

# Community-led initiative supported by Local & State Government



## Purpose

The Barossa Bushgardens promotes the use and protection of native Barossa flora by showcasing and supplying plants for parks, gardens, shelter belts, bush and native grassland restoration and to benefit orchards, vineyards and other agriculture.

As land use and townships have replaced most of the regions bushland, the aim is to encourage the use of native plants to promote biodiversity, which has widespread benefits in our society and environment. Plants can be ordered or purchased direct from the Nursery.

The Bushgardens is a reference point to learn about regional flora, natural resource management and sustainability. Partnerships and projects exist with organisations involved with education, nature play, health, recreation, conservation, sustainability, reconciliation, arts and tourism.

## History

The Bushgardens was established in 2001 by dedicated volunteers wishing to preserve native plants from the Barossa region. Led by the community, the first plantings were into a bare paddock with one gum tree. Plantings in rows created an orchard to produce quantities of easily harvestable seed.

➤ **Keep an eye out for workshops and events. Visit The Barossa Council if you would like to volunteer. Join Friends of Barossa Bushgardens by contacting the Bushgardens office.**

Original seed came from the three main Barossa ecosystems; higher rainfall ranges to the east; the valley floor with heavy soils; and low hills and sandy plains to the northwest of Greenock and southwest to Gawler.

The Bushgardens has expanded to display feature gardens, rare plants and local plant communities. Volunteers undertake site maintenance, nursery work and event management. With the increase in habitat, bird and fauna numbers have risen.

## Future

Growing plants from local seed has been central to the Bushgardens to maintain regional genetic material or local provenance. Current research is suggesting that introducing plants with a different provenance may be appropriate as a way to increase genetic variation and provide opportunities for a species to survive new climates. It is still best to seek advice about what to plant before introducing native plants from further afield.

The limited remaining bushland in the region means that many of the 400+ local plant species are vulnerable and some are extremely rare. Peppermint Box woodlands (*Eucalyptus odorata*) and Iron-grass Natural Temperate Grasslands (*Lomandra* species) are plant communities rated as critically endangered. You can help the Bushgardens play a role in showcasing and protecting local bushland by making a donation to the Friends of the Barossa Bushgardens.

Place  
Plants  
People





### with Native Plant Nursery

Walk, ride or wheelchair access  
7 days a week in daylight hours.

Community Centre and Nursery Open  
**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am – 4.30pm**

e bushgardens@barossa.sa.gov.au p 08 8563 8330

www.barossabushgardens.com.au  
facebook.com/barossabushgardens



**Map Key:**  
 Vehicle Track  
 Walking paths  
 Car parking  
*Paths are compacted gravel on flat ground*

- A** Community Centre
- B** Native Plant Nursery
- C** Nature Play
- D** Reconciliation Circle
- E** The Labyrinth

*Traditional Uses Trail Self-guided map at Community Centre*

- 1** Red Gum Floodplain
- 2** Old Gum Tree enclosure around 400yr old River Red Gum
- 3** Sensory Garden relaxing garden with seating
- 4** CFS Fire-Wise Garden smart design to protect against bushfire

- 5** Dementia Friendly Garden for carers and the cared for
- 6** Blue Gum Woodland and Grasslands
- 7** Eremophila Garden
- 8** Wetland seasonally flooded area

- 9** The Trellises Fenceline of Native Lilac and Old Man's Beard
- 10** Peppermint Gum Woodland
- 11** Honour Garden remembers those who started the Bushgardens
- 12** Barossa Rare Plants

- 13** The Sanctuary showcases plants for habitat
- 14** Central Garden
- 15** Australian Garden landscaping with native plants
- 16** Grassland Restoration Seed Nursery