jun-Mar</li> <li>dry to moist soils</li> <li>full sun to shade</li> <li>tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>

# Creepers and Climbers

These showy, attractive plants grow well trained along a fence or climbing up a tree. They can also be used as a spreading, matting ground cover in rockeries or pots.

<p><i>Billardiera mutabilis</i></p> 	<p>Common Apple-berry </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a vigorous, long-lived climber that grows well under established trees or trained along a trellis.</li> <li>• tubular flowers Jul-Dec</li> <li>• well-drained dry to moist, heavier soils</li> <li>• full sun to shade</li> </ul>
<p><i>Clematis microphylla</i> var. <i>microphylla</i></p> 	<p>Small-leaved Clematis </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a scrambling climber can be trained to cover a fence or trellis</li> <li>• green/white flowers Jul-Nov, followed by feathery seed heads</li> <li>• well-drained soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• Tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Comesperma volubile</i></p> 	<p>Love Creeper </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• open, slender twining plant</li> <li>• attractive blue/mauve flowers Aug-Dec</li> <li>• well-drained soil with roots protected from drying out</li> <li>• semi-shade</li> </ul>
<p><i>Hardenbergia violacea</i></p> 	<p>Purple Coral Pea </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• trailing or climbing plant can be trained to cover a fence or trellis</li> <li>• showy purple flowers Jul-Nov</li> <li>• well-drained soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Tetragonia tetragonioides</i></p> 	<p>New Zealand Spinach </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• prostrate or sprawling annual plant useful as groundcover</li> <li>• can be short lived but will grow from seed</li> <li>• an important food source for early settlers</li> <li>• prefers moist soils but is salt tolerant</li> <li>• full sun to part shade</li> <li>• flowers most of the year</li> </ul>

*Hardenbergia violacea* Purple Coral Pea



# Lillies, Grasses and Tussocks

These plants have become increasingly popular in landscaping, adding beauty, form, colour and texture variations to the garden.

*Lomandra filliformis* Wattle Mat-rush

*Austrostipa mollis*



Soft Spear-grass



- impressive when mass planted
- 30cm H x 50cm W
- flowers from Oct-Jan
- attractive feathery seed heads
- moist often sandy soils
- full sun to semi-shade

*Austrostipa stipoides*

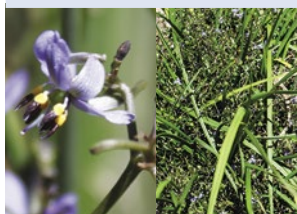


Prickly Spear-grass



- slow-growing, but long-lived grass with striking bronze leaves
- 1-1.5 H x 1-1.5 W
- pale flower heads Sept-Nov
- all soil types
- full sun
- tolerates salt winds

*Dianella brevicaulis*



Small-flowered Flax-lily



- easy to maintain plant with shiny leaves
- 60-90cm H x 60-90cm W
- dainty blue/mauve flowers Sept-Dec
- all soil types
- full sun to semi-shade
- tolerates salt winds

*Dianella laevis* var. *laevis*



Pale Flax-lily



- attractive garden or container plant
- 30-80cm H x 50cm W
- pale blue flowers from Aug-Jan
- all well-drained soils
- full sun to semi-shade
- tolerates moderate salt winds

*Dichelachne crinita*


















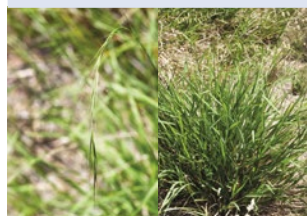


















Long-hair Plume-grass



- attractive green to blue-green foliage
- 50cm-1m H x 20-30cm W
- graceful, fluffy seed heads from Oct-Nov
- all well-drained soils
- full sun to semi-shade
- does not tolerate salty conditions



