

backyards for biodiversity

WILDLIFE-FRIENDLY GARDENS



If you have a garden where you live, there are lots of ways you can contribute to making it more welcoming for wildlife.

Find out about things you can do at your place to help protect flora and fauna that thrive in and around Smiths Lake.



Did you know?

Artificial light can affect wildlife: keep outdoor lights to a minimum, turn them off when you go to bed.

Grow natives

The best way to support native wildlife in your garden is to choose plants which are native to the area.

With the right species you can have a flowering garden all year round.

Easy to grow, natives are better for the environment and provide habitat for native birds, butterflies and lizards.

Natives are also naturally adapted to suit our conditions, being low maintenance, drought tolerant, and requiring minimal water.



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This project is supported by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust



Layer your garden

In developing your natural habitat garden, try to mimic the five structural layers of natural bushland. Plant upper and mid storey species and a shrub layer. Don't remove leaf litter.

Be a responsible pet owner

Feral and domestic cats are the biggest threat to native animals in the urban environment.

Domestic and wild animals can live side by side: desex domestic cats, build cat runs or modular pet parks for cats, keep dogs and cats in their yard, don't leave out extra food for pets because you might attract foxes or Indian myna birds.

Provide open water

Having some water in your garden will bring native animals in for a drink or a splash - from a birdbath to a pond. For larger water bodies ensure you have some stones or sticks to allow mammals, birds and insects the ability to move in and out. If you have a pond, add some local sedges and rushes as this will help attract local frogs.

Did you know?

Feeding wild birds can make them sick. Let them forage for themselves. You can enjoy watching them in their native setting.

Manage weeds

A weed is any plant growing in an area where it does not naturally occur and is not wanted.

Many bushland weeds are species that have escaped from suburban gardens. They invade bushland and displace native species, depriving native fauna of a source of food and habitat.

Remove introduced species from your backyard and replace invasive species with native alternatives.



Scan the QR code to find out more about Backyards for Biodiversity.

