

BUSHLAND RESERVES

OF THE CITY OF ARMADALE

A guide to the reserves and bushwalks





Walk tracks within bushland reserves of the City of Armadale range from scenic tracks used for management and fire access to wheelchair-accessible paved tracks. Please use Dieback boot cleaning/hygiene stations, where provided, to minimise the spread of this pathogen.

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The human eye detects green more than any other colour and well-documented research has shown the positive effects of exposure to nature – from increasing happiness and physical health (by boosting the oxytocin hormone) to lowering stress (by reducing cortisol).

It makes sense therefore to spend time in green spaces of our bushland reserves and enjoy the wonderful beauty of Western Australia's unique bushland heritage.

Outdoor activities such as bushwalking and nature appreciation benefit a range of areas affecting public health and social wellbeing and by making people feel better emotionally, it enhances the community life for everyone.

"Nature is a tonic that can neither be packaged nor bottled - it eases the mind and soothes the senses"

author Melanie Charlene.

Acknowledgement of Country

The publishers and the City of Armadale acknowledge the Traditional Owners and the Custodians of the land upon which we stand, work and play.

We acknowledge the Aboriginal people as the First Nations people and their connection to the lands and the waters, as they are part of them spiritually and culturally.

We acknowledge their ancestors, the Elders past and present, who have led the way for us to follow in their footsteps and the emerging leaders of today and tomorrow.

Acknowledgements

This booklet has been compiled by Wildflower Society of WA, Armadale Branch members and friends who have also generously provided photographs.

The booklet layout was compiled by SERCUL's Graphic Design Services with funding support from the City of Armadale through a Bushcare and Environmental Working Group grant.

The booklet was printed with funding support from the City of Armadale through the Perth Hills Armadale Visitor Centre.

Information has been obtained from the following sources:

Wildflower Society Armadale branch
armadale.branch@wildflowersocietywa.org.au

City of Armadale -

- Perth Hills Armadale Visitor Centre
- Bushcare Environmental Workgroup Group

South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare (SERCUL)

Urban Bushland Council of WA www.bushlandperth.org.au

Environmental groups of Armadale and Armadale Environmental Centre

Roleybushcare www.roleybushcare.com.au

More information links:

www.wildflowersocietywa.org.au

www.armadale.wa.gov.au/bushcare-volunteers

www.sercul.org.au

www.florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au

DISCLAIMER

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that all information contained within this publication is correct at the time of printing it is intended as a general guide only. The publishers and the City of Armadale accepts no responsibility, as far as permitted by law, for any loss, damage, accidents, injuries or deaths that may occur as a result of any alterations, modifications, deterioration or any unforeseen event or activity outside of the City's control that affects the layout, terrain, direction or general condition of the trails listed. Walkers are responsible for maintaining their own safety and welfare (or that of children under their supervision or control) and should always check weather and fire conditions prior to departure and ensure they carry all appropriate equipment that is appropriate for the journey and their safe return.

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Introduction

This booklet is intended to introduce wildflower enthusiasts and bush walkers to the major natural bush reserves within the City of Armadale. The reserves are located on the Swan Coastal Plain, along the foothills of the scarp and in the Darling Range, highlighting the diversity of topography and flora in the city. The size of the reserves ranges from a few hectares to 600 ha. All reserves are accessible to the public with easy parking. Some are wheelchair accessible and some have well signposted walk tracks.

About Armadale

Prior to European settlement, the area now known as the City of Armadale was part of the land that was occupied by the Whadjuk group of Noongar people.

Prior to 1894, the area was part of the Canning Road District. The City of Armadale originated as the Kelmscott Road District, which was created on 14 December 1894 out of parts of Canning, Fremantle and Jandakot Road Districts. On 24 March 1910, it was renamed the Armadale-Kelmscott Road District.

On 1 July 1961, it became the Shire of Armadale-Kelmscott following the enactment of the *Local Government Act 1960*. On 1 July 1977, its Byford Ward was abolished and transferred to the Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale.

On 1 July 1979 it became the Town of Armadale and on 16 November 1985 it assumed its current name when it attained city status.

Flora of Armadale

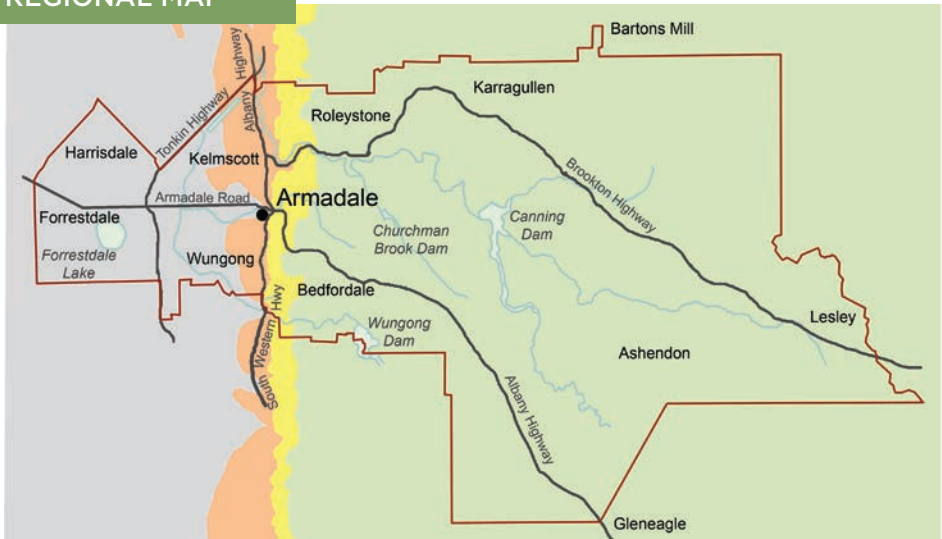
The wildflowers in the City of Armadale have been known, loved and enjoyed by many people since the early days of the Swan River Colony and long before in traditional Noongar times. The changing flora moved along with the changing seasons, kangaroo paws in full bloom meant Djilba (August/September) had arrived and the flowering of the Balga indicated Kamarang (October/November) was starting. Soon after the arrival of Europeans the value of the region's wildflowers was soon realised. Over time it became a popular spot for viewing and studying wildflowers and today the City of Armadale has been identified as one of the most botanically biodiverse areas in Western Australia.

Roleystone Reserves Flora Database

Roleybushcare's Flora database at <https://roleybushcare.com.au/flora-database> includes plants found in reserves managed by the City of Armadale plus some surrounding areas managed by the Department of Parks and Wildlife. The area includes Roleystone and parts of Karragullen, Illawarra, Lesley, Martin, Kelmscott and Canning Mills.

Photographs of the plants with their identifying features are listed. To narrow down the list when trying to identify a plant, the database can be searched by differing attributes - botanical family, genus, species, common name, flower colour, month of flowering, category of plant (e.g. climber, grass, small shrub, orchid etc), Dieback resistance and reserve name.

REGIONAL MAP



The City of Armadale covers an area of 560 km² located about 30 km south-east of Perth. Owing to the many bushland reserves and water catchments, over 70% of the city is natural vegetation. These areas encompass three broad geographical divisions:

Swan Coastal Plain with the varied soils of wetlands, damplands and Banksia woodlands along with the discontinuous **Ridge Hill Shelf** soils at the foot of the scarp that is sometimes included in the plain;

Darling Scarp where erosion has exposed much granite and laterite (gravel) with shallow soils around these outcrops;

Darling Plateau to the east where the uplands and valleys support Jarrah, Marri and sometimes Wandoo in the forests with Yarri along the deeper valleys.

Armadale is at the junction of South Western and Albany highways and is also served by the Perth-Armadale railway line. Brookton Highway ends in nearby Kelmscott.

RARE FLORA IN ARMADALE

The south-west of Western Australia is one of the world's 36 biodiversity 'hotspots', with some of the richest and unique plant and animal life on earth which are under serious threat. In fact, this region has the highest concentration of rare and endangered species in Australia. There are about 13,000 species of plants in Western Australia, of which 3,000 are yet to be formally named.

Threatened or priority flora are listed under certain categories:

- Threatened (Critically endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable),
- Priority 1 - Poorly known from few locations, none on conservation lands,
- Priority 2 - Poorly known from few locations, some on conservation lands,
- Priority 3 - Poorly known species from widespread locations,
- Priority 4 - Rare, Near Threatened and other species in need of monitoring.

There are over 1,000 species within the City of Armadale, of which 50 are Threatened or Priority flora as listed in the table below.

