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*In the spirit of  
reconciliation,  
Whitehorse City Council  
acknowledges the  
Wurundjeri people as  
the traditional owners  
of the land now known  
as Whitehorse and pays  
respects to its elders  
past and present.*



## About this booklet

This booklet has been written by Whitehorse City Council to help gardeners and landscapers adopt sustainable gardening principles by using indigenous plants commonly found in Whitehorse. The collective effort of residents gardening with indigenous species can make a big difference to preserving and enhancing our biodiversity.

We would like to acknowledge the volunteers of the Blackburn & District Tree Preservation Society, Whitehorse Community Indigenous Plant Project Inc. (Bungalook Nursery) and Greenlink Box Hill Nursery for their efforts to protect and enhance the indigenous flora of Whitehorse. Information provided by these groups is included in this guide.

Thank-you to Bernie Heinze at the Victorian Apiarists' Association for providing information about indigenous species and their potential for producing honey for urban beekeepers.

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# 1 Indigenous gardening

## Why indigenous gardening?

There are many reasons why gardeners are increasingly favouring indigenous plants.

Indigenous plants are the original flora, or plants, that occur naturally in a given location. They have developed and adapted over thousands of

years to be suited to our local conditions.

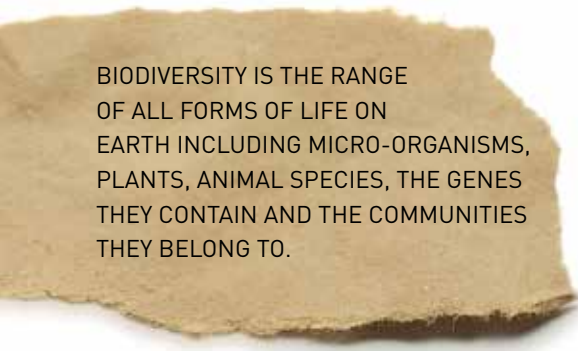
As a result, the indigenous plants of Whitehorse are well-matched to the soils, topography and climate of the area. They are a great cost-effective and low-maintenance option for your garden.

## TOP 10 REASONS TO USE INDIGENOUS PLANTS

- 1 They are beautiful, elegant plants that will add a new landscape dimension to your garden.
- 2 They need less water to be established and maintained.
- 3 They don't need fertiliser.
- 4 They are tolerant of local conditions and help retain the local character of an area.
- 5 They are often quick to establish and more resilient to disease.
- 6 They can be purchased at a low price compared to other species from local nurseries.
- 7 They provide important habitat for local birds, insects and reptiles.
- 8 They help maintain the ecological balance and natural biodiversity of the area.
- 9 They often flower within the first season of being planted.
- 10 They can help to prevent locally rare and threatened species from becoming extinct.

## Indigenous Plants of Whitehorse

The natural bushland of the Whitehorse area once included expansive woodlands, grasslands, herb fields and wetlands. More than 570 species of flora have been identified as indigenous to the Whitehorse area. Preserving the natural flora provides an ideal habitat for native animals including birds and insects and most importantly helps to maintain



BIODIVERSITY IS THE RANGE OF ALL FORMS OF LIFE ON EARTH INCLUDING MICRO-ORGANISMS, PLANTS, ANIMAL SPECIES, THE GENES THEY CONTAIN AND THE COMMUNITIES THEY BELONG TO.

the genetic diversity within the local plant community. Whilst all of the indigenous plant species of Whitehorse can be found within other areas, the genetic make-up varies from place to place. It is this diversity within a particular species that makes for a robust and adaptable plant community particularly important in light of climate change and weather patterns becoming more and more extreme.

Over the last 150 years natural bushland has been cleared leaving us with small pockets of remnant vegetation. You can help protect the local ecology by gardening with indigenous plants. The collective effort of residents gardening with indigenous species would make a significant contribution to the preservation of our local biodiversity.

### Where can I buy indigenous plants of Whitehorse?

The City of Whitehorse is fortunate to have three indigenous plant nurseries capable of producing a range of local flora.

#### Bungalook Nursery

[www.wcipp.org.au](http://www.wcipp.org.au)

63-107 Fulton Road, Blackburn South

Open to the public for plant sales on Wednesdays from 9.30 am to noon and Fridays from 9.30 am to 1 pm.

#### Greenlink Nursery

[www.greenlinkboxhill.org](http://www.greenlinkboxhill.org)

41 Wimmera Street, Box Hill North

Open to the public for plant sales every Tuesday and Wednesday from 9am to 12 noon (and occasional Saturdays).

#### ParksWide Nursery

(03) 9262 6333

No plant sales to the public. Planners, developers and other commercial organisations should contact Councils ParksWide Department for assistance with larger plant orders.



## 2 Sustainable gardening principles

Gardens can be effectively designed, constructed and maintained in a way that enables the sparing and wise use of precious resources such as water and fertilisers. They can be designed in a way that improves local biodiversity and protects surrounding natural bushland.

Consider the following to create a sustainable garden:

- Design to suit local conditions. Indigenous species are well matched to local conditions.
- Avoid and remove plants that are environmental weeds such as agapanthus, ivy or blackberry. See Chapter 6 (p.72) for more information about weeds.
- Plan for climate change by using water-wise plants where possible, mulching garden beds and using tank water for watering plants when necessary.
- Avoid pesticides or chemicals that harm beneficial organisms or contaminate soil and water.
- Recycle food and other household and garden waste using a compost bin or worm farm. Use the rich organic compost and liquid fertiliser to create a healthy life-giving soil.
- Use sustainable and, ideally, locally sourced or recycled materials but avoid rocks, timber and pebbles collected from the wild.
- Set aside part of your backyard for a productive garden. Enjoy fresh vegetables, fruit and herbs year round.
- Last but not least, provide habitat for local native fauna (see next page for more information).



# Make your garden a wildlife garden

By creating an indigenous garden, you can attract a range of wildlife including insects, birds and lizards. Other wildlife may visit depending upon the quality and connectivity of your garden to nearby habitat corridors. There are a number of ways you can design your garden to attract different kinds of wildlife. Different plants will attract different animals as indicated on the fact sheets in Chapter 5.

## TOP 15 THINGS TO DO TO CREATE A WILDLIFE FRIENDLY GARDEN

1. Grow nectar plants for honeyeaters and bees such as Lightwood, Sweet Bursaria or Common Correa.



2. Include clumps of dense (and preferably spikey) shrubs together where birds can shelter.



3. Leave old branches and logs amongst plants in garden beds for lizards, grubs and insects.



4. Use natural mulch or leaf litter for beetles and worms.

5. Create a warm sheltered corner with some rocks in the sun for lizards.



6. Plant daisies for butterflies.



7. Keep cats in at night to protect nesting birds, reptiles and native mammals. Keep them confined, perhaps by using an indoor-outdoor cat enclosure.

8. Keep the garden chemical and insecticide free.

**POISON**

9. Try to incorporate several tall mature eucalypts or wattles.

10. Create layers of vegetation including trees, climbers, shrubs and groundcovers

11. Install a nest box.

12. Place a birdbath in a high, sheltered location.

13. Build a frog-friendly pond. See the Sustainable Gardening Australia website [www.sgaonline.org.au/frogs/](http://www.sgaonline.org.au/frogs/)

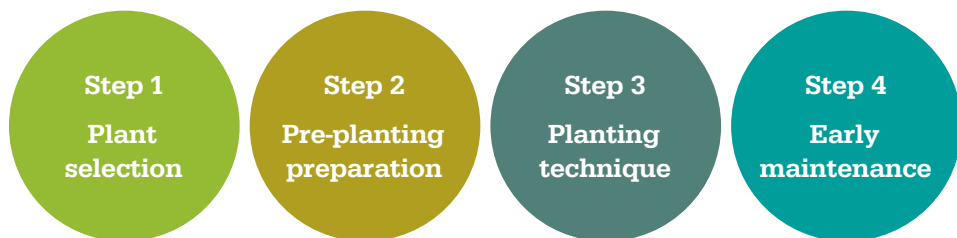
14. Grow native grasses and groundcovers such as Kidney-weed as an alternative to lawns.

15. Cluster plants in groups (instead of as separated specimens).



# 3 Tips for successful planting

There are four important steps for successful planting:



## Step 1. Plant selection

When it comes to selecting indigenous plants for your garden always consider which species are most appropriate for your site. Our indigenous plant nurseries (p.4) will be able to help you with selecting suitable plants.

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

When choosing plants from a nursery, remember that taller plants in larger

pots will not necessarily give you better results. Tubestock (plants in 15cm tall plastic tubes) is less expensive and will generally catch up with and outgrow larger, more mature stock. They are also easier to establish in difficult sites with poor soils.

The availability of plant stock from your local indigenous nurseries may influence your planting program. Many nurseries only grow a certain range but can grow to order. When ordering large numbers of plants, stock should be ordered well in advance.

The best time of the year to purchase and plant indigenous plants is in late autumn, winter and early spring when the soil is moist and the weather not too hot.



## Local provenance

You will have greater success with your planting if you use indigenous plants that are of local provenance. These are plants grown from seeds that have been collected locally from a range of the naturally occurring vegetation in your area. Locally sourced plants are adapted to local conditions and frequently grow better than outside stock. Many

nurseries stock indigenous species that are not grown from locally collected seeds or cuttings, and these plants may actually endanger the local genetic stock through interbreeding. When purchasing indigenous plants always make sure you ask where the seed or cutting material was collected. See page 4 to see where to purchase indigenous species with local provenance.

## What to avoid in nursery stock

- **Discounted plants** – Cheaper plants can be of a lesser quality and past their ‘use-by date’, particularly after October.
- **Large or ‘leggy’ plants** that are obviously too big for their pot. They are probably ‘pot-bound’.
- **Pot-bound spiral roots** – Plants with roots curled around at the bottom of the pot have been in the pot for too long. They may be visible through drainage holes. The plants are often quite large or ‘leggy’. If in doubt, ask nursery staff to take the plant out of the pot to check. Look for plenty of healthy, white, hairy roots growing outwards and downwards.
- **Exhausted potting mixes** – Lack of nutrients in the potting mix can cause stunted growth and yellowing leaves. Old mixes may lack other important trace elements such as iron and potassium. Avoid dry, compacted potting mixes.
- **Blemishes, leaf curling and discolouration** – These are symptoms of stress, nutrient deficiency, disease or insect attack.



## Step 2. Pre-planting preparation

To find the ideal spot for your plant, consider its soil, moisture and sunlight requirements and potential size when fully grown.

### City of Whitehorse soil profile

Understanding our local soils will help you understand how plant roots behave in these soils. The bulk of the root is often located in the upper, more nutrient rich, penetrable topsoil. Many of the roots find niches in the subsoil to find nutrients and water, but these are predominantly required to anchor the plant.

Whitehorse's soils are derived from decay of Silurian sedimentary rock, which formed from sandy deposits on the sea floor 375 million years ago. Slopes and hilltops have a very shallow, often stony, clay loam topsoil layer above a subsoil of yellow clay.

Valley floor soils are sandy stream deposits. Topsoil depth varies greatly according to the aspect and the history of the site.

### Soil

Ideally, soil is loose and relatively fine-grained. However, Whitehorse soils generally have a shallow topsoil and solid yellow clay below. These heavy clays can be improved by adding compost or other organic matter, or by digging in a little gypsum and watering prior to planting.

Remember that indigenous plants have adapted to local soil conditions, so selecting the right plant for your soil conditions and planting between autumn and early spring will ensure success.

Imported soils can bring new weed seeds and diseases to your neighbourhood, so always use locally obtained soils if possible.

### Weeds

Weeds should be controlled prior to planting to reduce competition and post-planting maintenance. Mulch helps to prevent weed growth. There are a range of techniques and products that can be effective in controlling weeds, including both chemical and non-chemical methods.

See page 72 for a list of common garden weeds and their management.

