



City of
Darebin
gardens
for
wildlife

WILDLIFE GARDENING BOOKLET

Support to care for native
plants and animals through the
creation of habitat gardens.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people who are the Traditional Owners and custodians of this land. We recognise their continuing connection to land, water and culture. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.


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Table of contents

Darebin Gardens for Wildlife - A collaborative partnership	5
Gardening together for our wildlife - the G4W community	7
Inspiration from Nature	8
Understand and plan your garden	8
Know your plants	9
Determine the wildlife you would like to attract	10
Establish elements of a wildlife garden - from the ground to the canopy	11
Develop a plan	11
Make a materials and plant list	12
Elements of a wildlife garden	13
Tall mature trees and tree hollows	13
Habitat hotels	15
Mulch, logs and leaf litter	16
Dense shrubs and prickly thickets	17
Nectar	17
Seeds	18
Cat-proof bird bath	18
Frog-friendly pond or bog	20
Warm sheltered lounging area for lizards	21
Daisies, butterflies, moths and bees	22
Spider webs	24
Other wildlife gardening considerations	25
Weeds	25
Chemicals and poisons	25
Insect zappers and unnecessary lighting	26
Cats and dogs	26
Wildlife rescue	28
Feeding wildlife	28
Local laws	28
Natural resource areas	29
Nature strip planting guidelines	29
Friends groups	29
Useful information	30
Local nurseries	30
Apps	30
Books	30
Websites	31



DAREBIN GARDENS FOR WILDLIFE - A COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP

Darebin Gardens for Wildlife program is a partnership between Darebin City Council, Darebin Nature Trust (an expert advisory group to council) and the Darebin community.

The nature of Darebin is the critically endangered grasslands and grassy woodlands of the Victorian Volcanic Plains, bounded by natural waterways on three sides; Darebin Creek, Merri Creek and further afield, the Yarra River. Tree clearing and development are contributing significantly to the heat in Darebin (researchers have identified Reservoir and Preston as among the hottest suburbs in Melbourne) and to the negative impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss.

Our vision is to use native plants and habitat to tackle the climate emergency, the biodiversity emergency and to improve health for all Darebin residents with varied and innovative gardens, including on council and state land, private gardens, nature strips, schoolyards, planter boxes and vertical gardens.

Darebin Gardens for Wildlife is an excellent program to help us achieve our vision and to connect the Darebin community with nature.

*Eastern Grey Kangaroos
at Ngarrri-djarrang
Grasslands, Reservoir*

Our goals are...

TO NURTURE DAREBIN'S NATURE AND ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING ANIMALS, PLANTS AND FUNGI

TO BUILD KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, CONFIDENCE AND OWNERSHIP FOR CARING FOR THE LAND AND ITS WILDLIFE

TO STRENGTHEN CONNECTIONS BETWEEN RESIDENTS, NATURE, COMMUNITY AND PLACE

TO IMPROVE WELLBEING THROUGH EXPERIENCING AND CARING FOR NATURE

TO BUILD A NETWORK OF ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS AND CHAMPIONS

TO COLLECT AND SHARE STORIES AND DATA ABOUT THE IMPACT OF OUR WORK

GARDENING TOGETHER FOR OUR WILDLIFE - THE G4W COMMUNITY

The Darebin Gardens for Wildlife program is facilitated through a partnership between community volunteers and Darebin City Council supporting one another to care for native plants and animals through the creation of habitat gardens.

The program trains volunteer garden guides who visit local residents and provide encouragement and guidance on how to provide habitat for wildlife through gardening on private property. Participants then become part of the larger, state-wide Gardens for Wildlife

(G4W) network, sharing stories, ideas and resources to improve and strengthen our efforts to care for nature. You can get involved in the program by visiting www.gardensforwildlifevictoria.com and www.darebin.vic.gov.au/gardensforwildlife



UNDERSTAND AND PLAN YOUR GARDEN

Before you start planning your garden for wildlife, take some time to really look at your existing space and consider how physical and natural factors differ in parts of your garden.