Further details can be found at <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/>

Status	Species	Status	Species
P3	<i>Acacia horridula</i>	P2	<i>Johnsonia pubescens</i> subsp. <i>cygnorum</i>
P4	<i>Acacia oncinophylla</i> subsp. <i>patulifolia</i>	P4	<i>Lasiopetalum bracteatum</i> (Helena Velvet Bush)
P3	<i>Amanita fibrillopes</i>	P3	<i>Lasiopetalum glutinosum</i>
P3	<i>Andersonia</i> sp. <i>Audax</i>	T	<i>Lepidosperma rostratum</i>
P1	<i>Anthotium</i> sp. 'Darling Range'	P3	<i>Loxocarya magna</i>
P3	<i>Banksia kippistiana</i> var. <i>paenepeccata</i>	P3	<i>Meionectes tenuifolia</i>
P2	<i>Bossiaea modesta</i>	P4	<i>Ornduffia submersa</i> (Aston)
P3	<i>Byblis gigantea</i> (Rainbow Plant)	P3	<i>Petrophile filifolia</i> subsp. <i>laxa</i>
T	<i>Caladenia huegelii</i> (Grand Spider Orchid)	P4	<i>Pimelea rara</i> (Summer Pimelea)
P2	<i>Calectasia grandiflora</i> (Blue Tinsel Lily)	P1	<i>Ptilotus sericostachyus</i> subsp. <i>roseus</i>
P1	<i>Calytrix simplex</i> subsp. <i>simplex</i>	P3	<i>Schoenus pennisetis</i>
P4	<i>Chorizema ulotropis</i>	P1	<i>Senecio gilbertii</i>
T	<i>Diuris purdiei</i> (Purdie's Donkey Orchid)	P3	<i>Stackhousia</i> sp. 'Red-blotched corolla'
T	<i>Drakaea micrantha</i>	P3	<i>Stylidium aceratum</i>
P4	<i>Drosera occidentalis</i> (Western Sundew)	P4	<i>Stylidium longitubum</i> (Jumping Jacks)
P1	<i>Drosera oreopodion</i>	P4	<i>Stylidium striatum</i> (Fan-leaved Triggerplant)
P1	<i>Eriochilus</i> sp. 'Roleystone'	T	<i>Synaphea</i> sp. 'Serpentine'
T	<i>Eucalyptus xbalanites</i> (Cadda Road Mallee)	P1	<i>Thelymitra magnifica</i> (Crystal Brook Star Orchid)
P3	<i>Gonocarpus pycnostachyus</i>	T	<i>Thelymitra stellata</i> (Star Orchid)
P4	<i>Goodenia verreauxii</i> (Spindly Verreauxia)	P3	<i>Thysanotus anceps</i>
P4	<i>Grevillea pimeleoides</i>	P4	<i>Thysanotus glaucus</i>
T	<i>Grevillea thelemanniana</i> (Spider Net Grevillea)	P2	<i>Thysanotus</i> sp. 'Badgingarra'
P1	<i>Hibbertia polyancistra</i>	P4	<i>Tripterococcus</i> sp. 'Brachylobus'
P1	<i>Isopogon</i> sp. 'Canning Reservoir'	T	<i>Verticordia fimbrileps</i>
P3	<i>Jacksonia gracillima</i>	P4	<i>Verticordia lindleyi</i>

City of Armadale bushland environmental groups

Bushcare Environmental Working Group (BEWG)

The Bushcare Environmental Working Group (BEWG) is a collective of representatives from the local community who are actively engaged in the protection and rehabilitation of the environment. BEWG includes representatives from each of the Bushcare volunteer groups that are active within the City of Armadale's bushland reserves.

The role of BEWG is to:

- Facilitate communication between the City, community groups and individuals concerned with the protection and rehabilitation of the natural environment.
- Discuss matters relating to environmental policy and practice, including but not limited to:
 - biodiversity protection and enhancement,
 - natural area, natural resources, remnant bushland and trees,
 - bushcare groups and community environment activities,
 - catchment drainage and water course management,
 - surface water quality management,
 - pest and weed management, and
 - environmental awareness/education opportunities.
- Provide a forum for the City to highlight projects and actively engage with representatives of the community.
- Provide a forum for Bushcare groups and volunteers to highlight projects and actively engage with the City, and other Bushcare volunteers and groups.
- Assist in developing, implementing and reviewing strategic conservation strategies and management plans.
- Create and encourage increased environmental awareness and to foster and facilitate community care and concern for the natural environment.

Wildflower Society of WA – Armadale Branch

Formed in March 1961, the Armadale Branch is one of the oldest branches in the Society. Members actively participate in the conservation and revegetation of bushland parks and reserves in the Armadale area that includes seed collecting, propagation, plantings, surveys and weeding. The branch actively promotes our WA wildflower heritage by arranging displays at local shows and events, by regular walks through the numerous reserves in the area and sometimes weekend excursions are held further afield.



Bungendore Park Environmental Group

The Bungendore Park Environmental Group was established in 1981. This group of dedicated volunteers has provided for the care and management of the park for over 40 years. The Bungendore Park Environmental Group operates as part of the Wildflower Society - Armadale Branch.



Armadale Settlers' Common Working Group

The Armadale Settlers' Common Working Group, comprising a group of community volunteers, provides oversight of the management of the area. The Armadale Settlers' Common Strategic Directions Document also helps guide management activities.



Armadale Gosnells Landcare Group (AGLG)

The Armadale Gosnells Landcare Group is a community-led group that coordinates landcare planning, river restoration, bushland management, community action and community awareness programs. The group has been running since 1998.



Roleybushcare

Roleybushcare is an environmental group that is focused on maintaining and protecting the Jarrah-Marri bushland around the Roleystone and Karragullen areas.



Friends of Forrestdale

The Friends of Forrestdale was formed in April 1990. Since that time, the group has played an active role in the care and management of the Bush Forever sites and conservation reserves in the Forrestdale area.

Sites include Forrestdale Lake, Anstey-Keane Dampland, Piara Nature Reserve and Gibbs Road Bushland.



Friends of Lloyd Hughes Park

The Friends of Lloyd Hughes Park are a community-based group that assist the City of Armadale with on-ground management. This passionate group of volunteers works on revegetation, weed control and Dieback management within the park.



Other ‘Friends of ...’ Groups or Reserve Custodians

- Anstey-Keane Dampland
- Bob Blackburn Flora Reserve
- Creyk Park
- Gilcoe Reserve
- Goolamrup Reserve
- Palomino Reserve Catchment
- Shepherd Court Reserve
- Friends of Banyowla Regional Park, Clifton Hills

For more information or if you wish to establish a ‘Friends of ...’ Group or to become a Reserve Custodian, contact the City of Armadale Environmental Team

P | (08) 9394 5000

W | www.armadale.wa.gov.au/bushcare-volunteers

E | info@armadale.wa.gov.au

Regional bushland environmental group

South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare (SERCUL)

SERCUL is a strategic landcare group that operates in the metropolitan and peri-urban areas of the Swan Catchment by assisting community environmental groups. The area covered takes in most of the southern and eastern suburbs of Perth and includes Dyarguu (Canning River), the Southern-Wungong River and parts of Derbarl Yerrigan (Swan River).

W | www.sercul.org.au

P | (08) 9458 5664



Noongar Six Season calendar

The local Noongar people of the south-west of Western Australia have six seasons – Birak (December–January), Bunuru (February–March), Djeran (April–May), Makuru (June–July), Djilba (August–September) and Kamarang (October–November).

Each of the six seasons represents and explains the seasonal changes we see annually. The flowering of many different plants, the hibernation of reptiles and the moulting of swans are all helpful indicators that the seasons are changing.

The Noongar seasons can be long or short and are indicated by what is happening and changing around us rather than by dates on a calendar. Aligning Noongar seasons with European calendar months can provide an overview of a typical year.

This six-season calendar is extremely important to Noongar people as it is a guide to what nature is doing at every stage of the year, as well as understanding respect for the land in relation to plant and animal fertility cycles and land and animal preservation.

Flora images depicted in the following pages are representative of the Noongar seasons but may be found flowering in an adjacent season.



Birak (December-January)

The Noongar season of Birak (the first summer) has the easterly winds in the morning followed by a south-west sea breeze in the afternoon.



Astartea scoparia
Common Astartea



Banksia attenuata
Candle Banksia



Billardiera fraseri
Elegant Pronaya



Calytrix flavescens
Summer Starflower



Comesperma confertum
Milkwort



Gompholobium tomentosum
Hairy Yellow Pea



Isotoma hypocrateriformis
Woodbridge Poison



Lobelia tenuis
Slender Lobelia



Melaleuca lateritia
Robin Redbreast Bush



Nuytsia floribunda
WA Christmas Tree



Regelia ciliata
Mouse Plant



Verticordia densiflora
Compacted Featherflower

(February–March) *Bunuru*

The Noongar season of Bunuru (the second summer) is the hottest time of the year with little to no rain. Hot easterly winds continue with a cooling sea breeze most afternoons. Traditionally this was a time for living and fishing by the coast, rivers and estuaries. Bunuru is also a time of the white flowering gums, including Jarrah and Marri, in full bloom.



Amyema miquelii
Stalked Mistletoe



Amyema preissii
Wireleaf Mistletoe



Arnocrinum preissii
-



Beaufortia squarrosa
Sand Bottlebrush



Calytrix fraseri
Pink Summer Calytrix



Corymbia calophylla
Marri



Eucalyptus todtiana
Pricklybark



Eutaxia virgata
-



Jacksonia furcellata
Grey Stinkwood



Regelia inops
-



Scholtzia involucrata
Spiked Scholtzia



Thysanotus sparteus
-

Djeran (April–May)

The Noongar season of Djeran at last sees a break in the really hot weather. The winds will increase intensity from light breezes, generally from southerly directions. As the season progresses, the nights will become cooler along with rainy days. Traditionally this was the time to move from the coastal areas back to the hills.