<p><i>Ficinia nodosa</i></p> 	<p>Knobby Club-rush    </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• excellent for binding soil in moist areas</li> <li>• 50cm-1m H x 60cm-2m W</li> <li>• attractive brown flower heads most of the year</li> <li>• grows in most soils provided they are moist</li> <li>• can tolerate some drying out</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> </ul>
<p><i>Lomandra filiformis</i></p> 	<p>Wattle Mat-rush   </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attractive long-lived plant</li> <li>• 15-50cm H x 15-20cm W</li> <li>• small yellow flowers from Sept-Mar</li> <li>• responds well to pruning</li> <li>• moist, well-drained soils, tolerates dry conditions once established</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> </ul>
<p><i>Lomandra longifolia</i></p> 	<p>Spiny-headed Mat-rush   </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fast-growing plant for difficult areas</li> <li>• 50cm-1m H x 50cm-1.2m W</li> <li>• clusters of yellow/purple flowers Sept-Dec</li> <li>• most soil types</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Lomandra multiflora</i></p> 	<p>Multi-flowered Mat-rush   </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• responds well to pruning</li> <li>• 30-90cm H x 30-50cm W</li> <li>• showy yellow flowers from Jun-Jan</li> <li>• well-drained soils</li> <li>• tolerates extended dry periods once established</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> </ul>
<p><i>Microlaena stipoides</i></p> 	<p>Weeping Grass   </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• can be mown to a tufted lawn</li> <li>• 20cm-1.2m H x 10-40cm W</li> <li>• fluffy seed heads from Oct-Jan</li> <li>• moist, well-drained soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates some salt winds</li> </ul>

<p><i>Patersonia occidentalis</i></p> 	<p>Long Purple-flag   </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• spectacular when mass planted</li> <li>• 20-40cm H x 30-60cm W</li> <li>• purple flowers from Sept-Jan</li> <li>• grows in most soil types</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• suitable for pond edges</li> </ul>
<p><i>Poa labillardierei</i></p> 	<p>Common Tussock-grass   </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attractive ornamental grass</li> <li>• 70cm H x 75cm W</li> <li>• flower heads from Oct-Feb</li> <li>• most soil types with reliable moisture</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Poa sieberiana</i></p> 	<p>Grey Tussock-grass   </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attractive blue-green grass establishes well under trees</li> <li>• 15-30cm H x 40cm W</li> <li>• green/purple flowers from Oct-Mar</li> <li>• most soil types, tolerates dry</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Rytidosperma caespitosum</i></p> 	<p>Common Wallaby-grass   </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• can be mown to a tufted lawn</li> <li>• 20cm-1.2m H x 10-40cm W</li> <li>• fluffy seed heads from Oct-Jan</li> <li>• moist, well-drained soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates some salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Themeda triandra</i></p> 	<p>Kangaroo Grass   </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• excellent feature grass or mass planted</li> <li>• 30cm-1m H x 20-60cm W</li> <li>• coppery/purple arching flower heads Sept-Mar</li> <li>• most well-drained soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>



















# Small Shrubs







Ideal shelter or feature plants, small indigenous shrubs provide colour, texture and layers within the garden. They also provide habitat and food, particularly for a variety of birds and butterflies.











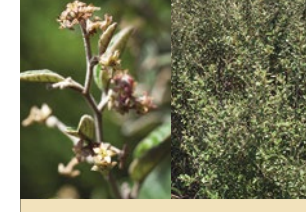






*Dillwynia cinerascens* Grey Parrot-pea

<p><i>Acacia ulicifolia</i></p> 	<p>Juniper Wattle  </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>attractive screening plant</li> <li>open, upright prickly shrub</li> <li>1-2m H x 1-2m W</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>cream/ pale yellow flowers from Apr-Sept</li> <li>prefers moist, well-drained soils</li> <li>semi-shade</li> </ul>
<p><i>Allocasuarina paradoxa</i></p> 	<p>Green She-oak </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>separate male and female plants</li> <li>50cm-2m H x 1-2m W</li> <li>rusty red flowers from Sept-Nov</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>prefers well-drained sandy soils</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Aotus ericoides</i></p> 	<p>Common Aotus   </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>fast-growing shrub responds well to pruning</li> <li>50cm-2m H x 30cm-1.5m W</li> <li>showy red and yellow flowers Aug-Dec</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>well-drained soils, adaptable</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Atriplex cinerea</i></p> 	<p>Coast or Grey Saltbush  </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>fast-growing screen plant</li> <li>1-2m H x 2-3m W</li> <li>male flowers reddish/purple, cream female flowers Sept-Mar</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>moist, well-drained sandy soils</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Bossiaea cinerea</i></p> 	<p>Showy Bossiaea   </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>attractive ornamental shrub</li> <li>1-2m H x 1-2m W</li> <li>profuse flowers Aug-Dec</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>prune after flowering to maintain compact shape</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>well-drained soils, tolerates dry conditions once established</li> </ul>