- Do you know what type of soil you have; is it clay or sand, or both? Does it have many rocks? These factors may determine what types of plants will grow.
- Does your garden have a sloped terrain? Plants that don't like having wet feet will probably prefer to be near the top of the slope while others will love the extra moisture at the base of the slope.
- Do you know how much sunlight each part of your garden receives throughout the year? Are there pockets that don't receive any direct sunlight or are in permanent shade? These areas may be perfect for shade-loving plants and bushy shrubs that will provide perfect protection for small birds. Sunny areas will be the ideal lizard lounge, or space for wildflowers.
- Have you already noticed areas of your garden that seem to need extra watering? These could become spaces for plants that thrive in drier soils. For spaces that are naturally very moist or even boggy, perhaps this area ideal for a frog pond.
- Are there parts of your garden that are sheltered from wind? Are there parts of your garden that receive strong and regular winds, or sections that act like wind tunnels?
- What existing plants in your garden do you want to keep, and what will you consider replacing? Even some exotic species provide essential habitat and probably should be kept (at least in the short-to-medium term). Gardening for wildlife is usually a gradual process so you will probably decide to keep many existing introduced species and replace them with indigenous varieties over time.



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- Finally, what else is your garden used for? Do you have a clothesline that you need easy access to, or a path to the front gate? Do you need to consider easy access for wheelchairs or walking frames? Is there a space where you love to read a book or enjoy a cup of tea? Do you have children or animals in your household who have certain garden needs? Other uses of your garden are important and need to be incorporated into your plan. While your garden will be for wildlife, it also needs to be practical and enjoyable for humans and family animals too!

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KNOW YOUR PLANTS

Look at the type of plants in your garden – perhaps you can identify some of them?

Look at the layout of the plants. Do you have large trees but are missing ground cover plants or perhaps you need to add a tree or flowering shrubs? Having a good range of plant species and plant layers, such as trees, large and small shrubs and ground covers, can help to meet the different habitat and food needs of different wildlife.

Growing a large variety of species of local indigenous plants – trees, shrubs, groundcovers, flowers and grasses - is the best way to provide the biodiversity necessary to attract a good range of wildlife.

- A **Gold-dust Wattle**
- B **Common Correa**
- C **Running Postman**
- D **Cut-leaf Daisy**



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DETERMINE THE WILDLIFE YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTRACT

Are you a bird enthusiast? Do you have a passion for insects or are you keen on attracting reptiles to your garden? Do you live near Darebin Creek or Merri Creek and want to provide habitat for frogs?

Identifying the type of wildlife you would like to attract helps you to decide where to dedicate your gardening efforts. Knowing the types of native fauna, including insects, that live near you will help you to focus on specific changes you need to make so your garden can support them or provide valuable stepping stones for them to move between reserves. The iNaturalist App has a feature that allows you to search your local area for observations of plants, animals and fungi that have been recorded in your area. You can also add your own observations to iNaturalist and help us to build the Darebin nature story.

There are many ways to create wildlife habitat in your garden and small changes can have a great impact. Does your garden contain flowering and nectar plants?

Are there water points such as a bird bath in your garden? Are you missing a safe haven for small birds to hide in or maybe by including some water-loving plants in a damp spot you could provide frog habitat? In Darebin we are fortunate to have two major creek lines that provide a corridor for a large range of animals such as possums, bats, birds, butterflies, insects, lizards and frogs. By providing a wildlife-friendly garden, you are helping to increase the connecting corridors between the creeks so that more habitat is available to our local animals.

Insect life is critical for all other forms of life. Did you know that honey eating birds still rely on insects for around 70% of their diet? A nest of baby birds can eat around 1500 caterpillars before leaving the nest – so if you do not encourage caterpillars and moths there will be fewer birds!



ESTABLISH ELEMENTS OF A WILDLIFE GARDEN - FROM THE GROUND TO THE CANOPY

Natural habitats are very complex. Next time you are wandering along the Darebin Creek or in an established habitat garden have a close look at the complex layers.

- Starting with the soil, then soil covering (such as leaf litter and organic mulch) and other ground features such as rocks, fallen logs and fungi
- Within this layer will be areas that hold water, such as temporary puddles or permanent marshes.
- Above this are ground covering plants including grasses and wildflowers
- Followed by shrubs and understorey plants, including small trees
- Creepers and vines occupy tree trunks, fences and shrubs
- Then finally larger trees that form a canopy.

Each of these layers provide food and protection to wildlife and is necessary for a functioning habitat garden. Each layer is a unique system with specific habitat.