Acacia drewiana
-



Acacia stenoptera
Narrow-winged Wattle



Acacia urophylla
Net-leaved Wattle



Banksia menziesii
Flame Banksia



Blancoa canescens
Winter Bells



Drosera collina
Sundew



Eriochilus dilatatus
Bunny Orchid



Hakea petiolaris
Sea Urchin Hakea



Kennedia prostrata
Running Postman



Leporella fimbriata
Hare Orchid



Pterostylis vittata
Banded Greenhood



Styphelia erubescens
White Bells

The Noongar season of Makuru sees the coldest and wettest time of the year when the Noongar people moved inland where semi-permanent protection (mia mia) against the elements was essential. The food source changed from the sea and coastal lakes to hunting possums and grazing animals like kangaroos etc.



Acacia lasiocarpa var.
bracteolata
Panjang



Acacia lateriticola
Gravel Wattle



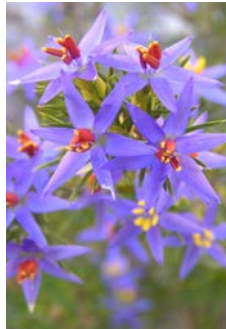
Acacia pulchella
Prickly Moses



Adenanthos obovatus
Basket Flower



Banksia ilicifolia
Holly-leaved Banksia



Calectasia narragara
Blue Tinsel Lily



Dampiera linearis
Common Dampiera



Diuris brumalis
Winter Donkey Orchid



Grevillea pilulifera
Woolly-flowered Grevillea



Grevillea synaphea
Catkin Grevillea



Hovea trisperma
Common Hovea



Labichea lanceolata
Tall Labichea

Djilba (August–September)

The Noongar season of Djilba is a transitional time of the year with some very cold days combining with slightly warmer rainy days.



Acacia dentifera
Toothed Wattle



Anigozanthos manglesii
Red & Green
Kangaroo Paw



Caladenia longicauda
White Spider Orchid



Caladenia macrostylis
Leaping Spider Orchid



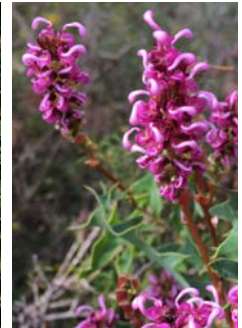
Chamaescilla corymbosa
Blue Squill



Chorizema dicksonii
Yellow-eyed Flame Pea



Dryandra praemorsa
syn. *Banksia undata*
Urchin Dryandra



Grevillea quercifolia
Oak-leaf Grevillea



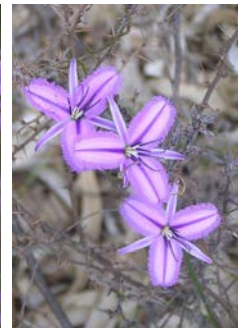
Lambertia multiflora
var. *darlingensis*



Lechenaultia biloba
Blue Lechenaultia



Philotheca spicata
Pepper and Salt



Thysanotus manglesianus
Fringe Lily

(October–November) *Kambarang*

The Noongar season of *Kambarang* sees a definite warming trend with occasional showers or thunderstorms. The marked decrease in rainfall meant the *mia mia* shelters were no longer required.

NOONGAR SIX SEASONS



Calytrix angulata
Yellow Starflower



Conostylis setosa
White Cottonhead



Daviesia cordata
Bookleaf



Diuris laxiflora
Bee Orchid



Diuris longifolia
Purple Pansy Orchid



Isopogon sphaerocephalus
Drumstick Isopogon



Petrophile linearis
Pixie Mops



Pimelea ciliata
White Banjine



Ptilotus manglesii
Rose-tipped Mulla Mulla



Stylidium affine
Queen Triggerplant



Stylidium recurvum
Circus Triggerplant



Verticordia huegelii
Variegated Featherflower

Bushland Reserves

CARING FOR THE BUSHLAND

Whilst visiting the many bushland reserves, please:

- Do not pick the wildflowers or disturb native animals.
- Tread softly – keep to the formed tracks and do not make new tracks through the bush.
- Leave no trace – take your rubbish home where bins are not provided.
- Use Dieback boot cleaning/hygiene stations, where provided, to minimise the spread of this pathogen.

THREATS TO OUR BUSHLAND

Many activities impact negatively on our urban and peri-urban bushland areas. These threatening processes all act to relentlessly erode what relatively little bushland remains, particularly on the Swan Coastal Plain. Our Banksia Woodlands are very susceptible to fire, weed invasion, diseases such as Dieback, groundwater depletion, rubbish dumping, feral and domestic animals. In addition, land clearing for urban development is significantly reducing the area of bushland and putting under threat our world class biodiversity.

Some of the threatening processes, or stressors, include:

Invasive weeds in bushland

Weed invasion is one of the most relentless and insidious of the many threats to urban bushland. Most weeds get into bushland usually by dumping of garden refuse and then spreading along tracks and drains and via machinery.

Fire

Fire is an integral part of the WA landscape and has been present, at varying frequencies and intensities for a very long time; a careful balance must be struck between protection of people and property from wildfires on one hand, and protection of the natural environment on the other. Insufficient research has been conducted in WA on interactions between prescribed burning and climate change, resulting in compounding damage from these stressors to natural ecosystems.

After a fire, plants regenerate in three main ways: by seeds, by resprouting or by both methods. If fire is too frequent, the re-seeders do not have sufficient time to grow, flower and set seed for the next generation (recruitment failure) resulting in an altered landscape or local extinction.

Inappropriate prescribed burns in urban bushland and wetland opens these vegetation complexes to weed invasion, kills and injures fauna, reduces or eliminates food, destroys leaf litter and causes loss of habitat including mature trees further exacerbating loss of biodiversity.

Soil and groundwater acidification

Soil quality on the Swan Coastal Plain is linked to rainfall, land use and changes in water table depth. Soil and groundwater acidification caused by water table decline due to the combined effects of declining rainfall and increasing groundwater abstraction threatens the health of Banksia woodlands and associated fauna in the region.

Habitat destruction and fragmentation through land clearing

Broad scale clearing of native vegetation, both historic and current, is a major threatening process affecting biodiversity in WA. The urban area of Perth has doubled since the 1970s and this has resulted in the clearing of large areas of native vegetation and fragmentation of that remaining. Presently the main drivers of native vegetation clearing in WA are population and urban expansion in the South-West and expansion of the mining sector in the rest of the State.

Biking trails in conservation areas results in fragmentation of the area with an increased edge/area ratio of those fragmented patches resulting in increased potential for weed and disease introduction, impairment of key ecosystem functions and isolation of flora and fauna

Groundwater depletion and salinity

As more water gets pumped out of the Gnangara Water Mound to supply the water needs of Perth's residents than is being put back by nature, the ecology of local lakes, wetlands and bushlands are under further stresses in an eco-region of extraordinary biodiversity. Clearing for agriculture where deep-rooted, perennial native vegetation has been replaced with shallow-rooted annual crops and pastures has caused salinity at or near the soil surface causing reduced plant growth, reduced water quality and damage to infrastructure along with a loss of agricultural productivity.

Phytophthora Dieback

Phytophthora Dieback is a major disease threat to WA's native plants, home gardens and orchards. It's caused by the introduced plant pathogen *Phytophthora cinnamomi* which is a microscopic water mould (oomycete) that attacks the root systems of susceptible plant species. Of the many *Phytophthora* species, *P. cinnamomi* causes the most severe and widespread damage to native vegetation. Banksia communities are particularly susceptible.

Phytophthora Dieback spores are microscopic (less than 0.01 mm in diameter) so they can be spread in soil, mulch and water – easily and invisibly. The pathogen is spread mostly by human activity; the amount of soil moved can be large (e.g. a trailer load of gravel or soil from an old pit) or small (e.g. mud on tyres, shoes or on gardening implements).

Sometimes infected plants are bought from nurseries. Query staff about where the plants come from and whether the nursery and its suppliers are aware of Phytophthora Dieback control procedures and has been accredited by the Nursery Industry Accreditation Scheme, Australia (NIASA). Check NIASA's webpage for a list of accredited nurseries. Be sure to ask before you buy your plants. Be wary of purchasing plants from community market stalls.

Myrtle Rust *Austropuccinia psidii*

Myrtle Rust is a serious plant disease from South America caused by a rust fungus which spreads via wind-borne spores. This fungus poses yet another 'unprecedented' risk to native plants as it affects species in the Myrtaceae family (which includes plants such as Geraldton wax, bottlebrush, *Verticordia*, eucalypts, *Darwinia*, WA Peppermint, *Kunzea*, *Thryptomene* and paperbarks).



Myrtle Rust on leaves of paperbark tree (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*) of NSW to northern Queensland. (Photo: Glenn Leiper)

First discovered in 2010 in Queensland, it has infected forests in all eastern states, some production nurseries and now has been discovered in the Kimberley of WA.