## Pre-planting mulch

Good quality mulch spread over your garden prior to planting to a depth of about 5 - 7cm will allow rain penetration, suppress weeds and lessen soil moisture loss and can improve soil structure and nutrient availability.

Ensure that the mulch you select is made from a sustainable resource. Chipped waste wood and green waste mulches are generally a good option.

Always ensure that any green waste has been well composted, otherwise it may contain weed seeds and will also draw nitrogen from your soil.



## Mulching tips

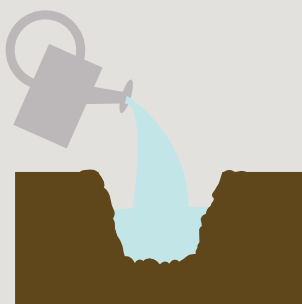
- Avoid hot, steaming mulch, which indicates that it is still composting.
- Check for, and remove, mulch-borne seedlings to prevent weed invasion.
- Spread mulch over soil that is already well-moistened otherwise the mulch can inhibit the penetration of rainfall into the soil.
- Water the mulch well after spreading.
- Spread mulch then leave for a few days up to a month or so before planting.
- Avoid mixing the soil and the mulch together.
- When planting ensure that the mulch is kept away from the plant stem, and that the plant's roots are fully in the soil and not the mulch.
- Mulch can hinder natural regeneration in bushland areas.
- To allow your plants to naturally regenerate, consider using natural leaf litter from your garden as mulch. This will allow for the natural cycle of indigenous seed dispersal, germination and plant regeneration.
- Be careful not to cover indigenous vegetation with mulch, particularly groundcovers and low-growing shrubs.

## Step 3. Planting technique

**1.** Dig a hole slightly larger than the pot. Loosen the soil on the sides and in the bottom to allow the plants roots to penetrate more easily.



**2.** If you notice the soil is very dry, fill the hole with water and allow it to absorb into the ground before planting. This will help the plant establish.



**3.** Give the plant a good drink in its pot to help hold the potting mix together around the roots.



**6.** Backfill loose soil around the root ball and firm into place. After planting leave a saucer shaped depression around the plant to prevent water run-off.



**7.** Mulch around the plant. Ensure that the mulch is not touching the stem of the plant.



**8.** Water thoroughly to settle the soil and remove air pockets from around the roots.





**4.** Upend the pot and gently tap the plant out of the container. If it does not slide out easily, gently squeeze the sides. If the plant is really stuck cut away the tube so as to avoid loosening the soil from the roots.

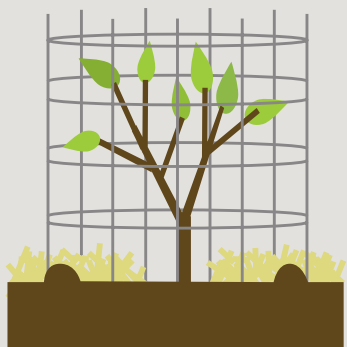


**5.** Place the plant in the hole, ensuring the top of the potting mix is level with or just below the ground level. When planting good quality tubestock it is not necessary to 'tickle',



or tease out the plant's roots. If you discover that your plants are pot-bound then you should reconsider planting this stock.

**9.** Where rabbits or other pests might eat your plants, use tree guards.



## Staking

A plant will grow with greater strength if it is not tied to a stake. When a plant is blown around by the wind the plant hormones released by this movement make for a stronger plant.

Native plants should not need staking unless they are in obvious danger of toppling over. By using tubestock you can help to avoid weak and unstable growth.

If staking is required, ensure that the tie allows for some movement, by using three stakes and loose ties.

## Step 4. Early maintenance

With just a little work each year, your indigenous garden will continue to look healthy, neat and beautiful.

One of the great characteristics of indigenous plants is that they require very little maintenance.

### Watering

Monitor new plants during their first summer. If there has not been a good soaking rain by mid-summer, they will benefit from a drink. Deep, occasional watering will help the plant establish deeper roots. Frequent, shallow watering encourages surface root growth, making plants more vulnerable to dry periods.



### Pruning

In a garden setting, many indigenous plants will respond well to careful pruning, particularly after flowering and when plants become straggly. Some indigenous species will provide better flowering shows if heavily pruned. When hedging, begin pruning early in the plant's life.





## Mulching

Topping-up mulch annually helps to increase water retention and over time, will increase the organic matter in your soils.

## Weeding

Controlling and removing weeds in areas of your garden or property that contain indigenous vegetation reduces competition for water, light and nutrients, helping to enhance growth. Careful hand weeding is the method of choice when removing weeds close to indigenous plantings.



## Fertilising

Fertilisers aren't usually necessary, and may encourage weed growth. Too much can also cause fast, soft plant growth, leaving them more vulnerable to insect attack or harsh climatic conditions. Too much phosphorus in particular, can kill many indigenous plants. The addition of compost or other organic matter is a much better option for promoting healthy growth.

Identifying Native Plants

There are several books that are useful for identifying native plants:

- 1. *Flora of Melbourne. A guide to indigenous plants of the Greater Melbourne Area* (4<sup>th</sup> Ed) by Marilyn Bull
- 2. *Native Plants of Melbourne and Adjoining Area* by David and Barbara Jones
- 3. *Native Trees and Shrubs of the South Eastern Australia* by Leon Costermans.



4 Designing your garden

Indigenous plants can be adapted to fit almost any garden style – cottage, woodland, formal, or contemporary garden. They can be used to create a natural garden, can be grown in pots, arranged formally to enhance a traditional garden, or be used as cut flowers. In fact, there is probably an indigenous plant for every use in your garden.

You don't need to discard exotic plants you've nurtured or inherited in your garden; provided they are not environmental weeds (see Page 72 for a list of common environmental weeds). Many gardens have some existing indigenous vegetation that can be used as a framework for the garden. As a starting point, identify existing indigenous vegetation. Additional species can be introduced as part of the design of your garden.

The following lists of plants provide examples of how some indigenous species can be used in your landscape design.

Climbers

These plants look great when trained to grow along a fence.

Botanical name	Common name	Page
<i>Clematis aristata</i>	Austral Clematis	64
<i>This plant is vigorous. Be warned that it can smother other plants.</i>		
<i>Clematis decipiens</i>	Small-Heaved Clematis	65
<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	Purple Coral Pea	65
<i>Pandorea pandorana</i>	Wonga Vine	66
<i>This plant is vigorous. Be warned that it can smother other plants.</i>		



# Hedges and borders

Many indigenous plants are responsive to pruning and can therefore be grown to form a hedge:

Botanical name	Common name	Page
<i>Acacia paradoxa</i>	Hedge Wattle	33
<i>Cassinia aculeata</i>	Common Cassinia	40
<i>Leptospermum continentale</i>	Prickly Tea-tree	47
<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>	Swamp Paperbark	35
<i>Olearia lirata</i>	Snowy Daisy-bush	48
<i>Spyridium parvifolium</i>	Dusty Miller	49

Small shrubs can be pruned to shape and create a dwarf hedge:

Botanical name	Common name	Page
<i>Correa reflexa</i>	Common Correa	43
<i>Goodenia ovata</i>	Hop Goodenia	45
<i>Spyridium parvifolium</i>	Dusty Miller	49

Many indigenous tussock forming species are ideal to use as border plants:

Botanical name	Common name	Page
<i>Dianella laevis</i>	Smooth Flax-lily	57
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed Mat-rush	58
<i>Poa labillardierei</i>	Common Tussock-grass	62

\* *Poa* can be pruned back after flowering to encourage new green growth.

# Groundcovers and Fillers

These spreading plants look great in rockeries or to fill space underneath a shrub layer in the garden:

Botanical name	Common name	Page
<i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i>	Bidgee-widgee	50
<i>Bidgee-widgee seeds stick fast to the coats of dogs and can be difficult to remove.</i>		
<i>Chrysocephalum semipapposum</i>	Clustering Everlasting	41
<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney-weed	51
<i>Geranium solanderi</i>	Austral Crane's-bill	52
<i>Kennedia prostrata</i>	Running Postman	53





## Lawn alternatives

Native lawns, once established, require much less water and fertiliser than traditional lawns. The various species tolerate light to heavy traffic, so ask your nursery which is best for your situation. Try to leave lawn clippings on the ground whenever possible to retain organic matter and nutrients onsite. Some species suitable as a native lawn are:

Botanical name	Common name	Page
<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney Weed	51
<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	Weeping Grass	61
<i>Viola hederacea</i>	Native Violet	54

## Feature trees

Some indigenous plants make ideal specimen trees for feature planting in a lawn or garden bed. The following species perform well as individual trees in a smaller garden:

Botanical name	Common name	Page
<i>Acacia implexa</i>	Lightwood	25
<i>Acacia melanoxydon</i>	Blackwood	26
<i>Acacia pycnantha</i>	Golden Wattle	27
<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>	Black Sheoak	27

These species are suitable for large gardens.

Botanical name	Common name	Page
<i>Eucalyptus cephalocarpa</i>	Silver-leafed Stringybark	28
<i>Eucalyptus gonicalyx</i>	Long-leafed Box	29
<i>Eucalyptus macrorhyncha</i>	Red Stringybark	29
<i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i>	Yellow Box	30
<i>Eucalyptus obliqua</i>	Messmate	30
<i>Eucalyptus radiata</i>	Narrow-leafed Peppermint	32



## Screen plants

Screen planting is often necessary to create privacy, conceal undesirable views or buffer wind and noise. Any of the trees and larger shrubs listed in this booklet are suitable for this purpose, especially the following:

Botanical name	Common name	Form	Page
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Blackwood	Tree	26
<i>Acacia stricta</i>	Hop Wattle	Large shrub	39
<i>Acacia paradoxa</i>	Hedge Wattle	Large shrub	33
<i>Acacia verticillata</i>	Prickly Moses	Large shrub	40
<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	Sweet Bursaria	Large shrub	34
<i>Olearia lirata</i>	Snowy Daisy-bush	Large shrub	48
<i>Prostanthera lasianthos</i>	Victorian Christmas Bush	Large Shrub	37

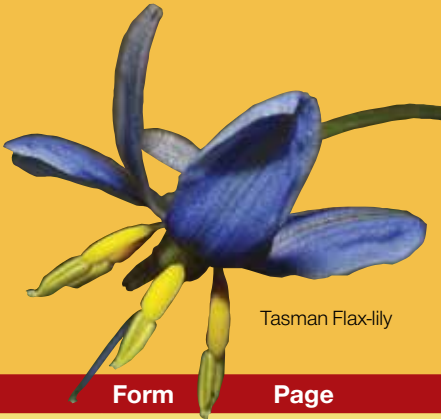
## Damp & shady spots

Botanical name	Common name	Form	Page
<i>Adiantum aethiopicum</i>	Common Maidenhair	Groundcover	50
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Blackwood	Tree	26
<i>Acacia verticillata</i>	Prickly moses	Large shrub	40
<i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i>	Bidgee-widgee	Groundcover	50
<i>Coprosma quadrifida</i>	Prickly Currant-bush	Shrub	42
<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	Weeping Grass	Groundcover	61
<i>Prostanthera lasianthos</i>	Victorian Christmas bush	Shrub	37
<i>Spyridium parvifolium</i>	Dusty Miller	Shrub	49
<i>Viola hederacea</i>	Native Violet	Groundcover	54



# Edible plants

Before consuming any plant material find out detailed information about the species. Check thoroughly which part of the plant can be eaten and how to prepare it for consumption.



