



- Appreciate our natural environment
- Help and prevent further deterioration

Identify and understand the impact of

- Identify our indigenous plants
- probem weeds
- Know what plants to grow
- Contact us with your queries
- Be rewarded with results of your efforts



Guide to INDIGENOUS PLANTS of the Nepean Peninsula

TREES



Long lived tree with spreading canopy and gnarled branches.



A distinctive tree with a weeping habit. Cones on female trees and tiny yellow/brown flower spikes on males. 8m x 3m.



A great character and specimen tree. The large yellow flowers are attractive to nectar feeding birds and possums. Hard fruiting cones. $9m \times 4m$.



A variable shrub or small tree, with or without spines. Showy white flower plumes in summer, followed by heart-shaped seed capsules. An important species for insect feeding birds. 7m x 3m.



Fast growing, but short-lived tree with pale yellow flowers in spring and summer. Locally common, but rare across Victoria. 7m x 2m.

A dense shrub with deep green foliage. White flowers in spring and summer

A very prickly, tough shrub that provides excellent protection for small

birds. Masses of bright yellow flowers in late winter. 2.5m x 1.5m.

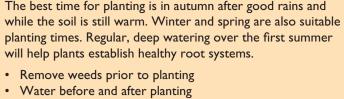
Sea Box (Alvxia buxifolia)

are followed by red-orange fruit. 1.5m x 1m.

Hedge Wattle (Acacia paradoxa)



Boobialla (Myoporum insulare) A fast growing, spreading shrub with dark green, smooth leaves. Good for screening and windbreak, with low fire risk. Small white flowers with purple flecks in late spring. 5m x 3m.



Source plants from local indigenous nurseries. Some species

may need to be ordered well in advance of planting (6-12

A fast growing, hardy tree that grows $8m \times 3m$. It quickly

months), to ensure local provenance.

Coast Tea Tree (Leptospermum laevigatum)

Fertiliser is not required

Moonah (Melaleuca lanceolata)

- Mulch to retain soil moisture and reduce weed growth

PLANTING GUIDE

flowers are followed by white, bird attracting fruit. These sweet berries are edible.

Thyme Rice Flower (Pimelia serpyllifolia)

Coast Pomaderris (Pomaderris paniculosa)

Common Correa and White Correa.

Coast Beard-heath (Leucopogon parviflorus)

A tough small shrub that grows to 1.5m x .75m in sun or shade. Small yellow flowers in spring. Benefits from pruning if growth becomes spindly. Difficult to propagate, but self-seeds readily in natural soils. Can be transplanted when very young.

A small shrub growing to $Im \times Im$. A valuable habitat plant

which is attractive to birds and insects. Has tubular flowers

May to October. Benefits from pruning. Grows readily from

A dense shrub that grows to 1.5m x 1.5m. White flowers for

NEPEAN CONSERVATION

PO Box 157, SORRENTO VIC 3943 e: info@nepeanconservationgroup.org.au www.nepeanconservationgroup.org.au

long periods throughout the year. Grows well in exposed

locations and responds well to pruning. Propagate from

The NCG's vision is for people to understand and appreciate the

natural, cultural and built heritage that contributes to the sense of

place of the Nepean Peninsula, in order to protect and conserve the amenity and enhance the character of the Nepean Peninsula.

To lead and inspire the community to appreciate, recognise, conserve, protect and celebrate the natural, cultural and built heritage of the

Advocate for the conservation of our natural, cultural and built heritage by engaging with the community and government.

Conserve, protect and enhance our natural, cultural and built

heritage by championing and supporting exemplary conservation

ensuring new developments are in harmony with the character of

Foster conservation of the vegetation, wildlife, natural attributes and

The most important understory plants are Coast Beard-

heath, Thyme Rice Flower, Coast Pomaderris, Sea Box,

A slow growing, tall shrub. Grows to 4m x 2m. Difficult to

propagate as the seed require special treatment. Small white

colonises disturbed and bare soil, becoming the dominant overstorey species. Good as a sand stabiliser. When it dies back, An attractive small shrub to 1.5m x Im. Tough and reliable in habitat for Jacky Lizards is created. Responds well to pruning and full sun or semi shade. Deep green leaves, white star-shaped can be used for hedging and topiary. Easily grown from seed. flowers and red fruit. A slow grower. Makes a dense screen and can be used for hedging. If grown from cuttings, they are

slow to strike (3-6 months).

and makes an effective screen.