The bright yellow (rarely yellow-orange) masses of spores appear as a bloom of golden spots on leaves which is a distinguishing feature of Myrtle Rust; it attacks actively growing shoots, stems and other soft young tissues such as fruits, flowers and emerging seedlings. As the plant sends out new shoots to replace the affected stems, the fungus then effectively sucks the life out of the plant by continually attacking the new growth. This is of great concern for emerging seedlings after a bushfire.

If you find affected plants, do not collect samples but report the location to Pest and Disease Information Service padis@dpiird.wa.gov.au or use the MyPestGuide app.

WEEDS OF THE BUSHLAND

Weed invasion of both exotic and non-local natives is one of the most menacing of the many threats to urban bushland. These plants can colonise quickly and aggressively and be aesthetically unattractive, can be harmful to livestock and poisonous to people. Weed management in bushland is concerned with much more than simply the elimination of weeds, but also the protection and restoration of diverse natural ecosystems.

Environmental weeds can be broadly classified into:

- **Bulbs & corms** (e.g. Easter Lily, Baboon Flower, Gladiolus, Freesia, Soldiers, Oxalis, Arum Lily),
- **Cacti & succulents** (e.g. opuntoid Prickly Pears, Pigface),
- **Climbers & creepers** (e.g. Madeira Vine [WONS], Bridal Creeper, Dolichos Pea, Blackberry),
- **Cottage plants & herbs** (e.g. Capeweed, Paterson's Curse, Lavenders, Pimpernel, Veld Daisy, Caltrop, Blackberry Nightshade),
- **Grasses** (e.g. Pampas Grass, Veldgrass, African Lovegrass, Tambookie Grass),
- **Shrubs & trees** (e.g. Montpellier Broom, Lantana, Tamarisk [all WONS], Tagasaste, Cotton Bush, Olive),
- **Non-local Australian natives** (e.g. Flinders Range Wattle, Sydney Wattle, Mount Morgan Wattle, Victorian Tea Tree, *Kunzea* spp.).

For more information about environmental weeds and how to control them can be found at:

- Urban Bushland Council www.bushlandperth.org.au/weeds-page/
- Weeds Australia <https://weeds.org.au/>
- Moore, J. & Wheeler, J. (2020) *Southern Weeds and their control*. Dept of Primary Industries and Regional Development. 4th edition, Bulletin 4914, 305 pp.

Examples of Ferns and Water plants weeds are not included here.

WONS = Weed of National Significance



Babiana angustifolia
Baboon Flower



Freesia alba x *leichtlinii*
Freesia



Gladiolus caryophyllaceus
Gladiolus



Oxalis pes-caprae
Soursob



Moraea sp.
Cape Tulip



Zantedeschia aethiopica
Arum Lily



Watsonia meriana
Watsonia



Carpobrotus edulis
Pigface



Asparagus asparagoides
Bridal Creeper



Fumaria capreolata and
Fumaria muralis
Fumaria or Fumitory



Rubus sp.
Blackberry



Dolichos lignosus
Dolichos Pea



Osteospermum ecklonis
Veld Daisy



Echium plantagineum
Paterson's Curse



Lavandula stoechas
Lavender



Gazania hybrids
Gazania



Genista monspessulana
Montpellier Broom



Gomphocarpus fruticosus
Narrow-leaf Cottonbush



Charnaecytisus palmensis
Tagasaste



Olea europaea
European Olive



Hyparrhenia hirta
Tamboukie Grass



Ehrharta calycina
Veldgrass



Eragrostis curvula
African Lovegrass



Arundo donax
Giant Reed



Acacia iteaphylla
Flinders Range Wattle



Acacia longifolia
Sydney Wattle



Gaudium laevigatum
Victorian Tea Tree



Acacia podalyriifolia
Mt Morgan Wattle

Safety Notes

Personal safety when bushwalking is a matter of consideration and common sense.

- Pedestrian access to some reserves may not be clearly defined.
- Walk tracks in some reserves may be fire breaks or boundary fire access tracks.
- Some tracks in wetlands may be flooded in winter/early spring.

WATCH OUT FOR

- Snakes and other reptiles.
- Marri nuts – can cause you to slip.
- Slippery surfaces – wet rock surfaces or pea gravel on sloping ground.

DO

- Wear suitable shoes and clothing.
- Observe personal safety – take a hat with you, sunscreen protection and plenty of water. Mobile phone service may be limited in some areas.
- Bring a bottle sprayer of 70% methylated spirit/30% water to spray boots and walking poles to prevent the spread of pathogens to/from home and the bushland.

- Be aware of fire warning or thunderstorm weather forecasts.
- Tell someone where you are going, and when you will return.
- Take all of your rubbish away with you.
- Remove valuables from sight and lock-up when you leave your car.
- Respect private property – do not enter private property that bounds the reserves.
- Enjoy your walk.

DON'T

- Wander away from the designated track.
- Pick wildflowers or native flora – it is an offence.
- Light fires, unless in an area designated for the purpose.
- Take pets with you unless you have checked that they are permitted in the area. Pets are NOT allowed in national parks, in water catchment areas or in nature reserves.
- Disturb native fauna, logs or rocks that may provide habitat for fauna.

Group Activities

The City of Armadale welcomes group activities in bushland reserves such as:

- Guided walks,
- Cross-country runs,
- Orienteering,
- Hiking clubs.

Before organising such an event contact the City of Armadale's Environmental Team beforehand to seek permission and guidance. They can also advise if there are any hazards that maybe present or works happening, such as maintenance works, burning or spraying.

Anstey-Keane Dampland



Anstey-Keane Dampland (Bush Forever Site 342) is a 311 ha reserve located about 30 km south of the Perth CBD in the heart of semi-rural and semi-urban Forrestdale between Nicholson Road and Tonkin Highway and north of Armadale Road.

There is an access gate at the corner of Anstey Road, Ayres Road and MacFarlane Road (formerly Keane Road), Forrestdale where cars can be parked. There are numerous sandy access tracks throughout the park, some of which are flooded during winter.



Anstey-Keane Dampland forms an important part of the Jandakot Regional Park. Its diverse habitats of heathland, dampland and Banksia woodland is home to a remarkable diversity of plant and animal species amid an ever-encroaching urban environment.

With over 380 flora species, it is the second-most floristically diverse site on the Swan Coastal Plain. More importantly, >75% of its vegetation is in Excellent condition. The reserve is an area of high biological importance as it contains two Threatened Ecological Communities – shrublands on dry clay flats (endangered), and herb-rich shrublands in clay pans (vulnerable). Over 35 species of plants are listed under WA laws as priority or threatened species.

Some flora of note in the reserve are Sand Bottlebrush (*Beaufortia squarrosa*), Swamp Fox Banksia (*Banksia telmatiaea*), Woolly Dragon (*Hemiphora uncinata*), Hairy Clawflower (*Calothamnus hirsutus*) and Swamp Cypress (*Callitris pyramidalis*).

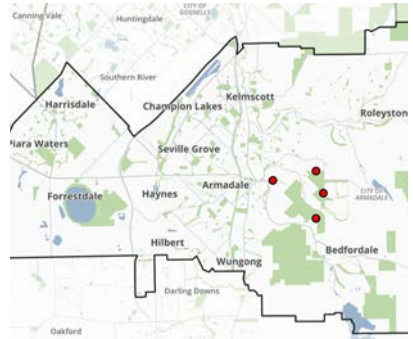
It is one of only two known locations of the Megamouth Bee (*Leioproctus muelleri*), a unique ground-nesting species of solitary bee, which until its discovery there in 2010 was unknown to science. An interesting feature of this ground-nesting bee is the ability of the dormant larvae to survive inundation during winter in waterproof brood cells.

The Friends of Forrestdale environmental group assists in the management of Anstey-Keane Dampland through weed control, rubbish removal and reporting illegal activities (damaged fences etc.).

Armadale Settlers' Common



Armadale Settlers' Common in Bedfordale covers an area of 383 ha, which is vested in the City of Armadale and forms part of the Wungong Regional Park. The reserve lies on the western edge of the Darling Scarp and plateau with rocky outcrops and comprises open Jarrah-Marri forest with some Wandoo. The area is highly important for flora conservation, with over 300 plant species found in the common. A diverse array of fauna and flora can be observed year-round.



The Settlers' Common covers two main blocks:

- Eastern block: Observation Circle, Canns Road.
- Western block: Settlers Road or Environmental Centre, Triton Crescent

Much of the bushland is in good condition and invites recreational activities such as walking and hiking, orienteering, nature appreciation, picnicking, exercising and nature photography. The signed network of walk tracks covers:

- Eastern block: includes a sealed walk path suitable for wheelchairs.
- Western block: steep with some steep and rough tracks.

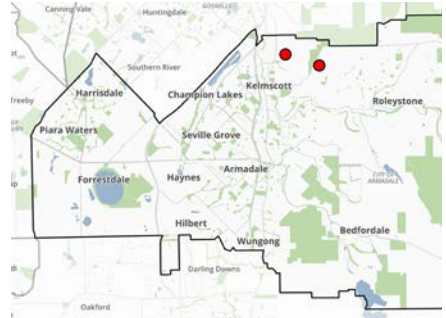
The Settlers' Common offers expansive views of Armadale city and Swan Coastal Plain, large areas of intact vegetation and public use facilities. The common contributes significantly to the backdrop of the Armadale city centre.