DEVELOP A PLAN

Now that you have an understanding of your garden and the native wildlife you would like to focus on, you can develop a plan. This can be as simple or elaborate as you like. A good strategy is to focus on one area at a time so that you are not overwhelmed. Gardens are continually changing so do not feel you have to tackle it all immediately. Think about how you might plant out your garden to create layers, shady and sunny areas and how you might include access such as pathways or stepping-stones.

You may like an informal garden or perhaps you are looking for something more stylised.



MAKE A MATERIALS AND PLANT LIST

List the materials that you need for your garden such as feature rocks, mulch and plants.

It is a good idea to do the 'hard' landscaping first – garden beds, paths, and solid preparation. Indigenous plants (local to the area) are an effective way of attracting local wildlife as these plants provide the food and shelter that our native animals need. Indigenous plants are well adapted to local soils, rainfall and temperatures and so make excellent garden plants that require minimal care but are the most suitable for native animals.

A large selection of indigenous plants can be found at our local nurseries. Indigenous plants are often sold as tube stock – young plants in small pots. Using tube stock can save you money and these plants usually develop a strong root system that allows them to catch up to other larger plants within a matter of years. Many of our indigenous species are also easily propagated at home, so you can continue to expand your garden.

Elements of a wildlife garden

TALL MATURE TREES AND TREE HOLLOWES

Mature trees provide multiple benefits to garden function as well as food and shelter for a wide variety of wildlife.

Above the ground, leaves provide food and shelter for insects, birds and marsupials; branches provide roosting sites and access points; bark allows microbats, lizards and insects to find shelter and food and natural hollows are used as homes and breeding sites by many birds and larger mammals. Below the ground, insects such as cicadas, ants and beetles spend part of their life cycle among tree roots.

HABITAT TREES

Large old trees and even dead trees are known as 'Habitat Trees' due to the many different habitat values they have for a broad range of animals.

Many of our wildlife species specifically rely on hollows or cracks and crevices in trees for survival and successful breeding.

Important features include:

- Nesting sites in high branches for birds such as magpies, kites, and pied currawongs.
- Hollows, cracks and crevices are essential for breeding, shelter and living and are utilised by a wide range of species (e.g. parrots, kookaburras, microbats, possums).
- Branches for roosting, preening, sunning and looking out for prey (e.g. Butcher Birds and Tawny Frogmouths).
- Large hunting areas on trunks and barks for animals that feed on insects and other bark dwelling animals (e.g. Sugar gliders, thornbills, pardalotes and lizards).

Common Ringtail Possum



- A range of several species small, medium and tall, indigenous or native trees to provide shelter and food at different times of year. Deciduous trees are bare for half the year so are not too helpful.
- Seasonal variety of food supply such as nectar, pollen, sap, fruit, seeds, leaves, wood and bark for a huge variety of animals (e.g. parrots, wrens, bees, bats, possums, insects and lizards).



- A **Gould's Wattled Bat**
- B **Common Brushtail Possum**
- C **Laughing Kookaburra**



HABITAT HOTELS

We have all heard of Insect Hotels, but what about a Habitat Hotel?!

A habitat hotel is really just a larger version of an insect hotel, that is designed to attract a wider variety of wildlife. Start by finding a shady spot in your garden, and if possible, find a wide variety of logs and small branches (more variety means a wider variety of wildlife). Lay these in a criss-cross formation, starting with the largest branches at the base and the smallest on top.

Your habitat hotel will likely attract fungi as well as a range of invertebrates (animals without backbones) such as insects, slugs and spiders. In time lizards, birds and other animals will come to feast on these insects. What a unique and fun way to attract wildlife to your yard!



- A **Insect Hotel**
- B **Habitat Hotel**

MULCH, LOGS AND LEAF LITTER

Mulch is amazing in all gardens, especially habitat gardens!

It suppresses weeds, helps retain moisture and returns carbon to the soil, moderates soil temperature and prevents erosion. Overtime it is broken down by fungi, invertebrates and soil microbes, which in turn provide food for other species such as birds and lizards. Amazing!

Generally, the best mulch is the type that mimics what is found naturally in local bushland. Leaf litter as well as small branches is mulch and has a critical role in protecting soil and providing habitat and protection for small animals. If you're looking at buying mulch, try to use a mixture of coarse and fine material to mimic nature. Leave branches that fall as a feature and try adding logs and rocks to provide further habitat and bushland character.