White Correa (Correa alba)

Common Correa (Correa reflexa)

A long-lived medium sized tree that grows 8m x 3m. Its twisting trunks and branches create distinctive, sculptural forms. A good alternative to Coast Tea Tree that can be pruned to create an A medium sized shrub to 2m x 1.5m. Dark green leaves with effective screen. Moonah naturally occurs on ridge lines and bronze stems and new growth. Tolerates a range of aspects withstands harsh climatic conditions once established.

Drooping SheOak (Allocasuarina verticillata)

An attractive specimen tree with a weeping habit. Grows 8m x 3m. Its distinctive needles make a whispering noise in the wind and suppress weed growth when they fall on the ground. Male flowers produce a striking golden effect across the canopy.

Coast Banksia (Banksia integrifolia)

A distinctive tree that grows to 9m x 4m. Its grey, textured bark is full of character. Prone to attack by borers, with limbs sometimes failing as trees age. Large, yellow flower spikes are produced throughout the year and are an important food source for nectar-feeding birds and possums. Grows well on flats rather than limestone ridges.



Wedge-leaf Hop-bush (Dodonea viscosa ssp. spathulata) A very tall shrub. Showy, red or green lantern-like seed capsules. 3m x 3m.





Common Correa (Correa reflexa) A hardy shrub with yellow-green tubular flowers in winter and spring. Attractive to honeyeaters. Im x Im.



Coast Salt-bush (Atriplex cinerea) Fast growing, spreading shrub with succulent grey foliage. Dusky pink flowers in spring and summer. Occurs just above the high tide mark.



Scented Grounsel (Senecio odoratus) A fast growing, small shrub with large blue-green leaves. Yellow daisy flowers are produced during spring and summer. Prune lightly to encourage new, dense growth. Grows naturally in Banksia Woodland. 1.5m x 1.5m.



Delicate, densely tufted sedge with rough triangular stems. Flower spikes are



cominant canopy species. Good for hedging. White flowers in spring.

A pretty shrub with small white flowers and edible, bird attracting fruit

A tough, dense shrub that grows along the coast. Grey foliage and white

A soft, grey shrub that requires an open, sunny position. Pale yellow flowers

A dense, dark green tussock. Blue flowers are produced on short, branched

stems amongst the foliage and followed by blue fruits. Can be propagated by

during spring and summer. 4m x 3m.

White Correa (Correa alba)

flowers for most of the year. $1.5 \text{m} \times 1 \text{m}$.

Coast Daisy-bush (Olearia axillaris)

in autumn. Propagate from cuttings. 1.5m x 1m.

Thyme Rice Flower (Pimelea serbyllifolia) A wide-spread understorey species that is difficult to propagate. Tiny yellow flowers in spring and summer. Im x .75m.



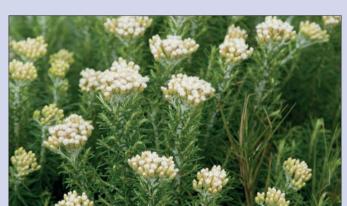
Pale Turpentine Bush (Beyeria leschenaultii) A medium sized shrub with very small yellowish flowers in spring. Leaves deep green with a white underside. 2m x 1.5m.

Sticky Daisy-bush (Olearia glutinosa)

to pruning. Best in an open position. $1.5m \times 1m$.

Spiny-headed Mat-rush (Lomandra longifolia)

Large tussock with long, firm grass-like leaves. Yellow flowers on spiny spikes



Coast Everlasting (Ozothamnus turbinatus) A bright green shrub with many flowers in spring and summer. Responds well

A tough shrub that grows on ocean cliffs. Green to grey foliage and yellow flower heads in late summer and autumn. Propagate from cuttings.

Tough and adaptable with thin, dark green foliage and spiny tips. Globular

brown flower heads for most of the year. Im x Im.



Cushion Bush (Leucobhyta brownii) sunny position. Im x Im.