Tasman Flax-lily

Botanical name	Common name	Form	Page
<i>Arthropodium milleforium</i>	<b>Pale Vanilla-lily</b> Under ground rhizomes edible	Low plant	55
<i>Arthropodium strictum</i>	<b>Chocolate Lily</b> Under ground rhizomes are edible	Low plant	55
<i>Bulbine bulbosa</i>	<b>Bulbine Lily</b> Under ground corm edible	Low plant	56
<i>Coprosma quadrifida</i>	<b>Prickly Currant-bush</b> Berries are edible raw or cooked	Small shrub	42
<i>Dianella admixta</i>	<b>Spreading Flax-lily</b> Dark Blue or Purple berries edible	Low plant	56
<i>Dianella laevis</i>	<b>Pale Flax-lily</b> Dark Blue or Purple berries edible	Low plant	57
<i>Dianella tasmanica</i>	<b>Tasman Flax-lily</b> Dark Blue or Purple berries edible	Low plant	57
<i>Mentha australis</i>	<b>River Mint</b> Edible leaves	Low plant	70
<i>Rubus parvifolius</i>	<b>Native Raspberry</b> Edible fruit	Low plant	66



River Mint

Books about bush food with information about edible portions, uses, food preparation and recipes include:

*Wild Food Plants of Australia. An Australian nature field guide* by Tim Low.

*Bushfood* by Jennifer Issacs.





## Colourful flowers

To achieve a mass of colour in your garden try a few of the following indigenous plants:

### Yellow flowers

Botanical name	Common name	Form	Page
<i>Acacia spp.</i>	Wattles	Trees and shrubs	25 - 40
<i>Bulbine bulbosa</i>	Bulbine Lily	Low plant	56
<i>Chrysocephalum semipapposum</i>	Clustered Everlasting	Filler	41
<i>Geranium solanderi</i>	Austral Crane's-bill	Ground cover	52
<i>Goodia lotifolia</i>	Golden-tip	Small shrub	45
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny headed Mat-rush	Tussock	58
<i>Viminaria juncea</i>	Golden spray	Large shrub	37

### Red or Pink Flowers

Botanical name	Common name	Form	Page
<i>Arthropodium milleflorum</i>	Pale Vanilla-lily	Low plant	55
<i>Kennedia prostrata</i>	Running postman	Scrambling	53
<i>Stylidium graminifolium</i>	Grass-leaved Triggerplant	Low plant	59

### Purple flowers

Botanical name	Common name	Form	Page
<i>Arthropodium strictum</i>	Chocolate Lily	Low plant	55
<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	Purple Coral Pea	Creeper	65
<i>Indigofera australis</i>	Austral Indigo	Medium shrub	46





## Blue flowers

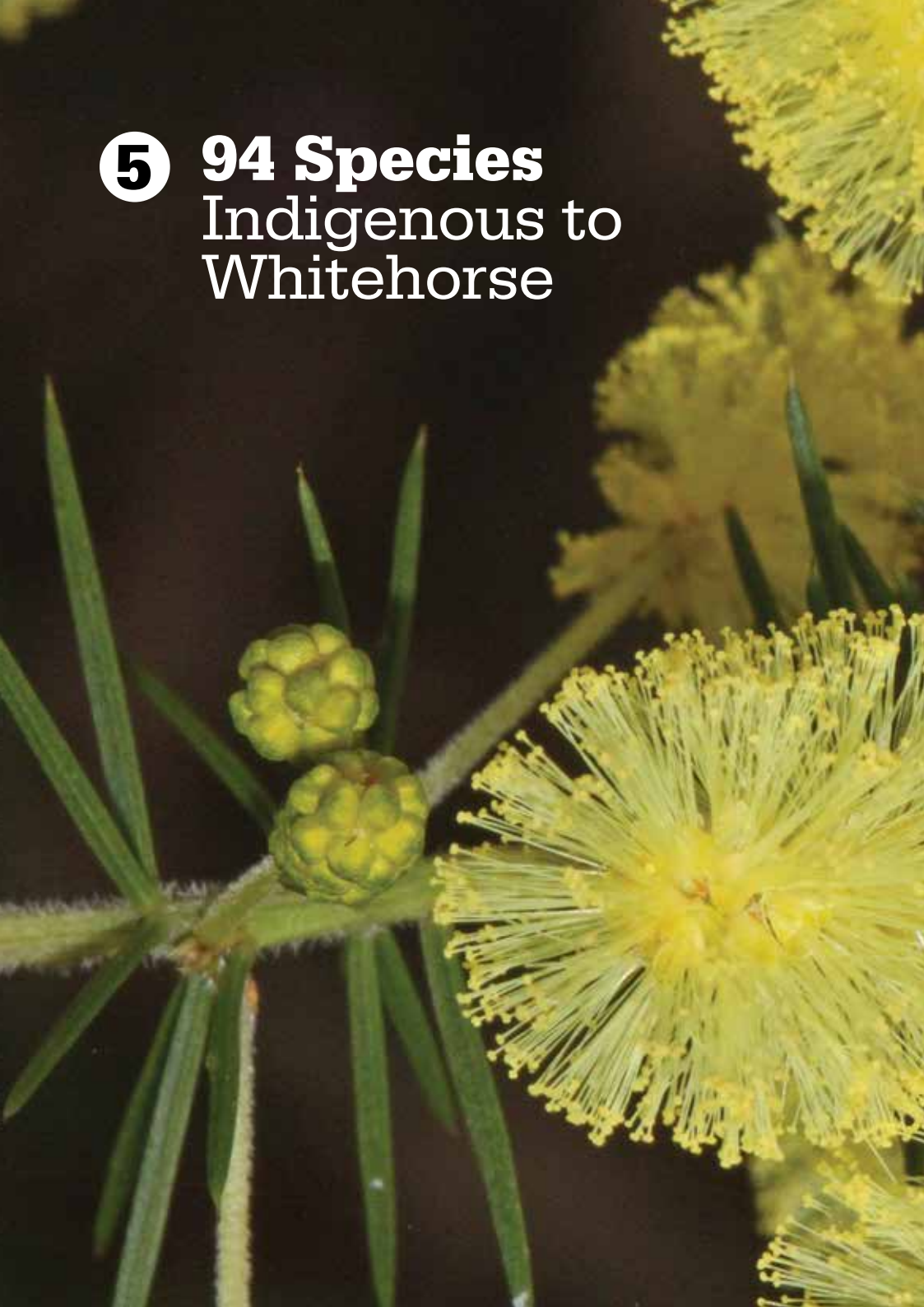
Botanical name	Common name	Form	Page
<i>Dianella admixta</i>	Spreading Flax-lily	Low plant	56
<i>Dianella laevis</i>	Pale Flax-lily	Low plant	57
<i>Dianella tasmanica</i>	Tasman Flax-lily	Low plant	57
<i>Wahlenbergia gracilis</i>	Bluebell	Low plant	54

## White flowers

Botanical name	Common name	Form	Page
<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	Sweet Bursaria	Large shrub	34
<i>Cassinia aculeata</i>	Dogwood	Medium shrub	40
<i>Clematis spp</i>	Clematis	Climber	64, 65
<i>Kunzea leptospermoides</i>	Yarra Burgan	Large shrub	35
<i>Leptospermum continentale</i>	Prickly Tea-tree	Large shrub	47
<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>	Swamp Paperbark	Large shrub	35
<i>Olearia lirata</i>	Snowy Daisy-bush	Large shrub	48
<i>Ozothamnus ferrugineus</i>	Tree Everlasting	Large shrub	36
<i>Pandorea pandorana</i>	Wonga Vine	Scrambler/climber	66
<i>Prostanthera lasianthos</i>	Victorian Christmas Bush	Large shrub	37
<i>Spyridium parvifolium</i>	Dusty Miller	Small shrub	49



**5 94 Species**  
Indigenous to  
Whitehorse



<b>Trees</b>	<b>Page 25</b>
<b>Large Shrubs</b>	<b>Page 33</b>
<b>Small and Medium Shrubs</b>	<b>Page 38</b>
<b>Groundcovers and Fillers</b>	<b>Page 50</b>
<b>Lilies and Irises</b>	<b>Page 55</b>
<b>Grasses and Sedges</b>	<b>Page 60</b>
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## KEY

### FORM & SIZE



### LIGHT REQUIREMENTS



### DROUGHT TOLERANT **DT**

### FLOWERING SEASON

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

### PROVIDES HABITAT FOR:



BIRDS



CATERPILLARS



REPTILES



BUTTERFLIES

### PROVIDES NECTAR OR POLLEN FOR BEEKEEPING



BEEES  
(nectar)



BEEES  
(pollen)



BEEES  
(nectar & pollen)





## *Acacia dealbata*

### Silver Wattle

Hardy, fast growing and open tree for parks and larger gardens, useful for windbreak or erosion control.

#### **Foliage and Flowers:**

Bluish ferny foliage, lemon ball flowers.

#### **Growing conditions:**

Adaptable, prefers deep moist soil.

## *Acacia implexa*

### Lightwood

A long-lived wattle, useful as a screen or shade tree and looks great planted in groups, adding great texture and detail to the garden.

#### **Foliage and Flowers:**

Light green, 'sickle-shaped' foliage with attractive sprays of cream ball flowers up to 4cm. The latest flowering wattle.

#### **Growing conditions:**

Thrives in dry sunny spots with shallow soil. Will also tolerate moist, well-drained positions.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

6m – 30m



5m – 10m



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN



Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

5m – 15m



4m – 7m



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN



# TREES



## *Acacia mearnsii*

### Black Wattle

Very fast-growing, often short-lived open spreading shade tree that attracts sugar gliders, birds and butterflies. Often subject to borer attack.

#### **Foliage and Flowers:**

Ferny foliage, scented pale yellow ball flowers.

#### **Growing conditions:**

Prefers well drained soils.

## *Acacia melanoxylon*

### Blackwood

Long-lived, fast growing good screening and shade tree. Narrow and upright in shady situations, and a broad shade tree in the open when sufficient soil moisture is available.

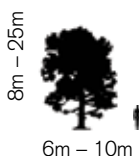
#### **Foliage and Flowers:**

Round, cream coloured flowers.

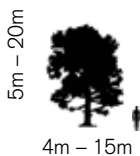
#### **Growing conditions:**

Prefers deep moist soils, tolerates dryness once established.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---





### *Acacia pycnantha*

## Golden Wattle

A fast-growing erect or spreading small tree. Good screening and windbreak tree and useful for erosion control.

### **Foliage and Flowers:**

Bright green, broad curved leaves with perfumed golden flowers.

### **Growing conditions:**

Well drained soils, tolerates a variety of sites. Drought tolerant.

### **Pruning:**

Prune while young to encourage denser habit.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

3m – 10m



2m – 5m



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN



### *Allocasuarina littoralis*

## Black Sheoak

An excellent fast-growing screening, windbreak or specimen tree that is an ideal alternative to planting Pine trees. Erect small tree.

### **Foliage and Flowers:**

Reddish (female), dark brown (male) spikes. Green fine branchlets, small woody cones.

### **Growing conditions:**

Well drained soils, tolerates a variety of sites. Drought tolerant.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

4m – 8m



2m – 5m



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN



# TREES



## *Banksia marginata*

### Silver Banksia

Small tree with finely-toothed long foliage with a dark green upper surface and a silvery reverse.

#### **Foliage and Flowers:**

Pale to bright yellow showy flowers densely packed in a candlespike flowerhead. The seeds are retained in the cone.

#### **Growing conditions:**

Prefers well drained soils. Tolerates a range of conditions, including moist sites .

## *Eucalyptus cephalocarpa*

### Silver Leafed Stringybark

Medium sized tree with dense canopy, rough fibrous bark. Useful as a shade or shelter tree.

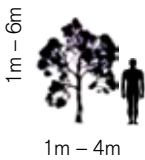
#### **Foliage and Flowers:**

White to cream flowers.

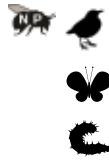
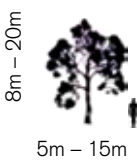
#### **Growing conditions:**

Adaptable, tolerates periods of inundation and dryness. Can resist moderate to light frosts.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---







## *Eucalyptus gonicalyx*

### Long-leafed Box

This fast-growing medium tree has a crooked trunk and rough fibrous bark. Useful as a shade tree, it is a food source for koalas.