Since 1986 a community-based Armadale Settlers' Common Working Group has provided oversight in the management, revegetation and protection of the park. The Armadale Settlers Common Strategic Directions Document also helps guide management activities.

Further information: www.armadale.wa.gov.au/important-bushland

Banyowla Regional Park

Banyowla Regional Park is a large reserve covering most of the Darling Scarp and part of the foothills; the northern part is in the City of Gosnells and the southern part in the City of Armadale and is managed by DBCA. It is named after Banyowla, a Noongar elder at the time of white settlement. Parts of the park near the scarp base are Lloyd Hughes Park (described separately) and Clifton Hills Bushland in Kelmscott (covers about 30 ha and includes the 19.9 ha Connell Avenue Bushland) and a section of Wright Brook which meanders through the area. Park at the end of Cockram Road or on the verge of Turner Road near the fire access gate and walk along well-defined fire access tracks. The vegetation communities of this area are influenced by colluvial deposits which encompass an array of transitional soil types from the Darling Scarp to the foothills. The Friends of Banyowla Regional Park, Clifton Hills assists in activities to enhance the biological and recreational value of the area.



Tracks at the top of the scarp within Banyowla can be accessed via Canning Mills Reserve (parking available on Canning Mills Road opposite Urch Road). There are magnificent views all the way to Perth from here. Further down Canning Mills Road, there are walking tracks along the Contour Channel (parking is available in a pull-in south of View Street). The contour channel was built in the mid-1930s to carry water from Canning Dam to the foothills above Gosnells and then by pipeline to Perth. Carefully cross the road and walk a short distance downhill to the gate with a sign on it and continue for a few metres to the Contour Channel. The track on the western side is flat and an easy walk until the point where a pipeline takes the water across the Wright Brook valley to the channel on the other side. The track on the eastern side is narrower. It is a 3.5 km round walk to the end of the Contour Channel where the old filtration plant used to be. This part of the Contour Channel can also be accessed from tracks leading from Mills Road East near the truck arrester bed (park well clear of this). Many other tracks lead down and across the scarp from here. Over 400 plant species (including 30 orchids) have been identified in the southern half of the park.

- For a full list of the plants with photographs and their identifying features go to Roleybushcare's Flora database at <https://roleybushcare.com.au/flora-database>.
- For further information on the Contour Channel see <https://www.roleybushcare.com.au/information/bush-trails/263-canning-contour-channel>

Bob Blackburn Flora Reserve

Bob Blackburn Flora Reserve (Bush Forever Site O62) is a small remnant bushland covering 4.2 ha located on Williams Road, Seville Grove. Car parking is available at the Armadale Aquatic Centre in Champion Drive.



It is an important bushland recognised as a 'Forrestfield Vegetation Complex Threatened Ecological Community' – a community of species which was once common to the Swan Coastal Plain. Now as little as nine per cent remains and bushlands like Bob Blackburn Reserve are becoming threatened with extinction.

The vegetation woodland is dominated by Jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata* var. *elegantella*) with some Candle Banksia (*Banksia attenuata*) and Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) along with a significant number of Woody Pear (*Xylomelum occidentale*) trees and Snottygobble (*Persoonia elliptica*). There is an excellent stand of WA Christmas Tree (*Nuytsia floribunda*) at the end of the car park. It regularly produces a glorious display of blossom each season.

The understorey includes Smokebush (*Conospermum stoechadis*), Red & Green Kangaroo Paw (*Anigozanthos manglesii*), Prickly Moses (*Acacia pulchella*), Cottonheads (*Conostylis* spp.), *Dasyogon*, Hovea (*Hovea trisperma*) and Yellow Buttercups (*Hibbertia hypericoides*).

Of note in this reserve is the Many-flowered Honeysuckle (*Lambertia multiflora* var. *darlingensis*) with its brilliant yellow flowers. The *Daviesia* genus of pea flowers is particularly well represented by the presence of at least five species: *D. nudiflora*, Marno (*D. divaricata*), Prickly Bitter Pea (*D. decurrens*), *D. triflora* and *D. physodes*.

Numerous depressions in the eastern portion of the reserve are evidence of the area being part of a former rubbish dump and sanitary disposal site in days gone by.



WA Christmas Tree



Hovea



Many-flowered Honeysuckle

Bungendore Park



Bungendore Park bushland reserve A4561 (498 ha) in Bedfordale is situated on the edge of the Darling Scarp with sweeping views to the Swan Coastal Plain and is home to a wide variety of plants and animals.

Its location on the western edge of the Darling Scarp means the park displays a wide range of soils, topography and vegetation types with a typical suite of understorey shrubs and orchids producing well over 350 different plant species. The major vegetation complexes are – Jarrah-Marri forest with some Yarri, Wandoo-Marri woodland, Heath, Herbland and Rock Sheoak woodland.



The park also features many blossoms – a fact which helped it to earn its name, which means ‘place of the gum blossom’ and ‘top of a hill’ in Aboriginal language.

Many scientific studies have been conducted within the park – flora, aquatic fauna, vertebrate fauna (including avifauna and bats), invertebrate fauna and fungi.

Located about 3 km south-east of Armadale, there are two entrances –

- Main entrance from Admiral Road, and
- Alternative entrance from Albany Highway (Dryandra Drive).

Walkers can set out on marked tracks with some interpretive signage located throughout the reserve varying from 1.7 km to 7.7 km ranging from flat to steep gradients.

Further information:

www.bungendorepark.org.au

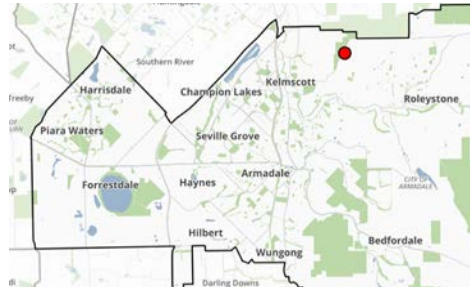
www.armadale.wa.gov.au/important-bushland

www.bushlandperth.org.au/treasures/bungendore-park/

Canning Mills Reserves



Canning Mills Reserve (R34155) is situated at the top edge of the Darling Scarp. It is managed by the City of Armadale and consists of several lots totalling about 51 ha extending along the western side of Canning Mills Road from north of Turner Road to south of Buchanan Road with a small section on the eastern side of Canning Mills Road at the intersection with Chevin Road.



Parking is available near Turner Road and opposite Urch Road. Turner Road is a closed sealed road and provides easy access for those with mobility problems. There are many tracks leading off Turner Road. It is possible to follow one of these all the way along the boundary with Banyowla Regional Park to Urch Road. There are also tracks leading from this track down and along the scarp in Banyowla Regional Park. As little as half an hour to many hours could be spent exploring this reserve.

As this reserve is at the edge of the scarp, it has a unique mix of scarp species and Jarrah-Marri forest species with considerable variation in vegetation across the reserve. In places, especially where there is lateritic gravel, Parrot Bush (*Dryandra sessilis*) is abundant with scattered Marri and Jarrah interspersed with Hakea and other shrubs. In other places with more clayey soil, there is scattered Bull Banksia/Mangite (*Banksia grandis*), Wandoo (*Eucalyptus wandoo*), Balga (*Xanthorrhoea preissii*) and low shrubs. In the central part of the reserve, there is an area of low vegetation with scattered Kingia (*Kingia australis*) and WA Christmas Tree (*Nuytsia floribunda*) growing in moist loamy soil.

Wildflowers can be seen here even in the middle of winter with bright red *Styphelia tortifolia*, white *Cryptandra arbutiflora* and Winter Donkey Orchids being especially noticeable and there are even more flowers in spring. Over 200 species of plant have been identified in the reserve including the threatened Star Orchid.

For a full list of the plants with photographs and their identifying features go to Roleybushcare's Flora database at <https://roleybushcare.com.au/flora-database>.

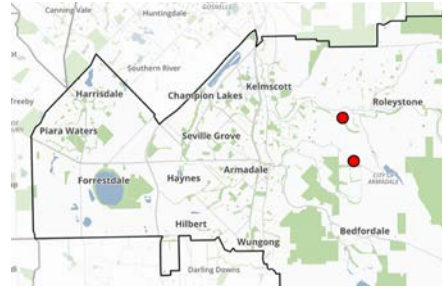
Churchman Bushland



Churchman Bushland in Roleystone is located at the northern end of the Wungong Regional Park.

Car parking is available at two locations:

- Stocker Road, Roleystone. Park next to the bridge, walk along the road alongside the river. There is a pedestrian access gate a short distance around the corner. Note that the paths into the reserve are steep.
- Beeloo Close, Bedforddale approximately 200 m east from the intersection of Churchman Brook Road and Waterwheel Road North. Drive to the very end of Beeloo Close (gravel track).



The area comprises both steep terrain and laterite-covered upland of Jarrah-Marri forest and is dissected by Churchman Brook. The eastern boundary melds into State Forest and is bordered on the north by a section of the Canning River. Along part of the SW boundary there are extensive views across the Canning River valley and the remains of a disused airstrip used by crop spraying aircraft in the 1950s and 1960s.