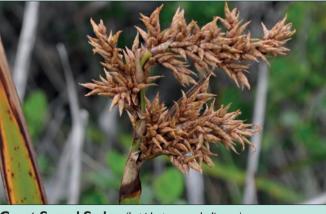


Common along the coast where it is often a prostrate sand binder and a

Rare Bitter-bush (Adriana quadripartita)

Peninsula Daisy-bush (Olearia sp. 2) A rare, as yet unnamed plant found only in isolated locations in ocean beach sand dunes. A compact shrub with tiny grey leaves and yellow flowers.

TUFTED PLANTS



Coast Sword Sedge (Lepidosperma gladiatum) A tufting sedge with long, rigid leaves and erect stems. Flowers are brown and persist all year. Propagated by division. 1.5m x 1.5m.



Stiped Wallaby-grass (Rytidosperma racemosum) A narrow leafed tufting grass with flower stems 0.5m tall. Striking when



Prickly Spear-grass (Austrostipa stipoides) A spiky tuft with a neat form. Can be slow to establish, but very tough once settled in. Im x Im.



Tussock Grass (Poa labillardieri) A quick growing, large tussock with flower heads to 1.3m. Provides important habitat and food to many animals. Browns off over summer.



Hairy Spinifex (Spinifex sericeus) A sand binding grass that produces long runners. Separate male and female plants. Leaves are covered in fine hairs, which reduces water loss. 0.40m x indeterminate spread.

Educate and engage the community in discourse about our natural, cultural and built heritage and its contribution to our sense of place and belonging. **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - MY DETAILS**

Nepean Peninsula.

historic features of the area.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS AND ACTIONS

Email (please print clearly): Peninsula Address: (if different to above)

MEMBERSHIP

☐ Single \$20 per year ☐ Family \$30 per year Donation \$

Coast Pomaderris (Pomaderris paniculosa)

Coast Wattle (Acacia longifolia var. sophorae)

large shrub further inland. 3m x 3m.

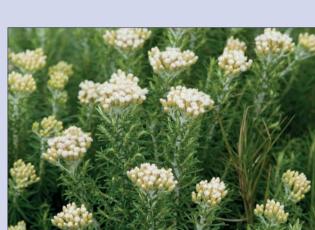
flowers in late spring. 2m x 1.5m.

A dense shrub with furry, bronze new growth and stems. Delicate pinkish

Sweet Bursaria (Bursaria spinosa)

SHRUBS







A rounded grey shrub that is common on ocean cliffs. Unusual, silver- grey foliage that provides an interesting contrast in a garden. Requires an open,



A quick growing, leafy shrub with shiny, toothed leaves. Responds well to

ROAD RESERVES AND VERGES

Nepean Peninsula. They are valuable assets.

shelter of wildlife.

Road reserves act as bio-links, joining larger patches of vegetation and creating corridors for the movement and

In an increasingly urbanised environment, these strips of vegetation provide greenery, screen buildings and enhance dwelling privacy. They provide a buffer against noise, traffic and dust while contributing to the natural character of the

Weed invasion, illegal parking, rubbish dumping and trampling threaten natural areas. It is everyone's responsibility to maintain the quality of these reserves and respect their value.

The road reserves are essential in maintaining the quality of the natural environment which has made this area so highly desirable for residents and tourists. They not only provide a screen hiding the increasing threat of urban building but also enhance dwelling privacy and provide a buffer against noise, dust and visual pollution.

They act as a link between other areas of vegetation by creating a wildlife corridor for the movement and shelter of birds and animals, whilst providing a valuable wildlife habitat in our increasingly urbanised environment.

However, weed invasion, trampling and other human disturbance endanger the reserves. It is important that we respect the value of these reserves and do not use them as convenient places to discard weeds or dump other rubbish. For their own benefit landholders should be encouraged to maintain the quality of these reserves. Road reserves contribute to the nature and character of the Nepean Peninsula and should be seen as valuable assets.

Several nurseries specialise in collecting local seed and propagating indigenous plants. Seek their advice when selecting suitable plants for your area.