Avoid pine bark as this is acidic and may burn native plants. Plastic sheeting or other synthetic weed mats should be avoided as they alter the functioning of soil, prevent



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water penetration, and alter the functioning of soil life (e.g. microbes, fungi, invertebrates) and often breakdown into plastic fragments which pollute soil and waterways.

A **Twigs, leaf litter and organic matter**

B **Organic mulch**

DENSE SHRUBS AND PRICKLY THICKETS

Birds and insects seek shelter from the hot sun, rain as well as from competitors and predators.

Prickly or dense shrubs provide great protection against these threats. When selecting vegetation, choose a variety of indigenous plants to provide the greatest benefit to a range of species.



A **Silvereye**

B **Flock of New Holland Honeyeaters**



NECTAR

Nectar is a sugar-rich liquid produced by plants to attract pollinating animals.

As well as being beautiful to look at, nectar-rich indigenous plants, such as grevilleas, melaleucas or banksias in your garden will attract both nectar-feeding insects and birds as well as birds that feed on insects. Many nectar-rich plants also provide wonderful protection to birds but do not forget open flowered trees that attract insects like bees, moths and butterflies as pollinators.

A **Rosemary Grevillea**

B **Eastern Spinebill**



SEEDS

Plants that produce large amounts of seeds will be a great food source for seed-eating animals.

These are a wide variety of plants that include native grasses and acacias. Small seeds can attract birds such as Firetail Finches and large seeds could be food for Bronzewing Pigeons. By planting a wide range of seeding plants, you will be well on your way to providing a buffet to local fauna!



A Malachite Beetles on Wallaby Grass

B Kangaroo Grass

CAT-PROOF BIRD BATH

It is amazing the way birds detect fresh water in your garden and adding a bird bath is a simple but effective way of increasing the suitability of your garden for birds.

A fresh source of water allows birds to drink, bathe and socialise.

Ensure the bird bath is positioned off the ground and near dense foliage wherever possible so that birds can quickly retreat from any threats such as cats, foxes and predatory birds. Bird baths can be a simple affair – an old sturdy bowl or terracotta base sitting on a log. Multiple bird baths with different depths of water will increase the chances of attracting a variety of birds.

Bird baths also attract insects and spiders– they need water too! To make your bird bath insect friendly, place some items (e.g. rocks, sticks) into the water so insects can easily exit the water. Placing a sturdy stick in the bird bath will provide a perch for small birds, such as wrens, if the water is deep.

Remember to clean and replenish the bath every few days both for bird health and to avoid mosquitoes!



Bird bath, consisting of a pot plant saucer placed on a tree stump

FROG-FRIENDLY POND OR BOG

Australia has hundreds of species of frogs. Sadly, frog numbers in most parts of Australia are drastically reduced.

As gardeners we may be able to provide refuge for frogs by creating frog friendly spaces. Creating a frog pond can be very rewarding, but there are a number of things to remember when creating a frog pond:

- A frog pond should not be in direct sun, in fact most of the pond should be in the shade (although some sunshine is important to control algae).
- Never use weedkiller near ponds as it is deadly to frogs.
- If you use chlorinated water for your frog pond, it will need to sit for a number of days to ensure the chlorine evaporates out.



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- When filling the pond with water make sure it trickles rather than gushes to prevent over oxygenation of the water. Too much oxygen in the water can be harmful to tadpoles.
- Ensure that not too much leaf litter falls in the water as this can leach nutrients into the water and cause algae to grow.
- Research carefully about what plants to use in a frog pond – some pond species are very invasive and may colonise local waterways.
- It is illegal to collect frogs from the wild – if you live near a creek or wetland and have healthy habitat in your garden, there is a good chance that they will turn up!

A **Growling Grass Frog**

B **Southern Brown Tree Frog**

WARM SHELTERED LOUNGING AREA FOR LIZARDS

Many lizards shelter in dense vegetation, leaf litter, rock piles and in hollow logs.

In your garden be sure to leave plenty of ground cover for protection. If you have brought in mulch to your garden, try to have a variety of sizes and textures – add some small branches or pieces of bark so that there is shelter for insects and reptiles. Clumping plants provide food and protection for many of the insects that lizards eat so be sure to have plenty of this in your garden. Like all animals, lizards need access to water so shallow dishes can be provided near shelter.