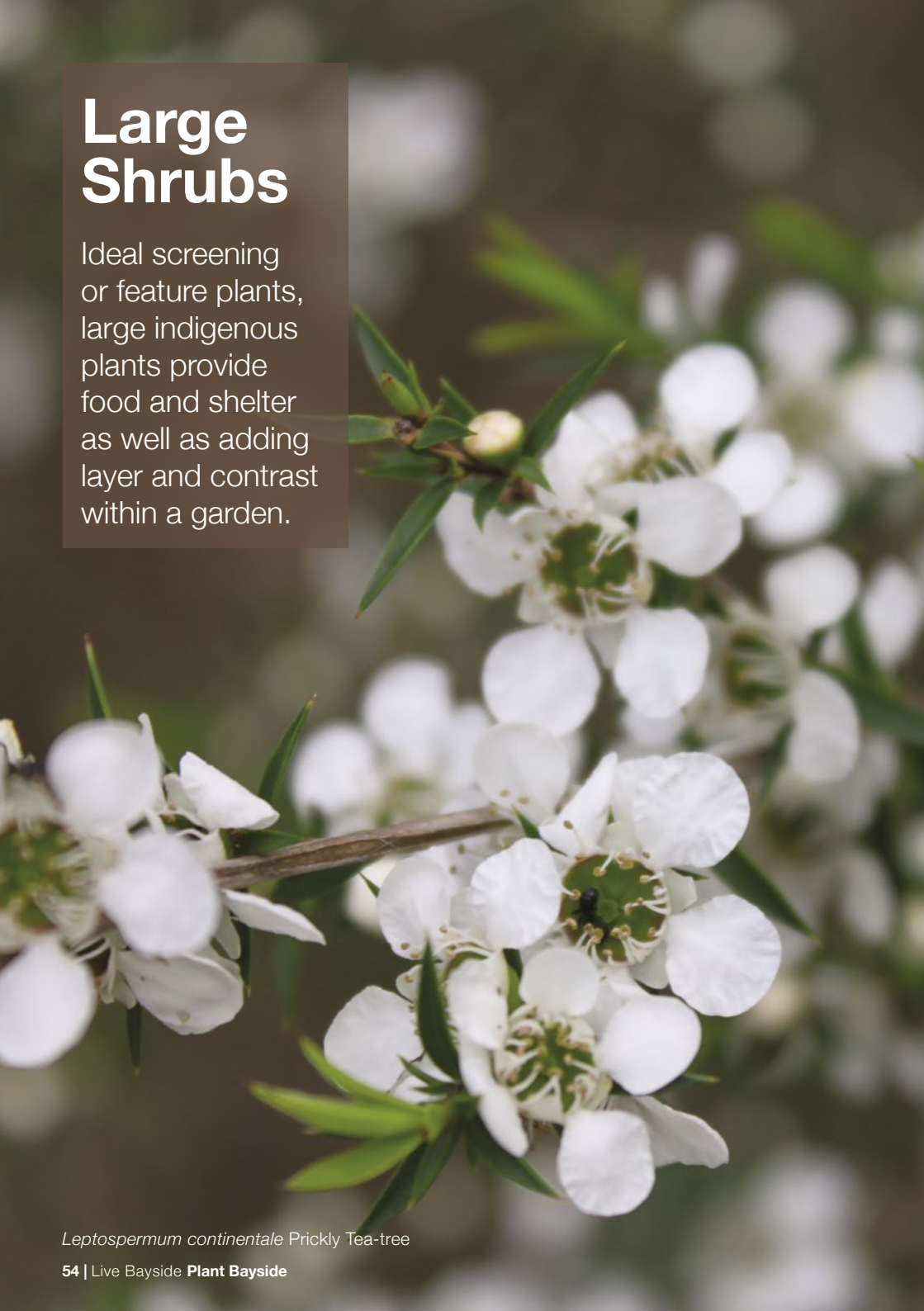
<p><i>Correa alba</i></p> 	<p>White Correa   </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a hardy shrub that responds well to pruning</li> <li>• 50cm-2m H x 1-3m W</li> <li>• white star flowers peaking in spring and summer</li> <li>• prefers well-drained soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates salt winds once established</li> </ul>
<p><i>Correa reflexa</i></p> 	<p>Common Correa  </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• moderately fast-growing plant</li> <li>• 30cm-2m H x 1-2m W</li> <li>• green to red flowers Mar-Sept</li> <li>• all well-drained soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates moderate salt winds</li> <li>• responds well to pruning</li> </ul>
<p><i>Epacris impressa</i></p> 	<p>Common Heath  </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• spectacular plant, especially when mass planted</li> <li>• open, erect wiry shrub</li> <li>• up to 1m H x 20-60cm W</li> <li>• white, pink or red flowers from Mar-Nov</li> <li>• requires moist, well-drained soils</li> <li>• tolerates dry conditions and moderate salt winds once established</li> </ul>
<p><i>Goodenia ovata</i></p> 	<p>Hop Goodenia  </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fast-growing shrub responds well to pruning</li> <li>• 1-2.5m H x 1-3m W</li> <li>• vibrant yellow flowers from Aug-Feb</li> <li>• favours damp soils, but tolerates dryness</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Hibbertia sericea</i></p> 	<p>Silky Guinea-flower  </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• needs care to establish, but long-lived</li> <li>• 30cm-1m H x 60cm W</li> <li>• bright yellow flowers from Oct-Dec</li> <li>• well-drained, sandy soils; avoid clay</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>