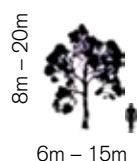
#### **Foliage and Flowers:**

White to cream flowers

#### **Growing conditions:**

Tolerates dry and poor soils.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



## *Eucalyptus macrorhyncha*

### Red Stringybark

An attractive, upright specimen and shade tree for lawns and garden areas that is valued as a source of honey. Medium to tall upright tree, with a rounded canopy and red-brown to grey deeply fissured bark.

#### **Foliage and Flowers:**

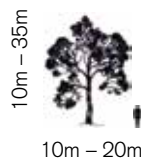
White to cream flowers.

#### **Growing conditions:**

Well drained soils, prefers loam soil.

Tree roots are sensitive to compaction of soil.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# TREES



## *Eucalyptus melliodora*

### Yellow Box

A handsome shade and feature tree for large gardens. Tall, variable open to dense tree, rough brownish bark, upper branches smooth and cream. Food source for koalas.

#### **Foliage and Flowers:**

The fragrant white to cream flowers provide an excellent source of honey.

#### **Growing conditions:**

Well drained loams and alluvial soils.

## *Eucalyptus obliqua*

### Messmate

Tall upright tree, dense canopy, thick fibrous fissured bark to smaller branches. Good shelter and shade tree for large areas.

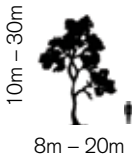
#### **Foliage and Flowers:**

White to cream flowers.

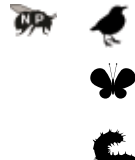
#### **Growing conditions:**

Adaptable, well drained soils, prefers moist sites but tolerates dryness.

Flowers J F M A M J J A S O N D



Flowers J F M A M J J A S O N D





## *Eucalyptus ovata*

### Swamp Gum

Fast-growing medium to tall upright tree, moderately dense crown, rough bark lower trunk. Useful windbreak and shade tree, ideal for swampy areas and along creek banks.

#### **Foliage and Flowers:**

White to cream flowers.

#### **Growing conditions:**

Prefers moist and poorly drained soils, tolerating periods of inundation and dryness.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

8m – 25m



8m – 20m



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN



## *Eucalyptus polyanthemos*

### Red Box

A slow-growing small to medium tree with a compact to spreading crown. Rough, fibrous reddish-brown bark in small flakes, often persistent to small branches.

#### **Foliage and Flowers:**

Clusters of club-shaped buds, followed by profuse white to cream flowers. Barrel-shaped fruit.

#### **Growing conditions:**

Well drained soils, tolerating difficult sites such as dry, stony and shallow soils. Full or partial sun

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

7m – 25m



5m – 15m



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN





# TREES



## *Eucalyptus radiata*

### Narrow-leaved Peppermint

An attractive shade or shelter tree that is ideally suited to suburban gardens and is common around Melbourne. Medium to tall low-branching tree, dense and compact crown, grey-brown fibrous bark.

**Foliage and Flowers:**

White to cream flowers.

**Growing conditions:**

Well drained soils, tolerating a range of conditions

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



## *Eucalyptus viminalis*

### Manna Gum

Good ornamental tree and shade tree, suited for large gardens or parklands. This fast-growing tall upright tree is a food source for koalas.

**Foliage and Flowers:**

White flowers.

**Growing conditions:**

Adaptable, prefers moist, well drained soils.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---





# LARGE SHRUBS



## *Acacia paradoxa*

### Hedge Wattle

Fast-growing dense and spreading shrub whose dense prickly habit provides an ideal refuge for small birds. Ornamental, suited as a hedge/screen.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Small, dark green wavy leaves and golden yellow ball flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Dry to moist, well-drained soils.  
Adaptable to any site.

## *Acacia strictophylla*

### Cinnamon Wattle

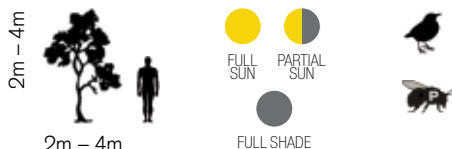
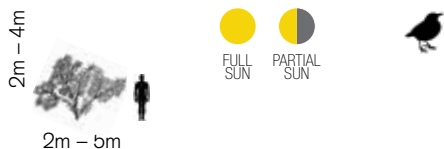
Fast-growing erect slender or spreading shrub with weeping foliage, sometimes reaching tree proportions.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Scented lemon to yellow balls yellow.

#### Growing conditions:

Moist, well drained soils.



# LARGE SHRUBS



## *Bursaria spinosa*

### Sweet Bursaria

Hardy, easily grown slender to rounded shrub or small tree which is good for hedging. Stunning in flower, this shrub offers long-lived shelter for small birds and food for the Eltham Copper Butterfly.

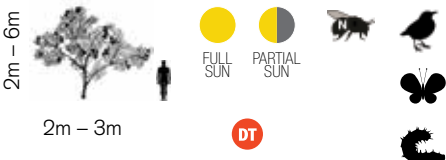
#### Flowers and foliage:

Prolific, sweetly scented creamy-white flowers followed by attractive coppery seed capsules. Shiny, small, dark green leaves.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils. Drought tolerant.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



## *Hakea decurrens*

### Bushy Needlewood

Fast growing shrub with interesting flowers and woody fruit. It provides a good low screen. It's prickly leaves provide protective habitat for small garden birds.

#### Flowers and foliage:

White flowers occasionally pink..

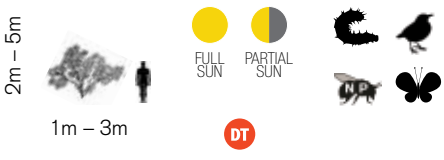
#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable, tolerating most soils and aspects.

#### Pruning:

Responds well to hard pruning.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# LARGE SHRUBS



## *Kunzea leptospermoides*

### Yarra Burgan

Attractive and fast-growing dense to open shrub, particularly the weeping form. Excellent screening plant.

#### Flowers and foliage:

White flowers and small aromatic leaves.

#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable, tolerating wet and dry periods.

#### Pruning:

Prune for bushiness.

## *Melaleuca ericifolia*

### Swamp Paperbark

This erect, open to dense bushy shrub or small tree with papery bark is useful as a dense thicket or screen.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Cream brush-like flowers.

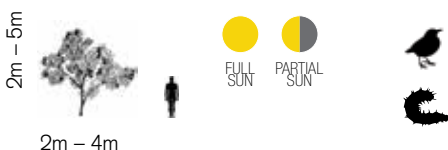
#### Growing conditions:

Prefers moist to wet soils. Frost tolerant.

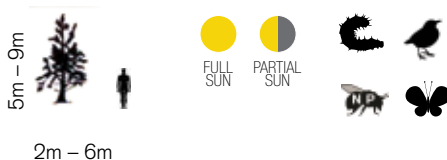
#### Pruning:

Prune after flowering to keep plants from straggling.

**Flowers** J F M A M J J A S O N D



**Flowers** J F M A M J J A S O N D



# LARGE SHRUBS



## *Ozothamnus ferrugineus*

### Tree Everlasting

An open rounded aromatic shrub which grows best as understorey planting. A great screening plant.

**Flowers and foliage:**

Small white flowerheads in large clusters.

**Growing conditions:**

Adaptable, prefers moist, well drained soils.

## *Pomaderris racemosa*

### Cluster Pomaderris

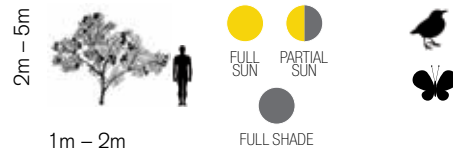
This is a slender shrub or rarely a small lightly branched tree which is ideal for areas where space is limited due to its erect habit. Useful as a taller screening plant for beneath trees.

**Flowers and foliage:**

Cream-yellow flowers.

**Growing conditions:**

Moist soils, will tolerate dryness.





# LARGE SHRUBS



## *Prostanthera lasianthos*

### Victorian Christmas Bush

The largest native mint bush, this is a useful screen plant. A compact tall shrub or upright small tree which is spectacular in flower.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Minty aromatic leaves and white flowers spotted with orange and purple.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained, prefers moist loamy soils. Needs protection from strong winds.

## *Viminaria juncea*

### Native Broom

A hardy, fast-growing shrub which is useful beside pools and is most attractive when in flower, drawing attention to its weeping habit. Can be short lived.

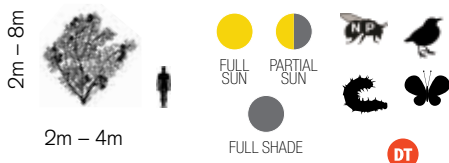
#### Flowers and foliage:

Erect, arching, needle-like leaves, and prays of yellow-orange pea flowers.

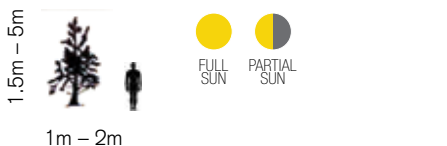
#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable to poorly drained soils, salt and lime.

**Flowers** J F M A M J J A S O N D



**Flowers** J F M A M J J A S O N D



# SMALL AND MEDIUM SHRUBS



## *Acacia acinacea*

### Gold Dust Wattle

A hardy wattle excellent for the rockeries or shrub borders. Looks great planted en masse. A good low screening plant.

**Flowers and foliage:**

Produces masses of showy, golden yellow flower balls.

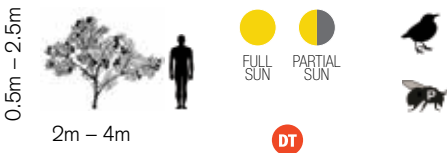
**Growing conditions:**

Adaptable, well drained soils. Grows well in shallow soils.

**Pruning:**

Pruning is beneficial.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



## *Acacia genistifolia*

### Spreading Wattle

This hardy fast-growing open spreading shrub with prickly foliage, provides good refuge for birds. It will often self-seed.

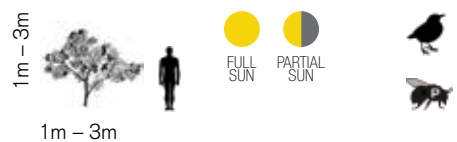
**Flowers and foliage:**

Lemon to cream balls.

**Growing conditions:**

Tolerates wet or dry soil.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# SMALL AND MEDIUM SHRUBS



## *Acacia myrtifolia*

### Myrtle Wattle

An easily grown ornamental shrub which is best grown in clusters, it only lives for approximately 4 - 5 years. Useful as a quick grower while other slower plants grow.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Cream to yellow balls

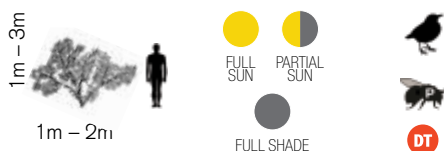
#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable, most soils with good drainage.

#### Pruning:

Heavy pruning can be beneficial.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



## *Acacia stricta*

### Hop Wattle

Fast-growing open upright shrub which can form a low windbreak or light screen, suited for planting under existing trees.

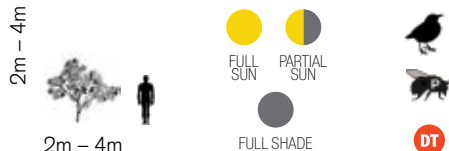
#### Flowers and foliage:

Pale yellow balls.

#### Growing conditions:

Reasonably well drained positions in most soils. Drought hardy.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---





# SMALL AND MEDIUM SHRUBS



## *Acacia verticillata*

### Prickly Moses

With foliage that provides wonderful textural interest in the garden, this open prickly shrub is also a safe nesting refuge for small birds such as wrens.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Light yellow bottlebrush shaped spikes

#### Growing conditions:

Deep soil with reliable moisture. Will tolerate a variety of conditions.

#### Pruning:

Prune to encourage a bushy habit.

#### Flowers

J F M A M J

J A S O N D

2m – 6m



3m – 5m



DT



## *Cassinia aculeata*

### Common Cassinia

A fast-growing erect open shrub which is hardy and may be grown beneath trees.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Densehead of small white to cream flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable, well drained soils.