Reference Nurseries:

Glenvue Nursery - 03 5985 1000 Indigenous native plants and shrubs. www.glenvuenursery.com.au

Shire Nursery "Briars" - 03 5974 8417 Email: nursery@mornpen.vic.gov.au Parks "Seawinds" Nursery - 03 5987 3093

Email: seawindsnursery@bigpond.com

For more go to **FURTHER INFORMATION**.

A major threat to our natural environment is weed invasion. Environmental weeds have the ability to reproduce and spread rapidly. They take over and change the nature of vegetation, resulting in the loss of indigenous plant species. This process threatens native fauna by reducing food sources and habitat. Correctly identifying and removing woody, scrambling and

ground flora weeds helps to protect existing indigenous vegetation and encourages regeneration. It is important to choose appropriate treatment methods

and consideration should be given to potential loss of habitat, timing of seed set and the capacity for follow up work. If using herbicide, wear appropriate Personal Protective

Equipment (PPE) when preparing and applying chemicals.

This includes gloves, boots and eye protection. Follow label directions carefully.

For further information refer to the Mornington Peninsula weed brochure at www.mornpen.vic.gov.au. -----

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - PAYMENT DETAILS

☐ Cheque/Money order for \$___ __ is enclosed payable to Nepean Conservation Group Inc.

Post your cheque / money order to the Hon. Sec., Nepean Conservation Group Inc., PO Box 157, Sorrento, Vic., 3943 (receipt provided on request

☐ Payment by electronic funds transfer (EFT) for

Bank details are: BSB: 063891 Account No. 10018672

Account name: Nepean Conservation Group Inc. Please indicate your membership type (family/single) in your payee reference box.

Guide to INDIGENOUS PLANTS and WEEDS of the Nepean Peninsula

CLIMBERS AND SCRAMBLERS



A tough, spreading scrambler that forms a dense groundcover. Small red, bird attracting fruit throughout spring, summer and autumn. Responds well to pruning and presents a low fire risk. Im x 1.5m+



Climbing Lignum (Muehlenbeckia australis) A tough twiner with dark green leaves and red stems. Small pale green flowers in spring and summer

A Bushland Garden 2 years old



Silky Guinea Flower (Hibbertia sericea) An attractive small plant with showy yellow flowers in spring and summer. Sun or shade. $0.5m \times 0.75m$.



Austral Storks Bill (Pelargonium australe) A small and colourful plant with a long flowering period. Tolerates shade. Self seeds profusely. 0.25m x 0.5m.



SMALL PLANTS AND GROUND COVERS

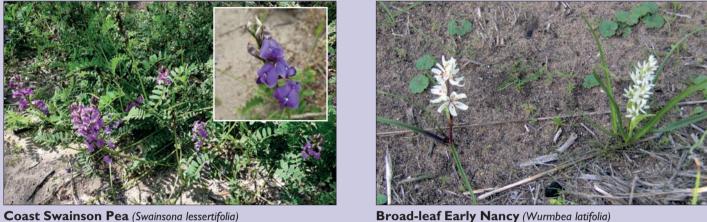
Running Postman (Kennedia prostrata) A carpet forming groundcover with scarlet pea flowers on long trailing stems. Grows well on sunny banks and benefits from summer watering.



Coast or Smaller Fan-flower (Scaevola albida) Mat forming groundcover with masses of pale blue or white fan shaped flower during spring and summer. Spreads to Im.



Broad-leaf Early Nancy (Wurmbea latifolia) A spreading herb with beautiful purple flowers in spring. Filtered sun.



A small perennial herb that becomes dormant over summer and reshoots from the bulbous root after autumn rain. White star flowers in late- winter



Sea Celery (Apium prostratum ssp.) A variable herb with broad, edible leaves that grows on moist, well drained sandy soils. Tiny white flowers in clusters. 0.3m x 1m-2m.

Karkalla (Carpobrotus rossi) A robust, spreading succulent that grows on open dunes. Large pink-purple flowers are produced during spring and summer. Be careful to avoid hybrids of these species as they are threatening the local gene pool. Prostrate,



A basal rosette of lobed leaves. Pale, pretty daisy flowers on 15cm stems.