<p><i>Lasiopetalum baueri</i></p> 	<p>Slender Velvet-bush  </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• locally rare plant available from nurseries</li> <li>• 1-1.25m H x 1m W</li> <li>• clusters of pink/white flowers Oct-Feb</li> <li>• dry, well-drained soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Leptospermum myrsinoides</i></p> 	<p>Heath or Silky Tea-tree  </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• useful for understorey planting and hedging</li> <li>• 50cm-2.5m H x 1m W</li> <li>• white/pale pink flowers from Aug-Nov</li> <li>• prefers deep sandy soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Leucophyta brownii</i></p> 	<p>Cushion Bush   </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• excellent contrast or hedging plant</li> <li>• 20cm-1m H x 50cm-2m W</li> <li>• cream/pale yellow flowers Sept-Dec</li> <li>• dry, well-drained soils, tolerates alkaline soil</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Pomaderris paniculosa</i> ssp. <i>paralia</i></p> 	<p>Coast Pomaderris </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• unusual, compact coastal shrub</li> <li>• 1-2m H x 1-2m W</li> <li>• clusters of tiny yellow flowers from Sept-Oct</li> <li>• well-drained sandy soils, tolerates limestone</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Suaeda australis</i></p> 	<p>Austral Seablite  </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• attractive coastal plant with succulent leaves</li> <li>• 15-80cm H x 30cm-1.2m W</li> <li>• tiny greenish flowers peaking Oct-Mar</li> <li>• moist, saline soils</li> <li>• full sun</li> <li>• tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>







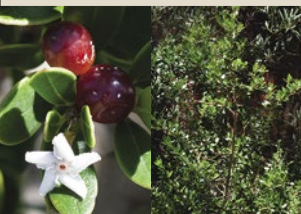



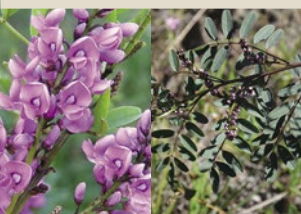

# Large Shrubs

Ideal screening or feature plants, large indigenous plants provide food and shelter as well as adding layer and contrast within a garden.