Reptiles are cold blooded, so rely on an additional heat source to maintain their body temperature.

Any surface that is exposed to sunlight will do – place rocks or logs in a sunny position for reptiles to warm themselves in the morning before they head off hunting during the day.

A **Marbled Gecko**

B **Eastern Blue-tongued Lizard**

Reptiles need to be protected from cats and dogs – both will hunt lizards. Make sure your cats and dogs are secured at night and create pet-proof havens in your garden – thick prickly bushes and hollow logs can provide a safe place for reptiles. Larger lizards are near the top of the food chain, so may be particularly susceptible to chemicals. Do not use snail bait or herbicides in your garden as these can inadvertently kill reptiles.



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DAISIES, BUTTERFLIES, MOTHS AND BEES.

It is important that your garden attracts and retains a wide range of invertebrates.

Attracting butterflies and moths to your garden involves planting a variety of indigenous flowering plants and grasses – the nectar will provide food or leaves will provide food for caterpillars or protection.

Did you know that the local Kangaroo Grass is a food plant for over 13 species of butterflies?

To attract dragonflies to your garden, ensure there is a reliable water source. While dragonflies may move away from water to forage their entire life cycle is reliant on standing, fresh water. Dragonflies feast on mosquitoes so as well as being beautiful to watch they also play a crucial role in keeping our gardens in balance!

A Blue-banded Bee

B Dainty Swallowtail Caterpillar feeding on Tahitian Lime

C Greenish Grass-dart Butterfly on Paper daisies

D Australian Painted Lady laying eggs on Common Everlasting Daisies



C

E Wandering Percher Dragonfly

F Blue Ringtail Damselfly



D

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SPIDER WEBS

A spider web catching the afternoon light is one of life's joys.

Spiders play a crucial role within ecosystems; they eat insects, pollinate some plants and are food for birds and small mammals. Spider webs are often used for constructing nests by birds, such as Wattlebirds, Grey Fantails, New Holland Honey Eaters and Brown Thornbills. The birds use the spider webs as a 'glue' to bind other nesting materials, such as straw, twigs, rootlets and lichens, together. Sticky spider silk also is important as an adhesive to attach nests securely to leaves, twigs and branches. Leave spider webs intact around your home and garden for these dainty birds to utilise.

Spiders live in a range of habitats; in leaf litter, dry stacks of fallen timber or tunnels in the soil. Spiders should be welcomed to any habitat garden, but they can be poisonous. Spiders, like all wildlife, should be observed, not handled. Use gloves when gardening and avoid walking barefoot in the garden at night. If you are bitten by a spider, call the poisons information line immediately on 13 11 26 for advice.

Orb-weaving Enamel Spider



Other wildlife gardening considerations

WEEDS

As your garden is providing habitat for indigenous plants and animals, plants that threaten this balance may be considered a weed.

Usually, the most problematic weeds are those introduced from overseas, but may also include native plants that have been introduced from other areas of Australia. The best approach to managing weeds is to simply pull them out as early as possible to prevent seeding. By laying cardboard under mulch this will also suppress weed growth. However, for particularly noxious weeds such as blackberry it is best to seek advice directly from Darebin Council.

For more information about problematic plants, see the Darebin Garden Escapees section in the Sustainable Gardening in Darebin booklet.



CHEMICALS AND POISONS

Wildlife, of any kind, is very sensitive to chemicals. Chemical sprays and powders can drift in the wind and wash into waterways, causing off-target problems.

Owls, kookaburras and other birds of prey can die from eating rats and mice that have ingested second generation rodent poisons. Snail bait will also kill any lizard or amphibian that eats the snail.

Having a well-balanced ecology in your own back yard often means that the use of chemicals is not required. Eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides and rodenticides in the garden to provide insect eating wildlife with a safe food source and to protect sensitive skin of frogs. Also avoid these chemicals by using alternatives such as wildlife-safe rodent bait (available at large hardware stores), encouraging wildlife that will eat snails and slugs, or laying coffee grounds, sawdust or crushed eggshells around your plants to discourage snail and slug movement.