#### Pruning:

Prune to maintain bushy shape.

#### Flowers

J F M

A M J J A S O N D

2m – 4m



1m – 2m



DT



# SMALL AND MEDIUM SHRUBS



## *Cassinia longifolia*

### Long-leaf Cassinia

This fast-growing aromatic shrub is a hardy plant useful as a quick screen or windbreak.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Small white/cream flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable to most conditions, prefers moist well drained soils.

#### Pruning:

Prune for bushy habit.

## *Chrysocephalum semipapposum*

### Clustered Everlasting

Variable, dense aromatic perennial herb. Attractive, can be planted beneath trees, heavy pruning encourages new growth,

#### Flowers and foliage:

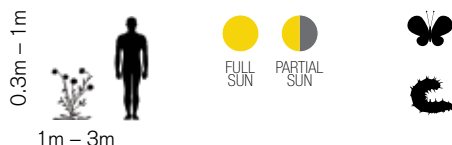
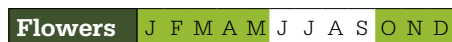
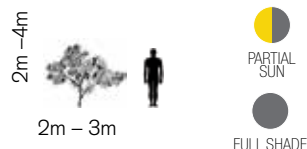
Aromatic, greyish sticky leaves, bright yellow papery flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Tolerates a range of conditions, variable soils, moist to dry, frost tolerant.

#### Pruning:

Requires hard pruning of old growth.



# SMALL AND MEDIUM SHRUBS



## *Coronidium scorpioides*

### Curling Everlasting

An attractive matting plant ideal for cottage gardens, rockeries and borders. Foliage dies back after flowering each year.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Yellow button flowerheads

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils, prefers dry sites.

## *Coprosma quadrifida*

### Prickly Currant Bush

This prickly open upright dense shrub is great for damp shady areas and provides bright red berries for birds and bush tucker foragers.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Inconspicuous light greenish flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils, prefers moist sites.

#### Pruning:

Pruning encourages bushier growth.



0m – 0.3m



0.2m – 0.3m



FULL SUN PARTIAL SUN



2m – 4m



1m – 2m



PARTIAL SUN

FULL SHADE



# SMALL AND MEDIUM SHRUBS



## *Correa glabra*

### Rock Correa

An attractive, hardy shrub, ideal low screening plant, may be established beneath trees. Very drought and frost hardy, it has dense foliage and requires practically no maintenance. Consider using it in pots for colour through the cooler months.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Pale green bells.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

1m – 3m



1m – 3m



FULL SUN



PARTIAL SUN



FULL SHADE



DT



## *Correa reflexa*

### Common Correa

Attractive, hardy shrub, ideal for shaded areas or beneath existing trees. Very drought and frost hardy, it has dense foliage and requires practically no maintenance. Consider using it in pots for colour through the cooler months.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Pendulous green tubular flower.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

0.3m – 2m



1m – 2m



FULL SUN



PARTIAL SUN



FULL SHADE



DT

# SMALL AND MEDIUM SHRUBS



## *Enchylaena tomentosa*

### Ruby Saltbush

Attractive hardy plant useful for undershrub plantings. Fruit colour variation provides an interesting feature. A low spreading or upright woody shrub.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Insignificant greenish flowers and red berries.

#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable to poor soils, tolerant to dryness and salinity.

#### Pruning:

Pruning is beneficial.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

1m  
v



0.5m – 1m



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN



## *Epacris impressa*

### Common Heath

Victoria's floral emblem and a very pretty, small shrub.

#### Flowers & foliage:

Narrow, sharply pointed leaves. An abundance of dainty, bell-shaped white or pink blooms crowded along branches from autumn to early spring.

#### Growing conditions:

Ideally suited for cool, moist areas in well drained, acidic soils. Will tolerate harsh, dry conditions once established.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

1m – 1.5m



PARTIAL  
SUN





# SMALL AND MEDIUM SHRUBS



## *Goodia lotifolia*

### Golden Tip

Add a bright note to the garden with this pretty, fast growing shrub. Useful as a quick screen, prune for bushy habit or to a tall, loose hedge.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Showy and fragrant yellow pea flowers with red markings. Attractive blue-green clover-like leaves.

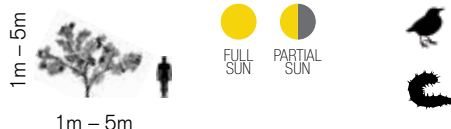
#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils, avoid alkaline soil.

#### Pruning:

Prune for bushiness.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



## *Goodenia ovata*

### Hop Goodenia

A hardy shrub which may be planted beneath trees. Easily propagated, it is a versatile plant that is great for brightening shady garden settings.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Small, vibrant yellow blooms.

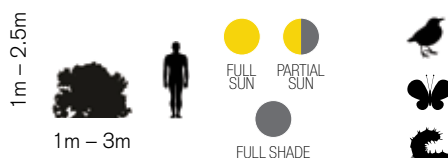
#### Growing conditions:

Will tolerate harsh, dry conditions once established but will also tolerate waterlogging.

#### Pruning:

Prune to avoid straggling habit.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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# SMALL AND MEDIUM SHRUBS



## *Gynatrix pulchella*

### Hemp Bush

A fast-growing upright open shrub which is very showy in flower.

**Flowers and foliage:**

Fragrant greenish-white flowers.

**Growing conditions:**

Moist, well drained soils.

**Pruning:**

Prune for bushy habit.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

2m – 4m



1.5m – 3m



PARTIAL  
SUN



## *Indigofera australis*

### Austral Indigo

A member of the Pea family, this hardy, attractive plant ideal for planting beneath trees or shady sites.

**Flowers and foliage:**

Mauve pea flowers, occasionally pink or white and blue-green, feathery (compound) leaves.

**Growing conditions:**

Adaptable, well drained soils. Water regularly during dry periods.

**Pruning:**

Tip prune to promote bushy growth.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

1m – 2m



1m – 2m



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN



FULL SHADE

# SMALL AND MEDIUM SHRUBS



## *Leptospermum continentale*

### Prickly Tea-tree

Attractive and hardy plant suitable for poorly drained sites. Useful as a screen, it benefits from pruning. A good habitat plant, it is frost tolerant.

#### Flowers and foliage:

White petalled flowers and stiff prickly leaves.

#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable, tolerating most soils and aspects.

## *Melicytus dentatus*

### Tree Violet

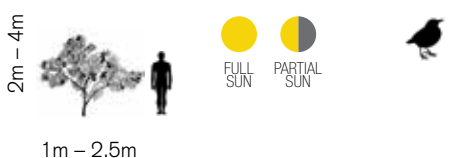
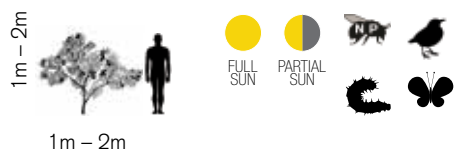
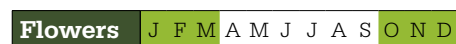
Medium to tall, rigid and often spiny, this hardy spreading shrub is useful for lightly shaded sites and moist areas.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Tiny cream bell flowers and green to purple berries.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils, preferring moist sites.



# SMALL AND MEDIUM SHRUBS



## *Olearia lirata*

### Snowy Daisy bush

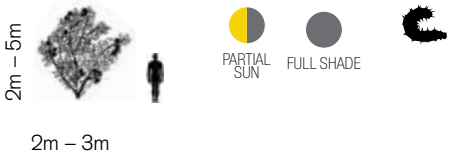
An attractive, soft, open shrub to brighten up shady or sheltered sites. A spectacular screening or specimen shrub with attractive daisy flowers.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Profuse, superb clusters of white, daisy-like flowers in spring, with soft grey-green foliage with downy white undersides.

#### Growing conditions:

A shade lover that thrives in sheltered spots with moist, well-drained soil. Can look shabby in drier conditions.



## *Pelargonium australe*

### Austral Stork's Bill

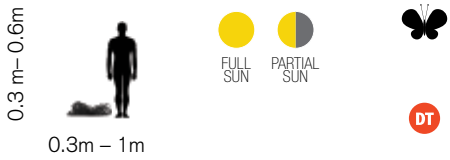
A small, soft and hairy perennial herb forming a clump, this attractive rockery or container plant is a useful soil binder. May die back during hot periods.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Pink or white flowers with crimson to purple streaks.

#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable, well drained soils, tolerates dryness.





# SMALL AND MEDIUM SHRUBS



## *Solanum aviculare*

### Kangaroo Apple

A decorative hardy fast-growing shrub, Kangaroo Apple is useful as a screening plant. Short-lived in cultivation.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Violet flowers with yellow anthers

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils, tolerant of most conditions.

#### Pruning:

Prune for dense habit.

## *Spyridium parvifolium*

### Australian Dusty Miller

An attractive screening or specimen plant for sheltered positions with white flowers and whitish new growth that brighten a garden in winter. Small to medium dense upright shrub.

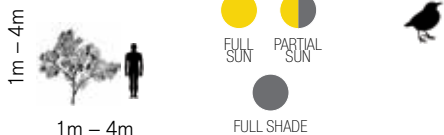
#### Flowers and foliage:

Clusters of dainty, creamy flowers, accentuated by white dusty bracts.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils, tolerating dryness once established.

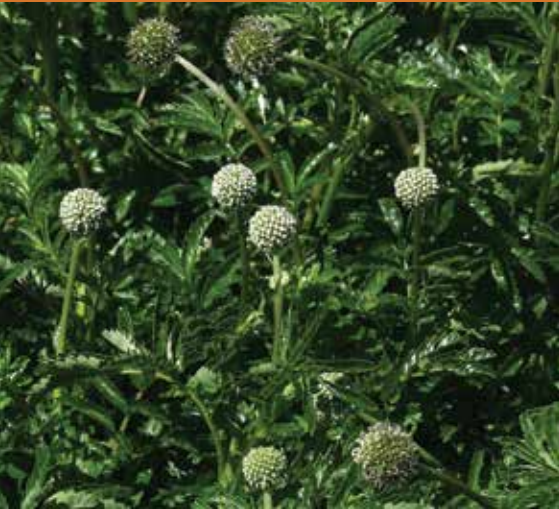
Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# GROUNDCOVERS AND FILLERS



***Acaena novae-zelandiae***

Bidgee Widgee

A sprawling, adaptable mat-like plant which is useful as a soil-binding and ground cover plant for erosion control. Thorns can stick to clothing.

**Flowers and foliage:**

Greenish-white flowers and spiny seed heads.

**Growing conditions:**

Adaptable, tolerating wet and dry.



***Adiantum aethiopicum***

Common Maidenhair

Ground covering fern suckering by vigorous underground stems. Reliable, becoming dormant in dry spells but reshooting when soil moisture increases

**Flowers and foliage:**

Light green, delicate fronds.

**Growing conditions:**

Moist, well drained soils.



1m – 2m



0.1m – 0.45m



# GROUNDCOVERS AND FILLERS



## *Brachyscome multifida*

### Cut Leaf Daisy

Fast-growing, low spreading perennial herb. Spreads by underground roots, useful soil binder. Flowers profusely most of the year.

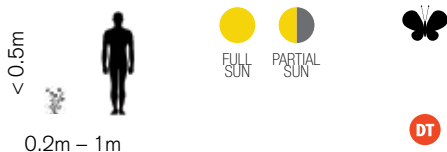
#### Flowers and foliage:

Blue, mauve, pink or white daisy flowerheads

#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable, from heavy clay to light sandy loams.

**Flowers** J F M A M J J A S O N D



## *Dichondra repens*

### Kidney Weed

Hardy attractive groundcover that forms a dense mat in moist shady areas and can be grown to suppress weeds or as a great lawn alternative where foot traffic is light. Very easily divided and transplanted.

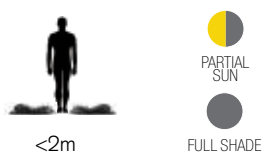
#### Flowers and foliage:

Bright green kidney shaped leaves and tiny inconspicuous yellowish-green flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable, prefers well drained soils, keep moist in dry weather.