*Leptospermum continentale* Prickly Tea-tree

## Large Shrubs

<p><i>Acacia oxycedrus</i></p> 	<p>Spike Wattle</p> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• adaptable shrub or small tree</li> <li>• 1-3m H x 1-5m W</li> <li>• bright yellow flowers Jun-Nov</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• well-drained, moist to sandy soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates moderate salt winds &amp; mild frost</li> </ul>
<p><i>Acacia suaveolens</i></p> 	<p>Sweet Wattle</p> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fast-growing screen plant</li> <li>• 1-3m H x 2-5m W</li> <li>• perfumed, cream flowers Apr-Aug</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• dry, well-drained sandy soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Alyxia buxifolia</i></p> 	<p>Sea Box</p> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• slow-growing decorative shrub</li> <li>• 1-3m H x 1-3m W</li> <li>• perfumed, white flowers Oct-Feb</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• well-drained, sandy soils</li> <li>• coastal conditions in full sun</li> <li>• tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Banksia marginata</i></p> 	<p>Silver Banksia</p> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• striking feature tree or screen plant</li> <li>• 1-6m H x 1-4m W</li> <li>• can vary in height and form</li> <li>• bright yellow flower cones Feb-Jun</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• well-drained soils, but tolerates wet conditions</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>• tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Indigofera australis</i></p> 	<p>Austral Indigo</p> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• open, graceful shrub</li> <li>• 1-2m H x 1-2m W</li> <li>• mauve/pink pea flowers Sept-Nov</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pruning after flowering keeps compact form</li> <li>• adaptable to any well-drained soils</li> <li>• full sun to semi-shade</li> </ul>



## Large Shrubs











<p><i>Melaleuca squarrosa</i></p> 	<p>Scented Paperbark </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>attractive shrub with unusual leaves and fragrant flowers</li> <li>2-5m H x 1-2m W</li> <li>cream/yellow flowers Sept-Feb</li> <li>moist to wet soils</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Myoporum insulare</i></p> 	<p>Common Boobialla </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>attractive, dense screening shrub</li> <li>1-6m H x 3m W</li> <li>fragrant white flowers Oct-Nov</li> <li>well-drained sandy soils</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Olearia axillaris</i></p> 	<p>Coast Daisy-bush </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>striking contrast shrub</li> <li>1-2m H x 1-2m W</li> <li>small yellow flowers Feb-Apr</li> <li>benefits from pruning</li> <li>well-drained, dry sandy soils</li> <li>tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Solanum laciniatum</i></p> 	<p>Large Kangaroo-apple </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>fast-growing plant benefits from pruning</li> <li>1-3m H x 1-3m W</li> <li>purple flowers from Sept-Mar</li> <li>all well-drained soils</li> <li>full sun to shade</li> <li>tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Viminaria juncea</i></p> 	<p>Golden Spray </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>beautiful weeping shrub</li> <li>1.5-5m H x 1-2.5m W</li> <li>fragrant yellow flowers from Oct-Feb</li> <li>adaptable to poorly-drained soils</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>



## Trees

Trees provide excellent shade and shelter, and contribute to the maintenance of biodiversity through the provision of wildlife movement corridors and habitat.



<p><i>Acacia implexa</i></p> 	<p>Lightwood</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>graceful, long-lived wattle</li> <li>5-15m H x 4-7m W</li> <li>perfumed cream flowers Dec-Mar</li> <li>adaptable to most soils and moisture levels</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Acacia melanoxylon</i></p> 	<p>Blackwood</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>fast-growing and adaptable wattle</li> <li>5-20m H x 4-15m W</li> <li>cream flowers from Jul-Oct</li> <li>grows best in deep, moist soils, but is adaptable</li> <li>tolerates some dryness once established</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> </ul>
<p><i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i></p> 	<p>Drooping Sheoak</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>graceful tree ideal as a screen or feature plant</li> <li>4-11m H x 3-6m W</li> <li>small yellow male flowers from Mar-Dec</li> <li>adaptable to all well-drained soils</li> <li>prefers full sun</li> <li>tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Banksia integrifolia</i></p> 	<p>Coast Banksia</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>attractive feature tree or screen plant</li> <li>10-20m H x 5-10m W</li> <li>striking yellow flower cones Feb-Sept</li> <li>grows in all well-drained local soils</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Bursaria spinosa</i></p> 	<p>Sweet Bursaria</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>long-lived plant often with spines along branches</li> <li>2-6m H x 2-3m W</li> <li>masses of fragrant white flowers Dec-Mar</li> <li>well-drained to moist soils</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>