INSECT ZAPPERS AND UNNECESSARY LIGHTING

Insect zappers kill thousands of moths as well as other useful insects that fly at night.

There are over 40,000 species of moths in Australia and they are an essential component of our ecosystem. Try other alternatives to discourage mosquitoes and avoid leaving any standing water for more than 3-4 days.

Overly bright lights deter night birds like owls and bats and interfere with insect and bird migration.



CATS AND DOGS

The average domestic cat kills about 100 birds per year. Most of these birds are native as they have not evolved alongside cats and have not developed defence strategies.

Cats also kill lizards, frogs and invertebrates. The best way to protect your habitat garden from cats is to keep them separated. If you have a cat keep him or her inside; indoor cats live very happy and safe lives. Not only does this protect wildlife, but also protects your cat.

The financial cost of containing them to your property is offset by the savings on veterinary bills because your cats are less likely to get injured. Roads/vehicles, people and other cats are the three big causes of injuries to cats. Also, your cat is less likely to get infections and infestations, since you will restrict their exposure to other cats, contaminated soil, rotting carcasses, and poisoned items.

A Common Brushtail Possum snoozing in a nest box

B Pedestal bird bath

Check out the campaign called Safe Cats Safe Wildlife, a joint venture between Zoos Victoria and the RSPCA. Darebin Council now has a cat curfew so all cats must be inside between 7pm and 7am. Cat enclosures are available to ensure your cat has time outdoors, while still protecting wildlife.

If your cat is outdoors during the day, make sure your cat is wearing bells and reflectors to provide earlier warning to birds and reptiles. And please make sure your cat is desexed, this will prevent breeding, but also ensure your cat is less likely to roam.



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While dogs are less likely to kill wildlife, they can certainly damage gardens! If possible, try to keep your dog out of the garden beds to prevent them damaging the area by lying on plants, digging up new seedlings or urinating in areas that you are trying to protect. A barking dog may deter birds and small mammals from calling your garden home, so try to minimise this also. If you find that your dog is causing damage to your habitat area, try planting larger shrubs or trees, or focus on providing wildlife habitat in your front garden or veranda while leaving the backyard for your dog.



WILDLIFE RESCUE

If you find an injured, heat stressed or young native animal, contact Wildlife Victoria on (03) 8400 7300 as soon as possible.

If it is after hours or if the animal is visibly injured, check their website for information on safely transporting animals and how to care for specific animals if immediate assistance is unavailable. If you have cats or dogs, secure them away from the injured animal

www.wildlifevictoria.org.au/wildlife-information/how-to-help-videos

www.wildlifevictoria.org.au/faq-s

FEEDING WILDLIFE

Avoid providing shop-bought or home food scraps to wildlife.

It can not only make them ill, but can attract unwanted introduced species to your garden, such as rats and mice. Encourage close encounters by providing natural food and habitat such as nectar flowers, water sources and nest boxes.

LOCAL LAWS

Darebin has specific Local Laws to manage fire risk and removal of vegetation. As an inner urban area, Darebin's biggest risk around fire outbreaks is mainly caused by overgrown grass.

Where native grasses are a part of your garden design, the best way to manage them is to watch them closely until they go to seed, then mow or brush-cut the area after the seed has matured. This will also be good for future propagation of your native grasses.

With the increasing density of urban development occurring in Darebin we are seeing a reduction in the number of large trees on private land; therefore, Council believes that the health and sustainability of our remaining trees is important. Darebin uses the Planning Scheme and a Local Law to protect significant trees on private property.

Before removing any tree species, please check with the Darebin Planning Department whether a permit is required. Call 8470 8888 to speak with a planner.

NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS

Darebin has a diverse range of biodiversity including wetlands, woodlands, grasslands and our iconic creek lines.

There are bushland and natural resource areas where you can find examples of local indigenous vegetation. Reserves such as Darebin Parklands and Bundoora Grasslands are valuable natural spaces where Council is preserving and maintaining remnant indigenous flora, fauna and vegetation communities. In line with Darebin's Open Space Strategy 2019, the Gardens for Wildlife program provides opportunities for people to engage with nature by increasing vegetation cover in their backyards and contributing to links with natural resource areas and green corridors. Increasing appreciation of and respect for urban biodiversity, ecosystems and natural heritage will lead to greater community support, awareness and commitment to biodiversity protection.