Nepean Peninsula Vegetation Profile LEGEND: □ Unconsolidated Sand □ Terra Rosa Horizon □ Dune Calcarenite - Organic Horizon GLW - 2016

Kidney Weed (Dichondra repens)

Bush Pea (Pultenaea tenuifolia)

flowers in spring. 0.30m x 0.5m.

A common, mat-like creeper with kidney shaped leaves and tiny delicate flowers. Spreads to around 1m.

Low small shrub found on open, sandy banks. Yellow and red-brown pea



A scrambling ground cover with dark yellow flowers and succulent leaves.

Coast Twin-leaf (Zygophyllum billardieri)

Pink Fairies (Caladenia latifolia) An orchid with stems to 20cm tall and pink flowers in spring. Grows underneath Moonah, Tea Tree and Coast Beard-Heath.



WEEDS



Polygala or Myrtle-Leaf Milkwort (Polygala myrtifolia) A medium sized shrub with distinctive purple pea flowers in autumn and winter. Forms dense thickets, crowding out indigenous understorey species. Young seedlings can be pulled out by hand and older plants cut at the base. Seeds remain viable in soil for years. $2m \times 2m$.

Small-leaf Clematis (Clematis microphylla)

flowers in spring. Produces plumes of feathery seeds.

Bower Spinach (*Tetragonia implexicoma*)

nearby plants. Presents low fire risk. 0.2m x 4m+.

Austral Trefoil (Lotus australis)

A very hardy climber with bright green leaves and many white star-shaped

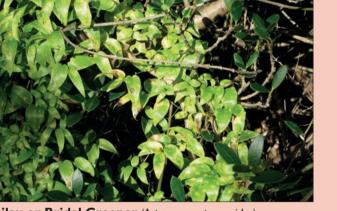
A vigorous scrambler with long, trailing stems. Soft, succulent green foliage

and perfumed, yellow star shaped flowers. Can be pruned if smothering

A rare, sprawling herb, producing flowers during spring. Food plant of the Grass Blue Butterfly. $0.1\,m \times 0.2m$.



Mirror Bush (Coprosma repens) Large shrub to small tree, with distinctive, dark green shiny leaves. Grows to 5m tall. Produces greenish flowers in spring and summer, followed by orange fruit in summer and autumn. Pull or dig out small plants. Cut and paint stems of older plants with herbicide. Continue with follow up



Smilax or Bridal Creeper (Asparagus asparagoides) A vigorous creeper that is difficult to control as all underground parts must be removed. Biological control agents include Rust, Leaf-miner and Leaf-hopper. Several repeat treatments will be required to successfully control this weed.



Cotoneaster (Cotoneaster species) Large shrub to small tree. Grows to 4m. Produces masses of red berries in ate summer and autumn that attract birds that then spread this weed. Pull or dig out small plants. Cut and paint stems of older plants with herbicide.



Dolichos Pea (Dipogon lignosus) Cape Ivy (Delairea odorata) A vigorous creeper that smothers trees and shrubs. Purple or white flowers A vigorous creeper that swamps vegetation in its path. Produces masses in spring. Pull up small plants. Cut off climbing vines at base and paint stump of yellow flower heads in winter. When removing, make sure that broken stems and roots do not remain in soil as they will reshoot. with herbicide or dig out.

Boneseed (Chrysanthemoides monilifera)

reatment is required as seed bank regenerates. 2m x 2m.

A dense shrub with serrated, dull green leaves. Clusters of bright yellow

daisy-like flowers in late winter and spring. Pull out young seedlings by hand.

Cut the surface roots of older plants and twist out the main stem. Follow up



Agapathus (Agapanthus praecox ssp. orientalis) leshy, strap-like leaves, forming clumps to 0.5m x 1m. Large blue or white flower heads in summer. Dig up and remove all thick, fleshy roots. Cut off and bag seed heads to prevent further spread.



Italian Buckthorn (Rhamnus alaternus) Bush or small tree to 5m with dark green, serrated foliage. Dark red berries in summer are eaten by birds which spread the seeds. Pull or dig out small plants. Cut and paint stems of older plants with herbicide. Continue with follow up treatments.

climber forms a dense mat, smothering other plants. Cut main

stems to prevent flowering. Strip and paint stems with herbicide. Follow up

English Ivy (Hedera helix)



Large shrub covered in many sharp spines. White flowers throughout spring

and summer, followed by orange/red fruit. Pull or dig out small plants. Cut

Boxthorn (Lycium ferrocissimum)

and paint stems of older plants with herbicide.