Special features – two sheer rock faces of granite, one at the end of Beeloo Close and a popular abseiling and rock-climbing site, the other on the eastern side of Churchman Brook valley known locally as Wall Rock and reputed to be the hideout of Moondyne Joe (WA's notorious bushranger).

There are numerous walk tracks throughout the bushland, some are poorly signposted, that alternate between relatively gentle gradients to sections of steep terrain. Three named walk tracks are: Botanical Walk (easy 2.7 km), Kangaroo Walk (7 km) and Emu Loop Walk (6 km).

The area is named after Captain Charles Churchman who was granted a huge area of land in the early 1830s part of which is this reserve.

The Churchman Brook reservoir which is located in the parkland was built during the early part of 20th century and was officially opened in 1929.

Additional information can be found at: <https://www.alltrails.com/trail/australia/western-australia/churchmans-bushland-walk>



Colquhoun Reserve (formerly Eskdale Reserve, R39812) is a small reserve (2.5 ha) managed by the City of Armadale. It is situated in the middle of Roleystone with signposted entrances on Eskdale Street and Peet Road; the best place to park is at the Merton Road end of Eskdale Street. An alternative place to park is at the corner of Peet Road and Sawmill Road.



Dr Ian Colquhoun was a research scientist and acknowledged internationally as an authority on *Phytophthora* dieback. The reserve was recently re-named in recognition of Ian's contribution made to the conservation of Roleystone bush reserves and to driving the development of Dieback protocols in the City of Armadale. Ian was the founder of the Roleystone Dieback Action Group, now known as Roleybushcare.

The reserve covers a remnant of well-preserved Jarrah-Marri forest with scattered Sheoak (*Allocasuarina fraseriana*) and Bull Banksia (*Banksia grandis*). For such a small reserve, there is a remarkable diversity of flora with at least 120 species of plants within the reserve, including at least 11 species of orchid.

For a full list of the plants with photographs and their identifying features go to Roleybushcare's Flora database at <https://roleybushcare.com.au/flora-database>.

Creyk Park



Creyk Park is a reserve on Lilian Avenue, Armadale established as a playing field for football. On the eastern side periphery of the sports oval is some 2.2 ha of important remnant bushland recognised as a 'Forrestfield Vegetation Complex Threatened Ecological Community' – a community of species which was once common to the Swan Coastal Plain.



Now as little as nine per cent remains and bushlands like Creyk Park are becoming threatened with extinction. The bushland is predominantly Jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*), Candle Banksia/Biara (*Banksia attenuata*) and Flame Banksia (*Banksia menziesii*) woodland over a scattered understorey. The location and soil type (Yoganup Formation with a higher clay content than those of the Swan Coastal Plain) means also that from a botanical perspective, it represents an area at the eastern edge of the distribution of some coastal plain species such as Blue Tinsel Lily (*Calectasia narragara*) and the western edge of many scarp species which require the heavier scarp soils such as Camphor Myrtle (*Babingtonia camphorosmae*), Yellow-eyed Flame Pea (*Chorizema dicksonii*), Bloodroot (*Haemodorum simplex*), Narrow-fruited Hakea (*Hakea stenocarpa*), Pincushion Coneflower (*Isopogon dubius*), Rush-leaved Patersonia (*Patersonia juncea*), Synaphea (*Synaphea petiolaris*) and *Thomasia foliosa*.

An undescribed species of a bee-catching wasp (*Podagritys* sp.) has recently been discovered in the bushland portion of the park.

Parking is available in the carpark accessed either from Waltham Road or Kembla Street. The original 1974 pavilion was demolished in 2021 and a new one opened in February 2022. Walk around the edge of the oval to paths leading into the bushland.

As a result of early planting efforts, it is possible to find species not characteristic of the Forrestfield Vegetation Complex e.g. Baxter's Kunzea (*Kunzea baxteri*). Close to the grassed area was once overrun with the weedy Victorian Teatree (*Gaudium laevigatum*), most of which has since been removed.

The site during the 1930s was mined for sand which was used in the construction of Canning Dam. The sand deposit here is part of an ancient beach line which once existed along the foot of the Darling Scarp. The abandoned sand pit when filled by winter rain became a popular swimming spot for local youngsters.

The park is named after the local Creyk family who resided in nearby Schruth Street, Kelmscott in recognition of the family's achievements in the field of sport.

Eva and Bill Moore Heathland

Eva and Bill Moore Heathland on Lake Road, Camillo is a small area of <1 ha vested in the City of Armadale for recreation. This unique bushland is one of the fast-disappearing vegetation complexes in the Armadale area which was once common to the Swan Coastal Plain.



Entrance to the area is from Durnsford Way – park near the playground where a concrete path traverses the bushland section. There is a second entrance on Lake Road, but there is no vehicle parking available.

Much of this reserve is a dampland, especially along Lake Road, dominated by Modong (*Melaleuca preissiana*) along with Swamp Banksia (*Banksia littoralis*). The understorey is badly infested with weedy plants. Particularly common are Mardja or Bloodroots (*Haemodorum spicatum*), WA Christmas Tree (*Nuytsia floribunda*) and Pricklybark (*Eucalyptus todtiana*).

There is a small portion of open shrubland in the south-east section. Adjacent is a section where the vegetation is typical of the Banksia woodland assemblage.

For such a small area, this reserve displays a high degree of species diversity in the adjacent drier section including Flame Banksia (*Banksia menziesii*), Holly-leaved Banksia (*Banksia ilicifolia*), Woollybush (*Adenanthos cygnorum*), Common Astartea (*Astartea scoparia*), White Myrtle (*Hypocalymma angustifolium*), Prickly Moses (*Acacia pulchella*) and Spearwood (*Kunzea glabrescens*).



Banksia littoralis
Swamp Banksia



Banksia menziesii
Flame Banksia



Banksia ilicifolia
Holly-leaved Banksia



Kunzea glabrescens
Spearwood

Fletcher Park



Fletcher Park is situated in Wungong, about 5 km south of the Armadale CBD. It contains areas of regionally significant vegetation and several conservation significant flora species and is recognised as a ‘Threatened Ecological Community Forrestfield Vegetation Complex’, of which only nine per cent of its original extent remains in scattered locations along the base of the Darling Range.



The park covers some 19 ha and is vested in the City of Armadale for ‘Recreation and Conservation’ - 11 ha is leased to the Wallangarra Riding & Pony Club, the other 8 ha is conservation bushland, with 5 ha being rated in very good condition. The vegetation assemblage is classified as *Corymbia calophylla*-*Kingia australis* woodland and forms part of Bush Forever Site 264, which it shares with Lambert Lane Nature Reserve but separated from it by the South Western Railway line.

The railway line marks the western boundary of the park which extends southwards from Stone Street to Eleventh Road. The largest area of bushland is located at the NE extremity with a narrow strip contiguous with the railway reserve. A feature of the park is the seasonal winter stream which flows some 300 metres across the area near the northern boundary and supports a strip of riparian vegetation dominated by thickets of *Trymalium* and *Calothamnus*. Generally, the flora displays a high degree of diversity. Marri, Wandoo, Flooded Gum, Salmon White Gum and a variant of Jarrah - *Eucalyptus marginata* var. *elegantella* - make up the taller elements of the vegetation along with significant stands of the WA Christmas Tree. The understorey is highly varied and more typical of shrub on heath land such as Two-leaved Hakea, Yellow Buttercups, Dwarf Sheoak, Blue Lechenaultia, Dickson’s Chorizema, Purple Flag, Red and Green Kangaroo Paw, Bacon & Eggs, Milkmaids and Wavy-leaved Hakea. There is a good range of orchids, including Rattle Beaks, Scented Sun, Donkey and Leopard orchids. Two species of threatened flora located in the park are the Cadda Road Mallee (*Eucalyptus x balanites*) and Purdie’s Donkey orchid (*Diurus purdiei*).

The bushland can be accessed at three points: the southern extension along the railway line at either the end of Moore Street or from Eleventh Road and the north-east portion from the end of Stone Street where the access is somewhat more restricted. The area here is well serviced by numerous tracks across generally flat terrain. The only major obstacle to negotiate is the winter stream.



Forrestdale Lake

Forrestdale Lake (Bush Forever Site 345) in Forrestdale is an ephemeral (seasonal) lake of approximately 220 ha. The area is gazetted as an A-class Nature Reserve and has a range of diverse habitats supporting a rich and unique variety of plant and animal species.

Car parking for access to the reserve is located at:

- Moore Street where there is an information shelter and wheelchair access to the bird observation platform,
- Commercial Road (southern end),
- Broome Street near the Forrestdale Primary School.



A 6 km limestone walk track encircles the lake and goes through Banksia and Paperbark woodland. There is a seat located at a high viewing point overlooking the lake at the north-eastern side.

The largest in Perth's south metropolitan region, Forrestdale Lake was designated a Ramsar wetland of international importance in 1990. The lake constitutes a major breeding, migration stop-over and semi-permanent drought refuge area for waterbirds including black swans, many species of ducks and other waterfowl and migratory and non-migratory wading birds. Some 70 species of waterbird occur at both Forrestdale and nearby Thomsons Lakes with 21 of them breeding.