**Flowers** J F M A M J J A S O N D





# GROUNDCOVERS AND FILLERS



**Einadia nutans**

Nodding Saltbush

Hardy vigorous sprawling shrub, this is a useful groundcover for dry banks, may be planted beneath trees. Drought resistant, bird attracting.

**Flowers and foliage:**

Insignificant clusters of greenish flowers.

**Growing conditions:**

Well drained drier soils.



**Geranium solanderi**

Austral Crane's-bill

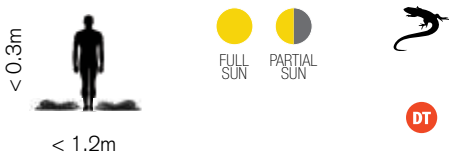
Bright container or rockery plant providing a dense groundcover. A hardy, creeping perennial herb.

**Flowers and foliage:**

Pink flowers.

**Growing conditions:**

Well drained soils, preferring moisture.





# GROUNDCOVERS AND FILLERS



## *Kennedia prostrata*

### Running Postman

Spectacular in hanging baskets where the flowers can cascade down the sides and also softening garden edges and steps. Open trailing or densely matting perennial groundcover.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Reddish pea flowers with yellow centres.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils, tolerates dryness once established. May die back in extended dry conditions and re-sprout when conditions improve.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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## *Microseris lanceolata*

### Yam Daisy

Small tufted perennial herb with bright yellow daisy flowers on long stems. Differs from introduced dandelion by its narrow leaves and drooping flower buds. Regenerates annually from tuberous rootstock.

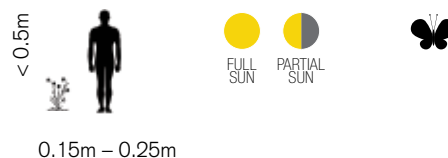
#### Flowers and foliage:

Bright yellow daisy flowerhead

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# GROUNDCOVERS AND FILLERS



## *Viola hederacea*

### Native Violet

Attractive hardy and fast-growing groundcover, useful for soil binding on banks or near ponds, and also an attractive plant for hanging baskets, rockeries and courtyards.

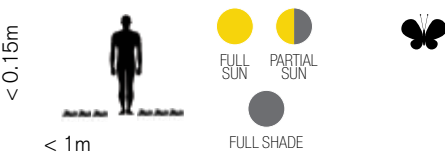
#### Flowers and foliage:

Masses of white violets with purple centres mainly in spring. Attractive, green, kidney-shaped foliage.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils, prefers moist sites.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



## *Wahlenbergia spp*

### Bluebells

Ideal for mass display or drifts, this erect clumping much-branched perennial herb is a great rockery or border plant and also good for hanging baskets and pots.

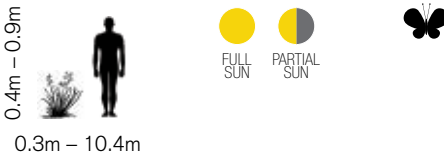
#### Flowers and foliage:

Light blue or occasionally white open-bell shaped flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Moist, well drained soils. Tolerates some dryness, will die back to rootstock during long periods of dryness.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# LILIES AND IRISES



## *Arthropodium milleflorum*

### Pale Vanilla Lily

An attractive plant, effective in mass plantings, dormant in summer. Grass-like tufted perennial herb.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Pale pink, mauve or white vanilla scented flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Moist clay soils.

## *Arthropodium strictum*

### Chocolate Lily

An outstanding wildflower, at its best planted in drifts, it is dormant in summer. Try growing in decorative pots or containers; also may be grown beneath trees

#### Flowers and foliage:

Delightful violet-purple, chocolate-vanilla scented flowers and soft flat narrow leaves.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils, adaptable to surroundings.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

0.3m – 1.3m



< 0.3m



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

0.2m – 0.8m



0.2m – 0.8m



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN

# LILIES AND IRISES



## *Bulbine bulbosa*

### Bulbine Lily

An attractive, long-flowering wildflower for rockeries and cottage gardens that spreads by seed to form showy clumps. It is lovely planted in drifts, pots or containers. Dies down to rootstock in dry periods, may resprout throughout the year.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Yellow star-like fragrant flowers and tufted, succulent leaves.

#### Growing conditions:

Moist, well drained soils.



0.2m – 0.6m



< 0.3m



FULL SUN



PARTIAL SUN

## *Dianella admixta*

### Black-anther Flax-lily

A dense tufted perennial with vigorous branched underground stems. Hardy and tolerant, may grow beneath trees, effective in mass plantings. For difficult dry spots, the Black Anther Flax-lily is superb and forms slow spreading tussocks.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Blue to violet flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils, adaptable. Drought and frost resistant.



0.3m – 1.5m



0.5m – 1.5m



FULL SUN



PARTIAL SUN





# LILIES AND IRISES



## *Dianella laevis*

### Pale Flax-lily

This compact, upright tuft is an attractive clumping plant. Useful as an accent plant, hardy, and can be grown very successfully around the base of trees.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Pale blue star-shaped flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Moist, well drained soils.



## *Dianella tasmanica*

### Tasman Flax-lily

This hardy vigorous tuft can be grown very successfully around the base of trees. Has long, vigorous runners and its coarse, strappy leaves can form dense patches to several metres across and 1m deep.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Blue to violet flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Prefers moist soils. Leaves burn in full sun.

**Flowers** J F M A M J J A S O N D

0.3m – 1.5m



< 0.5m



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN



**Flowers** J F M A M J J A S O N D

0.6m – 1.5m



0.5m – 2m



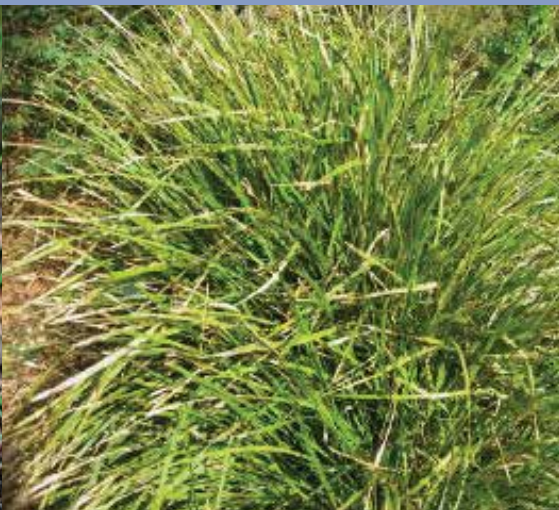
PARTIAL  
SUN



FULL SHADE



# LILIES AND IRISES



## *Lomandra filiformis*

### Wattle Mat-rush

Attractive hardy plant useful for rockeries, mass plantings and borders, suitable for containers. Lightly tufted herb spreading by underground stems.

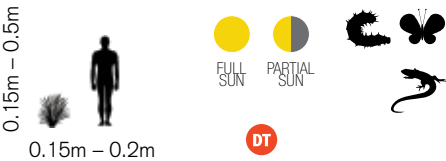
#### Flowers and foliage:

Yellow flowerheads and narrow, stiff leaves.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils, preferring moist sites, tolerating dryness once established. Drought and frost tolerant.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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## *Lomandra longifolia*

### Spiny-headed Mat-rush

Large dense tussock plant which is an important butterfly food plant and a lovely tussock for difficult spots, rockeries and embankments. Ideal landscaping plant for clusters/large drifts, grows well beneath trees.

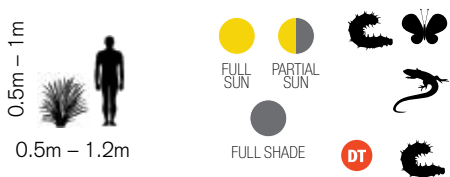
#### Flowers and foliage:

Yellowish flowers in clusters with spiky bracts.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils, adaptable to a range of sites. Hardy and drought tolerant.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# LILIES AND IRISES



## *Patersonia occidentalis*

### Long Purple Flag

An attractive plant for cottage gardens, rockeries, water features and mass plantings, this compact perennial herb has dense tufts.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Blue to purple, occasionally white, flowers and long strappy leaves.

#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable, tolerates a range of conditions, from dry to boggy.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

0.2m – .85m



0.3m – 0.6m



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN



## *Stylidium graminifolium*

### Grass-leaved Triggerplant

Great when planted in drifts, this variable, tufted perennial herb is useful for rockeries, containers and cottage gardens. Known as “trigger plants” because of the unique, irritable flower column which springs upwards and deposits pollen on the head or back of insect visitors.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Pale to bright pink or lilac flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Moist, well drained soils.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

0.2m – 0.75m



0.1m – 0.5m



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN



DT

# GRASSES & SEDGES



## *Austrostipa rudis*

### Veined Spear Grasses

A spectacular sight when planted en masse with a breeze rustling the tall flowering stems, this spreading tufted perennial grass is useful as an accent grass.

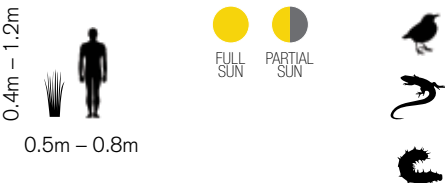
#### Flowers and foliage:

Green with purple tinged flowerheads which bear many long, weeping, russet coloured, spear-like seeds.

#### Growing conditions:

Prefers moist soils and an open position.

**Flowers** J F M A M J J A S O N D



## *Carex appressa*

### Tall Sedge

An ideal aquatic/bog garden plant, useful for stabilising eroded banks or filtering streams, this robust densely tufted sedge spreads from underground stems.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Robust tuft, arching leaves and brownish flowerheads.

#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable to a range of conditions. Tolerates periods of dryness but prefers ample moisture.

**Flowers** J F M A M J J A S O N D





# GRASSES & SEDGES



## *Microlaena stipoides*

### Weeping Grass

A splendid year-round native lawn in moist, shady positions that can be mown regularly or left to produce delightful weeping flower heads. Seeds may catch on clothing.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Green to purple tinged flowerheads on arching stems, and soft, emerald green leaves.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils, preferring moist shadier sites. Will tolerate drier conditions and full sun.

#### Flowers

J F M A M J J A S O N D

0.3m – 1m



< 0.6m



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN



## *Poa ensiformis*

### Sword Tussock Grass

Ornamental, vigorous grass ideal for moist shady areas, mass plantings, erosion control, embankments. Large, dense tussock forming grass with spreading underground stems.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Green, purple to straw-colour flowerheads.

#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable, preferring moist shaded sites, but tolerates periods of dryness.

#### Flowers

J F M A M J J A S O N D

0.3m – 1.5m



< 1m



PARTIAL  
SUN



FULL SHADE



# GRASSES & SEDGES



## *Poa labillardierei*

### Common Tussock Grass

A vigorous ornamental tussock-forming grass for garden beds and rockeries that is a dramatic sight planted in massed grasses of varying height and texture. An adaptable grass that thrives with reliable moisture.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Green, purple to straw-colour flowerheads

#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable, prefers moist to slightly dry soils, frost tolerant.

## *Poa morrisii*

### Velvet Tussock Grass

A small soft bluish tussock grass, this attractive ornamental grass is useful for borders, rockeries, cottage gardens. May be grown beneath established trees.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Green, purple to straw-colour flowerheads.

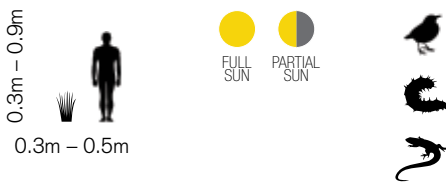
#### Growing conditions:

Moist, well drained soils.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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# GRASSES & SEDGES



## *Rytidosperma* spp

### Wallaby Grasses

Erect tufted perennials with fine leaves which are useful for planting under trees or mixed with other grasses. They provide a delightful addition to the garden that will stay green over summer without high water demands and many species will tolerate regular mowing and trampling.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Pale green to purple flowerheads

#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable, range from sandy to heavy soils.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

0.3m – 0.6m



< 0.4m



FULL SUN PARTIAL SUN



## *Themeda triandra*

### Kangaroo Grass

A great feature tussock, this attractive grass with unique colour and flowers arranged among leafy bract provides interesting colour and texture to the garden.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Coppery or rust-coloured flower heads and soft blade foliage varying in colour from blue-green to reddish brown.