Bluebell Creeper (Billardiera heterophylla) A thin stemmed scrambler producing blue flowers in spring and summer. Pull or dig out, making sure roots are removed. Remove and bag fruit to



Large shrub to small tree with dense, shiny green foliage. Creates deep shade, making it difficult for coastal species to establish underneath. Female plants produce creamy, perfumed flowers in spring which are followed by ots of orange fruit. To reduce spread, target these plants first by cutting and



Blue Perwinkle (Vinca major) Dense groundcover with trailing stems and blue flowers in spring. Pull or dig out, making sure all roots are removed. Can be treated by solarising i.e covering in black plastic or similar for 2 months. This may need to be



Common Sea Heath (Frankenia pauciflora var. pauciflora) Spreading mat-like shrub with small pink-white flowers. Useful for binding soil. $0.3m \times 0.5m-1m$.



Austral Bugle (Ajuga australis) A spreading perennial herb with spikes of purple flowers in spring and summer. Useful for erosion control in sandy soils.

INTRODUCTION

This publication aims to raise awareness and appreciation of our natural environment.

We hope to encourage residents to retain and protect indigenous vegetation on their land and where it has been lost, replant with indigenous species.

Recognition of these plants and the major weed species is a necessary first step in the preservation Cape and restoration of this environment. To assist in Schanck identification, a brief description of plants and major weed species is shown under the images.

The soils of the southern end of the Mornington Peninsula

Soils of the Nepean Peninsula

are composed of ridges of shell-derived calcareous sand; on a band of red terra rosa sand. Indigenous vegetation growing on the ridges is highly lime tolerant, whereas the plants growing on the flats benefit from the iron in the red soils. The plant communities have adapted to withstand the harsh coastal environment, with regular sea mists providing some moisture.

Coastal Moonah Woodland

Much of this unique area is described as Coastal Moonah Woodland and its significance has been recognised by being listed for protection under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988. Since European settlement, over 90% of this Woodland community has been cleared. The companion pamphlet "Conserving the Character" emphasises the importance of this natural bushland environment.

Historical Background

For thousands of years prior to European settlement, the Bunurong (Boon Wurrung) people lived sustainably here. They hunted for and gathered food to make up a varied diet that included fish, mammals, seeds, fruits and tubers. There is no evidence to suggest that fire was used to manage the land and Moonah Woodland is very sensitive to fire events. It is the activities of small mammals, such as bandicoots, that have created open areas in the Woodland

With the arrival of European industry to the Peninsula in the 1840's, much of the vegetation, largely dominated by Banksias and She-oaks, was destroyed. There was extensive land clearance, the timber being used to fuel the lime burners' kilns or sent to Melbourne for firewood. Pastoral leases were granted and more land was opened up for farming. As a result of this clearing, the Coast Tea Tree, once confined to the coastal fringe, spread inland and is now the dominant species. What now remains of the natural vegetation is being threatened by encroaching

Friends groups volunteers are involved with weed removal, planting, seed collection and propagation in the National Park, foreshores, bushland and roadside reserves. Members are available to give talks. Your participation in these activities would be most welcome. See contact details below.

development and the invasion of environmental weeds.

A MORNINGTON PENINSULA COUNCIL PLANNING PERMIT IS REQUIRED TO REMOVE NATIVE VEGETATION

FURTHER INFORMATION

Nepean Conservation Group Inc. Website: www.nepeanconservationgroup.org.au Email: info@nepeanconservationgroup.org.au

Write: P.O. Box 157 SORRENTO VIC 3943 Email: spiffa.secretary@gmail.com

Mornington Peninsula Shire Nursery Phone: 5974 8417

Website: www.mornpen.vic.gov.au Email: nursery@mornpen.vic.gov.au Noxious and Environmental Weeds and Plant Pathogens,

Mornington Peninsula Shire, 2012

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