Decades ago, the Forrestdale Lake held a lot more water than it does now, and for longer periods. Some years it did not dry up at all. Diminishing rainfall, and ground water extraction from government and private bores are some of the reasons for the lake's decreasing water levels. In June or July, Forrestdale Lake starts to fill, and about the end of September, it reaches its maximum depth. By early summer, the lake is usually dry. The depth of the lake varies from year to year depending on rainfall - these days it can be between around 20 and 50 cm.

The Friends of Forrestdale environmental group assists in the management of Forrestdale Lake through weed control, fence repair, rubbish removal and reporting illegal activities. The group actively assists in the annual Black Swan cygnet rescue when the lake water recedes, and the cygnets are prone to predation by foxes.

Gibbs Road Bushland



Gibbs Road Bushland, Forrestdale (Bush Forever Site 344) covers a number of Banksia woodland and Melaleuca paperbark dampland areas either side of Gibbs Road and Taylor Road. The areas are managed by both the City of Armadale and Parks & Wildlife Service as part of the Jandakot Regional Park.



They are floristically diverse and contain many areas of native vegetation that have received little disturbance.

Car parking for access to some of the bushland is located at:

- Corner of Gibbs Road and Taylor Road, Forrestdale. Access gates nearby on Taylor Road,
- Gibbs Road about 800 m from Taylor Road there is an access gate. It also provides access to the adjacent Denis de Young Reserve, Banjup (City of Cockburn).
- Other access points are not described here.

There are well defined fire access/management tracks that are suitable for easy bushwalking, although some can be through soft sand in parts.



Banksia woodland, Gibbs Road, Forrestdale



Goolamrup Reserve

Goolamrup Reserve located on Buckingham Road, Kelmscott is a small bushland area of 1.67 ha that runs to the Canning River. The bushland is predominantly Wandoo (*Eucalyptus wandoo*) and Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) with some Flooded Gum/Moitch (*Eucalyptus rudis*) along the waterline.



Car parking near the corner of Buckingham Road and Roberts Road where there is interpretive signage and where the two short-walk loop tracks commence. One track descends to along the Canning River, the other track leads through the Wandoo and Marri woodland.

The area served as a bush camp site for the WA Scouts Association from the 1930s through to the mid-1960s.

Goolamrup Reserve gets its name from the Noongar word for the Kelmscott area. The banks of the Canning River in this reserve contains the site of one of the river fords on the coach and wagon routes to Albany and the Dale farming areas. This reserve is rich in both Noongar and early European history.

The Friends of Goolamrup Reserve community group assists in management and revegetation.

Harrisdale Swamp Bushland



Harrisdale Swamp Bushland, Harrisdale (Bush Forever Site 253) is a stunning reserve with some outstanding features still in Excellent condition. The 98.4 ha bushland reserve is within the City of Armadale but managed by Parks & Wildlife Service as part of the Jandakot Regional Park.



There are five access gates to the reserve, but the ideal access is where parking is available in the Carey College carpark, Wright Road (next to the stormwater drainage sump). Pedestrian access to the bushland is via a gate on the opposite side of Wright Road.

The reserve is named after a pioneer family that originally owned several private titles; additional uncleared blocks have been purchased by the WA Planning Commission and added over the years.

It predominantly consists of Banksia woodland, some Jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*) and paperbarks (*Melaleuca* spp.) that fringe the seasonal swamp which occupies the central area of the reserve. The areas of Banksia woodland, shrubland and wetland contain a large number of species of native vegetation. Some areas of the reserve are heavily infested with weeds around the margins of the swamp and along the power transmission line easements.

There are well defined fire access/management tracks that are suitable for easy bushwalking; they are not signposted. Some sections of the reserve tracks may be flooded in winter.

Prior to government acquisition, the land was subject to abuse for joy riding and dumping of household rubbish and car bodies. Revegetating the degraded areas is ongoing with assistance from Federal and State government authorities and volunteer groups.

Another Banksia woodland nearby is Shepherd Court Reserve, which is managed by the City of Armadale with assistance from local residents.



Kendal Court bushland is a small reserve comprising 1.1 ha on Grovelands Drive in Camillo. It is an example of a 'Forrestfield Vegetation Complex Threatened Ecological Community' - a community of species which was once common to the Swan Coastal Plain. Now as little as nine per cent remains and bushlands like Kendal Court are becoming threatened with extinction.



There are two points of access to the reserve – from Grovelands Drive opposite Grovelands Primary School, and from Kendall Court. The reserve is well-served by footpaths allowing easy access to most of the bushland.

The bushland of the south-east boundary is well worth exploring and also worth viewing is the magnificent Jarrah situated at the northern end of the nearby Harold King Community Centre parking area.

The woodland vegetation comprises Jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata* var. *elegantella*), some Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*), Flame Banksia (*Banksia menziesii*), Candle Banksia/Biara (*Banksia attenuata*), Woody Pear (*Xylomelum occidentale*) and a suite of understorey plants including Pineapple Bush (*Dasypogon bromeliifolius*), Summer Starflower (*Calytrix flavescens*), Pearl Flower (*Conostephium pendulum*), Common Hovea (*Hovea trisperma*) and Candle Hakea (*Hakea ruscifolia*).

The occurrence here of Winter Bell (*Blancoa canescens*) is near the southern-most limit to its distribution.

Since 2002, the Grovelands Primary School community, the City of Armadale and the Armadale Gosnells Landcare Group, have been working together to understand and protect this precious bushland.



Pearl Flower



Jarrah



Summer Starflower

Lambert Lane Nature Reserve



Lambert Lane Nature Reserve is managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. It comprises about 3.6 ha of highly significant bushland which is listed as an ecologically threatened plant community classified as *Corymbia calophylla-Kingia australis* woodland. This reserve and the bushland occurring in the adjacent Fletcher Park make up Bush Forever Site 264.



Access is through a gate located at the corner of Lambert Lane and Wilson Street, Wungong, where an easy walking track leads off along the eastern boundary. Stands of Marri interspersed with some excellent specimens of Salmon White Gum (*Eucalyptus lane-poolei*) and a number of W.A. Christmas Trees (*Nuytsia floribunda*) make up the taller elements of the vegetation. Parts of the understorey consists of thick shrubbery with Two-leaf Hakea (*Hakea trifurcata*) most dominant. The more open area in the north of the reserve is thickly covered with Dwarf Sheoak (*Allocasuarina humilis*).

The area was originally surveyed as the Wungong town site. No town ever eventuated, but it did become the local rubbish dump which explains the extensive weed infestation, particularly of Baboon Flower (*Babiana angustifolia*) found scattered throughout the reserve. Revegetation of the most degraded section has met with little success.

It is worthwhile exploring the section of bushland which extends from the reserve southwards between Wilson Street and the South Western Railway line.



Lloyd Hughes Park on Martin Street, Kelmscott covers 17.7 ha and is part of the larger Banyowla Regional Park. The park straddles the boundary between the Ridge Hill Shelf and the Darling Scarp landform soil types and has significant regional conservation value arising from its diverse vegetation and geology. A seasonally dry creek runs along the southern portion of the reserve parallel to Canning Mills Road.



Three main vegetation associations have been identified within the park: Wandoo open woodland over Gravel Wattle (*Acacia lateriticola*) shrubland, Marri woodland over low shrubland and herbland, and Flooded Gum woodland over Swishbush (*Viminaria juncea*) high open shrubland along the creek line. Vegetation mapping indicates that 60% of the total area of the reserve is Very Good to Excellent condition.

There are two named walk tracks within the park – ‘Prickly Moses’ return length of 1.1 km and ‘Yam’ return length of 1.3 km. A QR code can be found on the signs located at the Martin Street entrance that provides a link to a track map.

Car parking is available kerbside at the corner of Marmion Street and Martin Street. Alternative parking is available at the end of Marmion Street where there is an entrance into the park via the nearby ‘Yam’ walk track.

Some documentation erroneously states that the park was mined for gold and slate in the past. However, shale was previously mined in the area and can be seen scattered throughout the park on the walk tracks.

The Friends of Lloyd Hughes Park community group assists the City of Armadale in on-ground management of the park e.g. revegetation plantings, Dieback management, general clean-up of dumped rubbish and weed removal.

Midgegooroo National Park



Midgegooroo National Park (R47884) is the largest reserve in the City of Armadale with an area of about 2,373 ha. Formerly known as Canning National Park, it was renamed Midgegooroo National Park after Midgegooroo, a Noongar Elder who played a key role in Aboriginal resistance to European settlement in the area and was killed by settlers in 1833.



The national park surrounds the forests of downstream Canning Dam and either side of Brookton Highway and is typical Darling Range Jarrah-Marri forest growing on lateritic gravel with Sheoak in places and Yarri along the creeks. There are also rocky outcrops, the best known of which is Boulder Rock, about 8 km south of Chevin Road along Brookton Highway (park on the side of Brookton Highway but be aware of fast-moving traffic along the highway) and follow the track for a short distance to the rock. Weathering and erosion of the granite along fractures has led to the development of rounded tors or boulders. Many unusual plants can be found in the run-off area around the granite including the yet to be formally named *Stylidium* sp. 'Boulder Rock'.