<p><i>Eucalyptus pauciflora</i></p> 	<p>Snow Gum or White Sallee</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a feature tree of striking beauty</li> <li>8-30m H x 6-10m W</li> <li>white/cream flowers from Dec-Feb</li> <li>well-drained soils</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>does not tolerate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> ssp. <i>pyroriana</i></p> 	<p>Coast Manna-gum</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an ornamental tree suited to large gardens</li> <li>8-16m H x 5-12m W</li> <li>white flowers from Jan-Apr</li> <li>well-drained sandy soils</li> <li>full sun</li> <li>tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i></p> 	<p>Coast Tea-tree</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>excellent feature tree or screen plant</li> <li>2-8m H x 2-4m W</li> <li>white flowers Aug-Nov</li> <li>all well-drained soils, tolerates dryness</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>tolerates salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i></p> 	<p>Swamp Paperbark</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>adaptable plant useful in wet garden areas</li> <li>4-9m H x 2-6m W</li> <li>masses of cream flowers Oct-Nov</li> <li>moist to wet soils, tolerates dryness once established</li> <li>full sun to semi-shade</li> <li>tolerates moderate salt winds</li> </ul>
<p><i>Ozothamnus ferrugineus</i></p> 	<p>Tree Everlasting</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>attractive small tree</li> <li>2-4 metres</li> <li>white flowers during summer months</li> <li>can be hedged and insect, bird and butterfly attracting</li> <li>grows well in local well drained soils, full sun to semi-shade</li> </ul>

# Weeds

## What is a weed?

When a plant thrives and invades an area where they do not naturally occur they are known as a pest plant, weed or invasive species.

Seeds and cuttings can be carried many kilometres by wind, water, tools, vehicles, clothing, pets, birds and animals. Plants can spread from people dumping garden cuttings in reserves and waterways.

Weeds are a problem because they out-compete indigenous plants for light, water and nutrients. In a short time they can replace indigenous plants, effectively removing the food source and habitat of local fauna.

It is therefore important to know which garden plants are a problem in Bayside and avoid planting them or consider removing them if they are already in your garden.








The following section contains a small sample of Bayside weeds. For a more extensive list of the many weeds that threaten our plant communities visit: [www.deeca.vic.gov.au](http://www.deeca.vic.gov.au) and search 'weeds'.

When you are removing weeds be sure to target their removal before they set seed. This is particularly important with grass species.



WEED	CHARACTERISTICS & REMOVAL	REPLACEMENT
<b>Agapanthus</b> <i>Agapanthus praecox</i> subsp. <i>praecox</i>	<b>Spread by seed and dumped garden waste.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand weed small plants</li> <li>• Cut off flowerheads before they set seed</li> <li>• Dig out large plants</li> </ul>	<b>Spreading Flax-lily</b> <i>Dianella admixta</i>
<b>Black Nightshade</b> <i>Solanum nigrum</i>	<b>Distinctive green to black berries.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand weed</li> </ul>	<b>Hop Goodenia</b> <i>Goodenia ovata</i>
<b>Bridal Creeper</b> <i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	<b>Highly invasive Weed of National Significance.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dig out plant including roots</li> </ul>	<b>Small-leaved Clematis</b> <i>Clematis microphylla</i>
<b>Cape Ivy</b> <i>Delairea odorata</i>	<b>Seeds readily dispersed by wind.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dig out plant including roots</li> </ul>	<b>Austral Cranesbill</b> <i>Geranium solanderi</i>
<b>Gazania</b> <i>Gazania rigens</i>	<b>Spread by wind, water and dumped garden waste.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand weed</li> <li>• Dig out plant including roots</li> </ul>	<b>Common Everlasting</b> <i>Chrysocephalum apiculatum</i>



WEED	CHARACTERISTICS & REMOVAL	REPLACEMENT
<b>Maderia Vine</b>  <i>Anredera cordifolia</i> 	<p>Can grow 10m in one growing season.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dig out plant including roots</li> </ul>	<b>Climbing lignum</b>  <i>Muehlenbeckia adpressa</i> 
<b>Mirror Bush</b>  <i>Coprosma repens</i> 	<p>Distinctive green to black berries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand weed small plants</li> <li>• Cut large trees</li> </ul>	<b>Sea Box</b>  <i>Alyxia buxifolia</i> 
<b>Pampas Lily of the Valley</b>  <i>Salpichroa origanifolia</i> 	<p>Highly invasive Weed of National Significance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dig out plant including roots</li> </ul>	<b>Common Apple-berry</b>  <i>Billardiera mutabilis</i> 
<b>Sweet Pittosporum</b>  <i>Pittosporum undulatum</i> 	<p>Fleshy seed often spread by birds and animals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand weed small plants</li> <li>• Cut large trees</li> </ul>	<b>Common Boobialla</b>  <i>Myoporum insulare</i> 
<b>Wandering Tradescantia</b>  <i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i> 	<p>An evergreen creeper that forms a smothering mat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dig out plant including roots</li> </ul>	<b>Purple Coral Pea</b>  <i>Hardenbergia violacea</i> 

# Get Involved and Learn

Join a local community group to tap into a wealth of information, develop skills, protect and enhance our local environment and have fun!