NATURE STRIP PLANTING GUIDELINES

Darebin has established Nature Strip Planting Guidelines to help you beautify your nature strip with wildlife-loving habitat.

Their guidelines can be found here: www.darebin.vic.gov.au/en/Darebin-Living/Caring-for-the-environment/Nature-Strips-and-Trees

FRIENDS GROUPS

City of Darebin has many dedicated community groups that play a vital role in restoring our local species.

These groups meet throughout the year and volunteer to help protect and preserve Darebin's natural environment through revegetation, weed removal and monitoring local fauna.

Friends of Darebin Creek
www.friendsofdarebincreek.org.au

Friends of Edwardes Lake
m.facebook.com/friendsofedwardeslake

Friends of Merri Creek
www.friendsofmerricreek.org.au

Friends of Edgars Creek
www.foec.org.au

LOCAL NURSERIES

Nangak Tamboree La Trobe Indigenous Plant Nursery

La Trobe University,
Bundoora Campus
Access is via La Trobe Ave (near
the roundabout on Main Drive)

(03) 9479 1206
wildlife@latrobe.edu.au

Victorian Indigenous Nurseries Co-Op (VINC)

Yarra Bend Road, Fairfield,
VIC 3078

(03) 9482 1710
retail@vinc.net.au

CERES Nursery

Cnr Roberts & Stewart Sts,
Brunswick East, VIC 3057

(03) 9389 0111
ceres@ceres.org.au

APPS

Australian Birds Sounds
Australian Birds Guide
Aussie Bird Count
Australian Reptiles and Frogs
Butterflies of Australia
Field guide to Victorian fauna
Flora Explorer
Frogs Field Guide
Funkey: Key to Agarics
iNaturalist
Key to Insect Orders
Morcombe's Birds of Australia
NatureBlitz
Pizzey and Knight Birds of Australia

BOOKS

A Field Guide to Insects of Australia – Paul Zborowski and Ross Storey, New Holland Publ.

A Guide to Native Bees of Australia – Terry Houston, CSIRO Publ.

Birdscaping Australian Gardens – George Adams, Penguin Australia Pty Ltd Publ.

Flora of Melbourne – Marilyn Bull, Hyland House Publ.

Habitat – A practical guide to creating a wildlife-friendly Australian garden – A B Bishop, Murdoch Books Publ.

Nest Boxes for Wildlife: A Practical Guide – Alan Franks and Stacey Franks

WEBSITES

Australasian Bat Society
www.ausbats.org.au

Aussie Bee
www.aussiebee.com.au

Australian Native Plants Society
www.anpsa.org.au

Backyard Buddies
www.backyardbuddies.org.au

Birds in Backyards
www.birdsinbackyards.net

BirdLife Australia
www.birdlife.org.au

Flora for Fauna
www.floraforfauna.com.au

Gardening With Angus
www.gardeningwithangus.com.au

Gardening Australia
www.abc.net.au/gardening

Grow me instead
www.growmeinstead.com.au/
public/GMI-brochure-Victoria.pdf

Gardens for Wildlife Victoria
www.gardensforwildlifevictoria.com

Habitat Network
www.habitatnetwork.org

Habitat Stepping Stones
www.habitatsteppingstones.org.au

Invasive Species Council
www.invasives.org.au

Land for Wildlife
www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/protecting-wildlife/land-for-wildlife

La Trobe Wildlife Sanctuary
www.latrobe.edu.au/wildlife

Melbourne Water
www.melbournewater.com.au

Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria
www.vicflora.rbg.vic.gov.au

Sustainable Gardening Australia (SGA)
www.sgaonline.org.au/tag/habitat-gardening

Sustainable Gardening in Darebin

http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au/-/media/cityofdarebin/Files/Darebin-Living/CaringfortheEnvironment/Gardening/sustainableGardeningAWDigital-V2.ashx?la=en

Weed Society of Victoria
www.wsvic.org.au

Wildlife Victoria
www.wildlifevictoria.org.au



 **8470 8888**

 **gardensforwildlife
@darebin.vic.gov.au**

Darebin's icon:

Eastern Spinebill, foraging on
Rosemary Grevillea.

Both species are a prominent
feature of the Darebin
landscape and greatly benefit
from wildlife gardening.