Stylidium sp. 'Boulder Rock'

Some parts of Midgegooroo National Park are off limit without a permit from the Water Corporation as they are within the catchment area of Canning Dam but there are many tracks where walking is permitted. For example, it is possible to walk many kilometres from the end of Forestedge Retreat in the Araluen Golf Club estate through to McNess Drive/Canning Dam Road. Other walk tracks can be accessed from Gardner Road in Karragullen.

Many wildflowers can be seen in Midgegooroo National Park, especially in spring. At least 350 species of plant occur in the park including at least 29 species of orchid.

For a list of the plants with photographs and their identifying features go to Roleybushcare's Flora database at <https://roleybushcare.com.au/flora-database>.



Roley Pools Reserve

Roley Pools Reserve straddles the banks of the Canning River for about 900 m between Soldiers Road and the end of Thompson Road, Roleystone.

Parking is available on both sides of the river on Soldiers Road and also at the end of Thompson Road. There is also limited parking on Collins Road where steps lead down to Roley Pool which was once a very deep pool in the bed of the river and was used as a swimming pool between the 1920s and 1960s. Construction of the Canning Dam reduced the flow of water and sediment from local developments has partially filled the pool so that it is no longer safe to swim there but it is still very attractive. There are tracks on both sides of the river; both with scenic views of the river and the steep rocky valley walls with scattered Wandoo and Flooded Gum. The northern track goes from Soldiers Road to Roley Pool. On the way it passes a pipeline which was once used to transport water from the dam to Roleystone. There is also an outcrop of dolerite with some of the original native vegetation around it (most of the area was cleared in the past and became weed infested but is gradually being rehabilitated). On the southern side of the river, there is a track all the way between Soldiers Road and Thompson Road. This track is signposted and has information stations with QR codes along the way. The boardwalk and Nature's Spa (where water cascades over granite) are features along the track. The track becomes steeper and narrower towards Thompson Road. Along this part of the track, native yams or Warrine are present; these were an important food source for the Noongar people who lived here. From Thompson Road, it is possible to continue along the Canning River along the Heritage track in a separate reserve to Heritage Drive for an additional 3.2 km return journey.



Further information can be found at:

www.armadale.wa.gov.au/roley-pools-heritage-walk-trails-roleystone and

<https://roleybushcare.com.au/information/bush-reserves/47-roley-pool-reserve3>

Stinton Cascade Nature Reserve



Stinton Cascade Nature Reserve (R19662) is managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) and consists of three separate parts totalling about 126 ha.

The eastern part straddles Gardner Road and has signposted entrances on the northern and southern boundaries; park on the verge of Gardner Road. Tracks lead downhill from near the signs to Stinton Creek passing through well-preserved Jarrah-Marri forest on the way. Take care when walking downhill as it is easy to slip on the lateritic gravel or honky nuts. A track follows the eastern bank of Stinton Creek. There is mostly low herbland vegetation and granite outcrops adjacent to the creek with mixed Yarri-Marri-Jarrah forest on higher ground. In winter, water from the creek cascades over a large granite outcrop near the southern boundary of the reserve, giving the reserve its name (allow at least 1 hour to walk to the cascades and back from the southern entrance or 2 hours if walking along the creek from the northern entrance). The track along the creek can be muddy in winter.



The southern part of the reserve adjoins the southwestern corner of the eastern part of the reserve. It is possible to walk to the southern part of the reserve by crossing the creek near the cascade or along the northern track and following the track around the reserve boundary (allow at least 4 hours for this walk). There is an area of herbland and granite outcrops fed by a winter soak in the central area of this part of the reserve with Jarrah-Marri forest surrounding it.

The northern part of the reserve adjoins the north-western corner of the eastern part of the reserve but is no longer accessible from there due to a fence. It straddles Irymple Road and parking is available at the corner of Irymple Road and Civa Heights or on the verge of Irymple Road. This part of the reserve is Jarrah-Marri forest that was logged in the past. The remnants of the stump of the largest Jarrah logged in the region is located in this part of the reserve.

Over 320 species of plant have been identified in the reserve including *Hibbertia*, *Melaleuca*, *Lechenaultia*, *Verticordia*, *Hakea*, *Grevillea*, *Pimelea*, *Patersonia* and 30 species of orchid.

For a full list of the plants with photographs and their identifying features go to Roleybushcare's Flora database at <https://roleybushcare.com.au/flora-database>.

Warwick Savage Park



Warwick Savage Park is a small reserve (11 ha) situated on Simons Drive in Roleystone that was acquired by the City of Armadale from the Savage family in 1983.

The main entrance is near the sign at the Irymple Road end of Simons Drive; park on the edge of Simons Drive and walk up the track. It is also possible to enter from a track near the other end of Simons Drive; from one side of Simons Drive to the other is about 500 m. Most of the reserve is beautiful Jarrah-Marri forest typical of the Darling Range. Unfortunately, there is a large, degraded area in the centre of the reserve where soil and road materials were dumped in the past; this is gradually being re-vegetated by Roleybushcare in partnership with the City of Armadale. Seeds from Dieback-resistant trees were donated to Roleybushcare by Alcoa and have been propagated and planted in this cleared area to provide a future source of potentially Dieback-resistant Jarrah seed. Between the Jarrah, understorey plants raised from seeds collected in the reserve are being planted to restore the area to something resembling the original forest.

Over 170 species of plant have been identified in the reserve.

For a full list of the plants with photographs and their identifying features go to Roleybushcare's Flora database at <https://roleybushcare.com.au/flora-database>.



Other Reserves

There are a number of other reserves scattered around the City of Armadale that have not been included in great detail in this booklet for such reasons as:

- Limited vehicle parking or dangerous parking availability,
- Limited walk track access,
- Undergoing bushland rehabilitation,
- Very challenging walk terrain.

Some of these reserves are listed below.

Cammillo Reserve

Cammillo Reserve on the corner of Cammillo Road and Railway Avenue in Kelmscott is vested in the City of Armadale for recreation. The bushland (2,215 m²) is recognised as 'Forrestfield Complex Threatened Ecological Community' - a community of species which was once common to the Swan Coastal Plain. The vegetation is predominantly a low woodland of Candle Banksia (*Banksia attenuata*) and Flame Banksia (*Banksia menziesii*) over a mixed shrubland of *Mesomelaena psuedostygia*. There is no public access or parking.

Palomino Reserve

The Wungong River runs from the hills to its confluence with the Canning River. At Palomino Reserve, the river system is severely affected by weeds and by siltation.

Palomino Reserve Catchment Group (established in 2000) is working towards restoring a section of the Wungong River in Champion Lakes by controlling weeds and re-planting the native vegetation that once would have occurred along the river's edge.

Piara Nature Reserve

Piara Drive, Piara Waters. This reserve is a wetland oasis surrounded by new housing developments. As it is a newly created reserve, there are limited walking tracks and parking.

Roleystone Reserves

There are many small reserves scattered throughout the Roleystone and Karragullen area. Many of these reserves are looked after by Roleybushcare. Refer to its website for a list and location of these reserves www.roleybushcare.com.au/

Wungong Gorge

Wungong Regional Park is situated within the Darling Range, about 40 km SE of Perth, about a 10-minute drive from Armadale's City centre. The Wungong Gorge Walk is one of the most popular walking tracks in the Perth Hills, due to its scenic value. Walkers will pass through groves of trees, rocky outcrops and alongside running streams and beautiful valleys. The full walk is between near the Wungong Dam and on the South Western Highway starting at either end. This walk is challenging.

What might be seen along walk tracks



Ramaria capitata
Salmon Coral Fungus



Mycena sp.
Honkey Nut Fungus



Cortinarius sinapicolor
Slimy Yellow Cortinar



Aleuria aurantia
Orange Peel Fungus



Geastrum triplex
Collared Earthstar



Pycnoporus coccineus
Scarlet Bracket Fungus



Boletellus obscurecoccineus
Rhubarb Bolete



Coltricia cinnamomea
Cinnamon Fungus



Austrocortinarius australiensis
Skirt Webcap



Pachycephala occidentalis
Western Golden Whistler



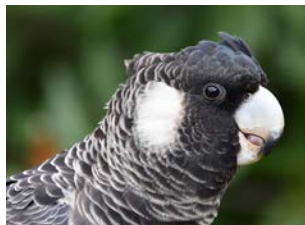
Petroica boodang
Scarlet Robin



Eopsaltria australis griseogularis
Western Yellow Robin



Acanthorhynchus superciliosus
Western Spinebill, male



Calyptorhynchus latirostris
Carnaby's Cockatoo



Calyptorhynchus banksii naso
Forest Red-tailed Black
Cockatoo

Typical floristic community types



Banksia woodland



Dampland



Jarrah-Marri woodland



Jarrah-Marri-Blackbutt woodland

Typical floristic community types





Know | Grow | Conserve | Enjoy



Armadale Branch

www.wildflowersocietywa.org.au

www.wildflowersarmadale.org.au

October 2022, revised September 2024