#### Growing conditions:

Performs best in well-drained soils with reliable moisture. Adaptable to a range of growing conditions.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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0.4m – 0.9m



0.5m – 0.7m



FULL SUN PARTIAL SUN





# SCRAMBLERS AND CLIMBERS



**Billardiera scandens**

Common Apple-Berry

A non-evasive light climber or sprawling plant, this may also be established beneath existing trees.

**Flowers and foliage:**

Greenish-yellow pendulous bell-shaped flowers.

**Growing conditions:**

Well drained soils, adaptable to most sites.

**Clematis aristata**

Mountain Clematis

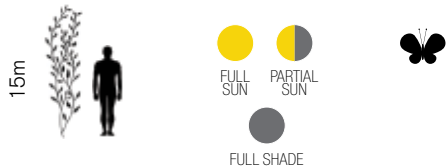
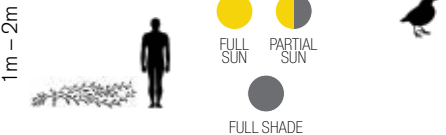
A vigorous woody climber which may be easily trained to cover artificial supports, and may be grown beneath trees. Suckering to form new plants.

**Flowers and foliage:**

Creamy white starry flowers.

**Growing conditions:**

Well drained soils.





# SCRAMBLERS AND CLIMBERS



## *Clematis decipiens*

### Small-leafed Clematis

A useful screening plant or for covering fences, this medium sized climber will smother other plants in garden.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Cream starry flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils. Frost tolerant.

## *Hardenbergia violacea*

### Purple Coral Pea

The brilliant flowers of the Purple Coral-pea provide a beautiful display of colour climbing up a shrub or scrambling over a retaining wall. This dense, fast growing showy scrambler is generally hardy.

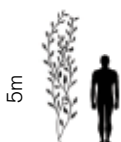
#### Flowers and foliage:

Violet to purple pea flowers, sometimes pink or white. Rich, deep green, leathery leaves.

#### Growing conditions:

Adaptable, well drained soils.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# SCRAMBLERS AND CLIMBERS



## *Pandorea pandorana*

### Wonga Vine

A showy climber for covering fences, trellises and pergolas. This rampant climber will require a solid structure or large tree to climb up. A vigorous and bushy climber; be warned it can smother other plants.

#### Flowers and foliage:

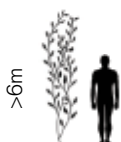
Glossy green foliage. White trumpet flowers with burgundy throats. Flowers in spring and summer.

#### Growing conditions:

Partly shaded areas with well-drained soils and regular water.

#### Flowers

J F M A M J J A S O N D



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN



## *Rubus parvifolius*

### Native Raspberry

A hardy trailer which can be trained as a climber, this small rambling shrub is covered in hooked thorns. Pruning encourages increased flowering.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Deep pink flowers turning to edible fruits.

#### Growing conditions:

Well drained soils.

#### Flowers

J F M A M J J A S O N D

0.5m – 3m



PARTIAL  
SUN



FULL SHADE



# WETLAND PLANTS



## *Alisma plantago-aquatica*

### Water Plantain

Useful for ponds and bog gardens, this erect tufted perennial semi-aquatic herb tolerates poorly drained sites.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Pale pink petalled flowers and tufted, erect fan shaped leaves.

#### Growing conditions:

Wet soils. It may become dormant in very dry periods.

## *Eleocharis acuta*

### Common Spike Rush

Aquatic perennial herb with tufts at intervals along slender underground stems. It provides interest around dams and ponds, may spread rapidly in shallow water, provides habitat for birds, fish and frogs.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Dark brown flowerheads

#### Growing conditions:

Heavy damp soils to shallow water edges.

**Flowers** J F M A M J J A S O N D

0.5m – 1.5m



< 0.5m



FULL SUN



PARTIAL SUN

**Flowers** J F M A M J J A S O N D

0.3m – 0.6m



< 2m



FULL SUN



# WETLAND PLANTS



## Carex fascicularis

### Tassel Sedge

Common sedge found along watercourses and near swamps, useful for erosion control. Coarse tufted bright green plant, spreading from underground stems.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Whitish to pale brown flowerheads

#### Growing conditions:

Moist to wet soils, tolerating inundation.

## Juncus spp

### Rushes

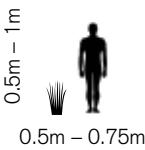
Although marsh plants, these sturdy rushes will withstand periods of drought and are excellent for wetland waste water systems.

#### Flowers and foliage:

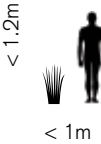
Straw coloured flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Moist soils or shallow water.



PARTIAL  
SUN



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN





# WETLAND PLANTS



## *Lythrum salicaria*

### Purple Loosestrife

Slender, erect perennial herb with tuberous roots. Very showy plant for borders, bog gardens and around water edges.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Crowded spikes of purple to magenta petalled flowers. Leaves offer autumn colour as plant dies back for the winter.

#### Growing conditions:

Moist soils or shallow water.

Flowers	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

0.5m – 1.5m



< 1m



FULL  
SUN

## *Marsilea drummondii*

### Common Nardoo

An aquatic perennial fern with attractive foliage, while it displays vigorous growth, it does not compete with other water plants such as water lilies or milfoil, making it an ideal water plant for a garden pond. Attracts frogs to the garden, providing good breeding habitat.

#### Foliage:

Fronds are erect when growing in mud, floating when growing in water.

#### Growing conditions:

In a garden pond.

< 0.3m



FULL  
SUN



PARTIAL  
SUN

# WETLAND PLANTS



## *Mentha australis*

### River Mint

Soft sprawling, sometimes erect, perennial herb with a minty aroma. Useful for containers, rockeries and for moist and shady areas, may become invasive in ideal conditions.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Small white to pale mauve tubular flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Moist soils.



## *Persicaria decipiens*

### Slender Knotweed

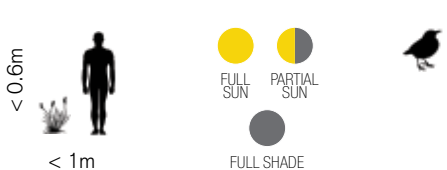
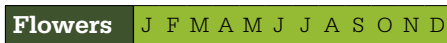
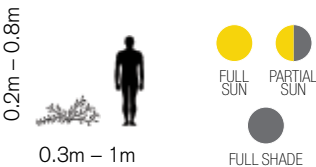
Dense groundcover, useful for moist and boggy sites and around water edges, dies back in winter and during long periods of dryness. An aquatic to semi aquatic erect to spreading perennial herb with slender sprawling stems.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Small pink flowers in slender spikes.

#### Growing conditions:

Moist soils.



# WETLAND PLANTS



## *Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani*

### River Club Rush

An attractive rush to grow around water edges, suited to swamps and wetlands, this perennial herb is useful for erosion control.

#### Flowers and foliage:

Brown flowerheads.

#### Growing conditions:

Wet soils.

## *Triglochin spp*

### Water Ribbons

These slender, tufted semi-aquatic perennial herbs are rush-like spreading plants for water-logged, wet and swampy soils.

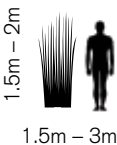
#### Flowers and foliage:

Tiny greenish-yellow flowers.

#### Growing conditions:

Moist, poorly drained soils.

**Flowers** J F M A M J J A S O N D



**Flowers** J F M A M J J A S O N D





# 6 Weeds in Whitehorse

The following plants are considered to be environmental weeds of Whitehorse. They are species that invade and thrive in our native bushland where they do not naturally occur. They commonly occur in gardens, often spreading into our native bushland areas.

These weeds tend to dominate, threatening the natural balance of the remnant indigenous flora and fauna of Whitehorse. By removing the following species from your garden you can help protect what remains of our native bushland.

Before removing any trees, please check what permits you require by calling the Planning Department on 9262 6303.

## Trees and Shrubs



### **Boneseed**

*Chrysanthemoides monillifera*

It is an evergreen yellow flowering shrub with leathery leaves with toothed edges. Grows to 3m high.

Flowers: Winter

Seed Set: Pods ripen early Summer



### **Cape Broom, Montpellier Broom**

*Genista monspessulana*

It has round, ribbed, hairy twigs with ridged, woody, grey-brown stems. Grows to 2.5m.

Flowers: spring to early summer

Seed set: Pods ripen late spring into summer



### **Cootamundra Wattle**

*Acacia baileyana*

It has fine silvery-grey feathery foliage and soft balls of golden yellow flowers. Grows to 8m high.

Flowers mid-winter

Seed set: Pods ripen spring and summer





### **Cotoneaster**

*Cotoneaster spp.*

This plant produces clusters of white flowers during spring and summer followed by red berries which hang on the branches for months after flowering. Grows to 5 m high.

Flowers: Spring and Summer  
Seed set: Red berries in Autumn



### **Desert Ash**

*Fraxinus angustifolia*

Desert ash is a spreading deciduous tree. Leaves consist of seven leaflets and turn various shades of yellow and gold in autumn. Grows to 25m high.

Flowers: Late winter  
Seed set: Summer



### **Flax-leaved Broom**

*Genista linifolia*

This is a shrub with hairy green stems and branches which can exceed two meters in height. Its leaves are made up of tough, green, lance-shaped leaflets with woolly undersides. Grows to 3m high.

Flowers: Spring  
Seed set: Pods ripen late spring into summer



### **Gorse, Furze**

*Ulex europaeus*

Sharp spiny shrub with woody spreading stems. pods turning black when mature ready to explode to release seeds. Grows to 2m high.

Flowers: Winter to summer  
Seed set: Seed can be on a mature plant at almost anytime.



### **Hawthorn**

*Crataegus monogyna*

A large prickly deciduous shrub or small tree to 10 m that was previously grown for hedges or cheap barrier fences. Grows up to 10 m high.

Flowers: Spring  
Seed set: Red berries in Autumn



### **Mirror Bush**

*Coprosma angustifolia*

This evergreen shrub to small tree can grow to 6 m high. It has round, glossy leaves. Grows to 6m high.

Flowers: Spring to early summer  
Seed set: Orange berries in Summer and Autumn



### **Privet**

*Ligustrum spp.*

A number of species from shrubs to small trees are evergreen often found in moist, nutrient rich sites such as gullies, on roadsides and in home gardens. Grows up to 10 m high.

Flowers: Early spring

Seed set: Orange berries in Autumn and Winter



### **Radiata or Monterey Pine**

*Pinus radiata*

This evergreen tree has upward pointing branches and a rounded top. The needles are bright green with a blunt tip. Grows up to 4m.

Flowers: Winter and Spring

Seed Set: Cones can release seeds anytime



### **Sallow Wattle**

*Acacia longifolia*

In Victoria it is thought to be native to the East Gippsland area. It is an extremely fast growing evergreen shrub. Grows up to 8m high.

Flowers: Winter

Seed set: Pods ripen early summer



### **Sweet Pittosporum**

*Pittosporum undulatum*

It has coarse grey bark and glossy green leaves. The small, white, highly fragrant flowers are followed by orange-tan berries which can persist for several months. Grows up to 14m high.

Flowers: Early Spring

Seed set: Orange berries in Autumn and Winter



### **Willow**

*Salix spp*

A number of different problem species exist, all of them trees. Grows up to 25m.

Flowers: Late winter

Seed set: Seed is rarely fertile but plants grow very easily from small branchlets taking root after being washed downstream from mature trees.

