

## Community-led initiative, supported by Local & State Government

### History

Barossa Bushgardens (BBG) commenced in 2001 in response to the need for a seedbank to be able to propagate and supply local Barossa plants in the context of 97% vegetation loss in the region. Prior to the Bushgardens, local Barossa species were not widely available unless seed collected and plants grown at home.

Initial plantings in rows bore witness to its role as a seedbank, whereas the idea of establishing more attractive display gardens evolved over the first decade. The initial community planting attracted over a hundred volunteers and took place in a 7 hectare bare cropping paddock, with only the stately 400 yr old 'Old Gum Tree' River Red Gum standing sentinel to this transformation.

Today, the gardens are home to about 130 of the 400+ species of plants that can be found in the region, some of which are rare or critically endangered. It showcases different plant associations, as well as display gardens filled with a diversity of vegetation.

Tubestock grown in the nursery are used to supply plants for the home garden, shelter belts, revegetation, grassland restoration, orchards, vineyards and other agricultural enterprises.

### Access

Most areas are wheel chair accessible and the BBG promote mental health and wellbeing through the Labyrinth and Dementia Friendly

Garden as well as offering weekly dementia and disability friendly workshops.

### Resources and Education

The BBG Natural Resource Centre (NRC) provides information to assist the community with sustainable living, land and natural resource management and ways of adapting to the changing climate.

The BBG hosts and facilitates regular workshops, presentations and field sessions to provide skills and knowledge development, to improve and enhance our environment.

### Management

The site is managed by the Barossa Bushgardens Section 41 Committee (of the Barossa Council) with the support of over 60 volunteers and two part-time staff. The Committee maintains a Strategic Plan and recently updated its Urban Design Framework (Master Plan). This work has been undertaken to ensure a co-ordinated and planned approach to any further works and/or developments.

### Community Connections

The BBG values its close relationships with many organisations, including environmental groups, mental health and disability support groups, Reconciliation Barossa, schools and childcare centres, landholders, farmers and local businesses.

### Friends of Barossa Bushgardens

Friends of Barossa Bushgardens (FoBB) help with the organization of events and workshops, as well as the development of information material and newsletters.

FoBB are key to assist in building relationships with other community organisations and raise funds for projects through grant applications and the co-ordination of donations.

To find out more about becoming a Friend, donating or being involved with the Barossa Bushgardens, contact the office and follow us online.



Keep an eye out for workshops and events.  
Visit The Barossa Council if you would like to volunteer.



- A** Volunteer Centre
- B** Community Nursery
- C** Reconciliation Circle
- D** Nature Play
- E** Labyrinth

- 1** The Old Gum Tree
- 2** Sensory Garden
- 3** CFS Fire Wise Garden
- 4** Dementia Friendly Garden
- 5** Blue Gum Woodland and Grassland

- 6** Eremophila Garden
- 7** Central Garden (+Mandala)
- 8** The Sanctuary (North+South)
- 9** The Trellises
- 10** Peppermint Box Garden
- 11** Honour Garden

- 12** Barossa Plant Collection
- 13** Truly Australian Front Garden
- 14** Food for the Soul Community Garden
- 15** Shelterbelt Display
- 16** Seed Production (Seeding Natives Inc.)
- 17** Red Gum Floodplain

Traditional Uses Trail Self-guided map available at the Volunteer Centre

Walk, ride or wheelchair access 7 days a week from sunrise to sunset.

Community Nursery and NRC (inside Volunteer Centre)  
Opening Hours:

Monday - by appointment  
 Tuesday - 9am to 4.30pm  
 Wednesday - 9am to 12.30pm  
 Thursday - 9am to 4.30pm  
 Friday - by appointment

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Follow us online for information to upcoming events and workshops

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/barossabushgardens](http://www.facebook.com/barossabushgardens)  
**Web:** [www.barossabushgardens.com.au](http://www.barossabushgardens.com.au)



**P** Car parking

Paths are compacted gravel on flat ground