## Friends of Bayside

Friends of Bayside are highly valued members of our community who share a passion for our local environment and work together with Council to protect and enhance our natural areas for our future generations. Friends can choose to get involved in any of Bayside's seven inland conservation reserves or along our 17 kilometres of coastline. These areas have been affected by urbanisation and are now in fierce competition with a host of invasive weeds and greater pedestrian activity than ever before.

Friends volunteer their time to undertake a range of important tasks such as:

- Controlling weeds
- Planting indigenous plants
- Identifying and recording native plants and animals
- Plant propagation at the Bayside Community Nursery
- Research studies
- Photography
- Awareness raising

- Litter collection
- Hosting community events.

Participating in Friends of Bayside is a great way to explore and discover the natural beauty of Bayside whilst helping to restore and enhance these areas for future generations.

For more info contact  
Environmental Volunteer Support Officer  
on 9599 4815.

### Friends of Native Wildlife Inc.

Friends of Native Wildlife Inc. operate throughout Bayside studying local wildlife, and interacting with other Friends groups to protect and enhance habitat.

Friends of Native Wildlife Inc. help to protect Bayside's native fauna through a range of activities such as fauna surveys, habitat enhancement, community events and education.

Find out more about events in Bayside or getting involved check out the Friends of Native Wildlife website [www.bayfonw.org.au](http://www.bayfonw.org.au)



## Further reading

*Banksia Bulletin*

*Bayside Biodiversity Action Plan 2018 -2027*

*Indigenous Plants of the Sandbelt: A Gardening Guide for South-eastern Melbourne.* Rob Scott, et al, Earthcare St Kilda, 2002.

*Flora of Melbourne: A Guide to the Indigenous Plants of the Greater Melbourne Area.* Marilyn Bull, Hyland House, 4th Edition, 2014.

*Melbourne's Wildlife: A Field Guide to the Fauna of Greater Melbourne.* Museum Victoria, CSIRO Publishing, 2006.

*Habitat: A practical guide to creating a wildlife-friendly Australian garden.* AB Bishop, Murdoch Books, 2018.

*Native Trees and Shrubs of South Eastern Australia.* Leon Costermans, Reed New Holland, 2009.

*Native Plants of Melbourne and Adjoining Areas.* David and Barbara Jones, Blooming Books, 1999.

*Environmental Weeds: A Field Guide for SE Australia.* Kate Blood, Blooming Books, 2009.

*Bush Invaders of South-East Australia.* Adam Muyt, R.G. and F.J. Richardson, 2001.

*Weeds of the South East: An Identification Guide for Australia.* F.J. and R.G. Richardson, R.C.H. Shepherd, 2011.

*Bayside Native Vegetation Works Program - Stage 1,* prepared for Bayside City Council, Ecology Australia, 2013.

*Bayside Native Vegetation Works Program - Stage 2,* prepared for Bayside City Council, Ecology Australia, 2013.

## Useful websites

Australian Plant Society, Victoria  
[www.apsvic.org.au](http://www.apsvic.org.au)

The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria  
[www.fncv.org.au](http://www.fncv.org.au)

Gardens for Wildlife Victoria  
[www.gardensforwildlifevictoria.com](http://www.gardensforwildlifevictoria.com)

Sustainable Gardening Australia  
[www.sgaonline.org.au](http://www.sgaonline.org.au)

Weeds Australia  
[www.weeds.org.au](http://www.weeds.org.au)

Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action.  
[www.deeca.vic.gov.au](http://www.deeca.vic.gov.au)

Bayside Community Nursery  
[www.bayside.vic.gov.au/our-community/environment-and-sustainability/bayside-community-nursery](http://www.bayside.vic.gov.au/our-community/environment-and-sustainability/bayside-community-nursery)

iNaturalist  
[www.inaturalist.org](http://www.inaturalist.org)







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