



## Helping wildlife through drought and bushfires

Water stations are a simple but effective way to help wildlife through drought and fire. Before you set up your container or birdbath though, there's a few things to consider. To ensure your water station is suitable for a large variety of wildlife, here's some easy tips:

- Place the container in a shaded area to reduce evaporation and provide the animals with a cooler place to drink.
- If possible, dig the water container partially into the soil. This will help keep the water cooler, reduce evaporation and prevent larger wildlife from knocking the container over.
- Fill the container with clean, fresh water.
- Place a variety of different sticks, rocks and/or mesh in the water container. This will provide birds and animals with an area to perch and helps to prevent drowning.
- Consider placing fruit and other food appropriate for the species you have in the area nearby for native wildlife.
- Keep it in place and refill as necessary, until natural water sources are available again.



For rural landholders you may also wish to create a Wildlife Watering Pod.

These devices allow for just a small amount of water to be exposed at a time, reducing evaporation and the need to regularly refill the fountain.

Wildlife pods can be easily constructed from materials bought at the local hardware store.

For more information on constructing a watering pod download the instructions from the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website:

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au>