## Herbs, Grasses and Bulbs



### **Agapanthus**

*Agapanthus praecox*  
*subsp. Orientalis*

---

This perennial herb forms dense clumps with long, thick, white rhizomes. It has leathery, arching leaves with watery sap that grow from the base in clumps of up to 20. Grows up to 1m high.

Flowers: Spring and summer  
Seed set: Summer. Spreads mostly by division of the bulb.



### **Angled Onion**

*Allium triquetrum*

---

This perennial herb has stems which are concavely triangular in cross-section. crushed. Grows up to 30cm high.

Flowers: Late winter & spring  
Seed set: Spring and summer.  
Spreads by bulb division.



### **Black Nightshade**

*Solanum nigrum*

---

This bushy annual herb has green to purple stems. It has clusters of small white star-shaped flowers often tinged with purple. Grows up to 60cm.

Flowers: Spring to summer  
Seed set: Ripening in late spring and summer.



### **Cats-ear, Flatweed**

*Hypochoeris radicata*

---

The leaves form a low-lying rosette around a central taproot. Grows up to 60cm high.

Flowers: Almost anytime  
Seed set: Almost anytime



### **Capeweed**

*Arctotheca clanedula*

---

This annual plant grows in rosettes and sends out stolons enabling it to spread across the ground quickly. petals. Grows up to 50cm high.

Flowers: Winter and spring  
Seed set: Late spring



### **Cocksfoot**

*Dactylis glomerata*

---

It has a distinctive tufted triangular flower head which may be either green or red to purple tinged turning pale grey-brown at seed maturity. Grows up to 1.5m high.

Flowers: Spring/summer  
Seed set: Summer/autumn



### **Couch Grass**

*Cynodon dactylon*

The grass creeps along the ground and roots wherever a node touches the ground, forming a dense mat. It reproduces through seeds, runners, and rhizomes.

Flowers: Summer

Seed set: Summer and autumn.

Plant mainly spreads by vigorous runners that take root easily.



### **Creeping Buttercup**

*Ranunculus repens*

This creeping perennial grows in damp degraded places. Leaves are in clusters on long stems and are almost round.

Flowers: Spring/summer

Seed set: Spring, summer and autumn. Spreads by creeping stems.



### **Drain Flat Sedge, Umbrella Sedge**

*Cyperus eragrostis*

This perennial sedge often forms dense clumps. It has long, solid triangular stems with slender leaves that grow from the base of the stem. Grows up to 90 cm.

Flowers: Spring and summer

Seed set: Spring and summer



### **Fennel**

*Foeniculum vulgare*

It produces numerous short-lived upright stems from a long-lived crown. Leaves give off a strong aniseed-like smell when handled or crushed. Grows up to 2m high.

Flowers: Summer to autumn

Seed set: Late summer/autumn.

Plant spreads by division.



### **Kikuyu**

*Pennisetum clandestinum*

Perennial creeping grass that can form a mat. Grows up to 2m when supported by other plants.

Flowers: Rarely flowers locally

Seed set: Not significant.

Spreads by fragments taking root and by vigorous creeping stems.



### **Larger Quaking Grass**

*Briza maxima*

This is a short-lived slender grass. It has few leaf blades and stands upright. The leaves have a noticeable twist. Grows up to 60cm tall.

Flowers: Late winter to early spring

Seed set: Spring and summer





**Lesser Quaking Grass,  
Shivery Grass**

*Briza minor*

This is a slender, erect and hairless grass. It has few leaf blades and stands straight up. Grows up to 60cm high.

Flowers: Spring

Seed set: Late spring and summer



**Montbretia**

*Cosmosmia x crocosmiiflora*

A perennial herb, its light brown corms have a fibrous cover and form clusters of three or more at the stem base. Grows up to 1m high.

Flowers: Spring and summer

Seed set: Summer and early autumn, also spreads by corms in soil.



**Oxalis, Soursof**

*Oxalis pes-caprae*

This herbaceous plant grows up each year from underground bulbs. Grows up to 40cm.

Flowers: Late winter - summer

Seed set: Seed is rarely fertile but plants multiply rapidly from underground bulbils.



**Panic Veldt Grass**

*Ehrharta erecta*

This is a tufted grass. It will grow almost anywhere even in shady positions. It especially likes moist conditions. Grows up to 90cm high.

Flowers: Spring summer

Seed set: Spring, summer and autumn



**Paterson's Curse**

*Echium plantagineum*

Erect annual herb with purple flowers. Grows up to 1.5m tall.

Flowers: Winter to summer

Seed set: Autumn and winter



**Spear Thistle**

*Cirsium vulgare*

This herb is a spiny, large headed, purple flowered annual to biennial thistle. Grows up to 1.5 m high.

Flowers: Mainly in summer and autumn.

Seed set: Mainly in summer and autumn



### **Sweet Vernal Grass**

*Anthoxanthum odoratum*

This perennial grass forms tufts and has elongated leaves. It has narrow and spike-like seed heads at the tips of upright stems. Grows up to 60cm tall.

Flowers: Spring

Seed set: Spring and summer



### **Watsonia**

*Watsonia meriana*  
*var bulbifera*

This perennial forms dense clumps from stout, fibrous coated corms that multiply at ground level. Grows up to 2m high.

Flowers: Spring

Seed set: Late spring and summer. Spreads by buds or corms on stems and main bulb.



### **Wild Oat**

*Avena fatua*

This grass forms dense tufts. It has a typical oat appearance with hollow, erect stems. It is sparsely hairy. Grows up to 1.5m high.

Flowers: Late winter and spring

Seed set: Spring to early summer



### **Yorkshire Fog Grass**

*Holcus lanatus*

This grass forms dense tufts. Its leaves are soft and hairy which extend from a round stem.

Grows up to 1m high.

Flowers: Spring and summer

Seed set: Summer and autumn

## Climbers and Scramblers



### Asparagus Ferns

*Asparagus scandens/*  
*Asparagus densiflorus*

This multi-branched scrambling or climbing herb forms a dense underground mat of rhizomatous roots. Grows up to 60cm high.

Flowers: Late summer

Seed set: Autumn



### Blackberry

*Rubus fruticosus* spp.agg.

This scrambler is very thorny with large root crowns and long suckers. Grows up to 2m high.

Flowers: Spring to early

summer

Seed set: Green, ripening to blackberries in late summer/autumn.



### Blue Periwinkle

*Vinca major*

This spreading perennial ground cover has dense green foliage and small blue flowers. Grows up to 50cm high.

Flowers: Most of the year

Seed set: Plants spreads rapidly by stems taking root wherever they touch the soil.



### Bridal Veil Creeper

*Asparagus asparagoides*

This scrambling or twining perennial has dense clusters of white, fleshy, tuberous roots. It has twisted, thin, wiry green stems with pointed leaves. Grows up to 3m.

Flowers: Spring (inconspicuous)

Seed set: Red berries in summer. Also spreads vegetatively from corns in the soil.



### Cleavers

*Galium aparine*

This annual has creeping straggling stems which branch and grow along the ground and over other plants.

Flowers: Spring to summer

Seed set: Summer



### Common Vetch

*Vicia sativa*

It has hollow, four-sided stems. The flowers are bright pink-purple in color. Grows up to 2m high.

Flowers: Spring

Seed set: Pods ripen late spring/summer



### English Ivy

*Hedera helix*

It is easily distinguished by its dark green lobed leaves. Unpruned, it smothers everything, debilitates trees and sets large quantities of seed.

Flowers: Autumn/winter

Seed set: Winter. Plant also spreads by stems setting roots where they touch soil.



### Japanese Honeysuckle

*Lonicera japonica*

Vigorous semi-deciduous climber with long, tough, wiry stems that twine clockwise, are purplish and hairy when young, and turn woody as they mature. Grows up to 8m high.

Flowers: Late winter to summer

Seed set: soon after flowering



### Morning Glory

*Ipomoea indica*

This is a high climbing vine with tough, hairy, twining, running stems.

Flowers: Spring/summer

Seed set: Summer/autumn.

Plant also spreads very rapidly from cuttings or broken pieces of stem that come into contact with the soil.



### Wandering Creeper

*Tradescantia fluminensis*

A trailing perennial groundcover with succulent, soft, creeping stems. It takes root at all nodes touching the ground.

Flowers: Sporadic throughout the year, although mainly in spring or summer

Seed set: Seeds not fertile, but plant spreads easily and rapidly from rootlets forming where leaves touch soil.



# **7** Further Resources and Contacts

## **Whitehorse City Council Resources**

### ONLINE

#### **Whitehorse Tree Education Program**

[www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/Tree-Education-Program.html](http://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/Tree-Education-Program.html)

#### **Weeds of Whitehorse**

[www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/Weeds-of-Whitehorse.html](http://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/Weeds-of-Whitehorse.html)

#### **Whitehorse Indigenous Landscape Tool**

[www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/Landscape-Design-Tool.html](http://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/Landscape-Design-Tool.html)

#### **Whitehorse Landscape Guidelines**

[www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/Landscape-Plans.html](http://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/Landscape-Plans.html)

### PUBLICATIONS

#### **Weeds of Whitehorse Brochure**

#### **Whitehorse Urban Biodiversity Strategy**

Contact Council on 9262 6333 to receive a copy.

### WHITEHORSE PARKLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEES

**Parkland Advisory Committees** provide valuable support for the care and improvement of many of our parks. If you'd like to get involved find your local Parkland Advisory Committee at:

[www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/Parkland-Advisory-Committees.html](http://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/Parkland-Advisory-Committees.html)



## References and Advice

### PUBLICATIONS

**Bushfood**, Jennifer Issacs, New Hollan Publishers, 2002

**Flora of Melbourne A Guide to the Indigenous Plants of the Greater Melbourne Area** (4th edition), Marilyn Bull (author) and George Stolfo (illustrator), Hyland House, 2014

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

**Native Trees and Shrubs of South Eastern Australia** (2nd Edition), Leon Costermans, Reed New Holland, 2009

**Plant Indigenous: A Guide for Whitehorse**, Blackburn and District Tree Preservation Society, Whitehorse City Council, 2000

**Whitehorse in Flower-Indigenous Plants** (Poster), Blackburn & District Tree Preservation Society Inc.

**Wild Food Plants of Australia. An Australian nature field guide**, Tim Low, Angus & Robertson, 1991

### ONLINE

**Birdlife Melbourne** [www.birdlifemelbourne.org.au](http://www.birdlifemelbourne.org.au)

**Blackburn and District Tree Preservation Society** [www.bdtptps.wordpress.com](http://www.bdtptps.wordpress.com)

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

**Grow me instead** [www.growmeinstead.com.au](http://www.growmeinstead.com.au)

**Indigenous Flora and Fauna Association** [www.iffa.org.au](http://www.iffa.org.au)

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

**Weeds in Australia** [www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/invasive/weeds](http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/invasive/weeds)

**VAA Victorian Apiarists' Association** [www.vicbeekeepers.com.au](http://www.vicbeekeepers.com.au)



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# 9 Glossary

## **Biodiversity**

The diversity of all living things – from genetics to plants and animals, to communities and ecosystems.

## **Environmental weeds**

Plants that invade and thrive in native bushland areas where they do not naturally occur. These plants tend to dominate, threatening the natural ecology.

## **Flora**

Plants

## **Indigenous flora**

Plants originating from and found naturally in a particular region of Australia (may be multiple regions).

## **Local Provenance**

Plants that are the local variety or perhaps a sub species of one found throughout a region. Plants of the local provenance have a unique genetic makeup which has evolved to suit the specific conditions in the region.

## **Native flora**

Plants originating anywhere within Australia

## **Provenance**

The geographic range in which a species, subspecies or variety of plant or animal may be found.

## **Remnant bushland/vegetation**

Patches of vegetation that have remained relatively undisturbed by European influence. Such patches are fairly rare in Whitehorse and they nearly always exhibit higher diversity than other sites.

## **Weeds**

A plant that is undesirable on a particular site, usually because it dominates and out competes desirable plants.

