
campbelltown
city council
NATIVE
GARDENING GUIDE
FOR THE CAMPBELLTOWN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION TO YOUR NATIVE GARDEN

The Campbelltown area, along with the broader Macarthur region, boasts a significant amount of native bushland and therefore a significant amount of native flora and fauna.
By planting a native garden, we can extend the bushland atmosphere into the urban landscapes, giving both the plant life and the many beautiful local species of birds, frogs, insects and reptiles a safe haven to thrive.

The purpose of this guide is to help local residents plant their own native garden.

As well as creating the ambience of bushland in our suburbs, native gardens have a number of other benefits. These benefits make native gardens an attractive alternative to planting introduced species on your property.

Native gardens:

- provide habitat for local wildlife, and improve the level of biodiversity in our region
- require less water
- require less fertiliser
- minimise the risk of weeds spreading into our local bushland
- attract native birds, thereby deterring pest birds such as Indian Mynas.

This guide contains some useful hints to consider when you plan your native garden, as well as a list of native species that are suitable for planting in the Campbelltown area. Should you have further queries, please contact your local nursery for advice.

THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN PLANNING YOUR NATIVE GARDEN...

Like any project around the home, planning is essential to successfully establish your native garden. Some time spent thinking and planning can maximise the benefits of your garden to your property. Here are some useful points to consider:

- Start your native garden in a small area of your property and gradually increase its size as time and money become available.
- Consider the microclimate of your property: The southern side of your house will generally be cooler and moister. The northern and western sides of your house are usually hotter and more exposed to the elements. This means you need to consider what type of species you are going to plant and whether it likes direct sunlight/shade or moist/dry conditions.
- Check your soil. Good soil quality is the foundation of a healthy native garden. There are three soil types; sandy, clay and loam.
- Make a plan. It is easier to work with the environmental features of your garden rather than against them.

HERE ARE SOME THINGS TO CONSIDER FOR YOUR PLAN...

- **THE MICROCLIMATE –** your backyard can have a completely different climate to your neighbour's backyard.
- **THE SLOPE OF THE SITE –** if you have a steep sloping garden, you may need to think about creating drainage lines so that your plants have the best chance of survival.
- **PATHS AND VIEWS –** before you start planting your garden, it is useful to think about what you want the end result to be and how you want to move through the space you have created.
- **SOIL TYPE –** knowing what type of soil you have will help you decide what type of plants you are going to want for your backyard (see page 5).
- **EXISTING TREES AND PLANTS –** what sort of plants already exist in your backyard? Talk to your local nursery about what species go well together, both for looks and function.
- **SPACE FOR A GARDEN SHED AND COMPOST, ENTERTAINING AREAS –** make sure you leave enough space to enjoy a cup of tea with your friends in your newly created haven.
- **RAISED BEDS TO IMPROVE DRAINAGE (NATIVES LIKE WELL-DRAINED SOIL) –** if you do have tough soil to grow plants, look at creating a no-dig garden that can help with drainage and with your back! (see pages 22 & 23).
- **BUDGET –** it is a good idea to think about the cost of all these elements before you begin.
- **TRAIN YOUR PLANTS TO BE WATERWISE –** do this by thoroughly watering your garden at well-spaced intervals.
- **YOU CAN PLANT YOUR NATIVE GARDEN IN STAGES OVER A NUMBER OF YEARS –** this allows for trees to grow and mature and for shrubs and smaller plants to be planted underneath them.

PLANTING

Generally, winter temperatures in Campbelltown get quite low, with early morning frost not uncommon. This makes it difficult for seeds and/or seedlings to take hold in the garden. During these colder weeks you can start to plan your garden, get control of weeds and throw some mulch and/or compost down to get those soil micro-organisms working. This means that when winter is coming to an end and those early mornings are frost-free, your soil and garden will be ready to be planted out.

1. Identify the appropriate location in your garden, as described on the plant label.
2. Thoroughly soak the plant while it is still in the pot.
3. If planting into hard ground, loosen the soil over a space of approximately one square metre.
4. Once soil is loosened or if planting into an established garden bed, dig a hole the same depth as the pot you are planting from and a little wider. Fill the hole with water and allow it to drain.
5. Remove plant from the pot, check and straighten any curly roots.
6. Place plant in hole, roots pointing down.
7. Fill the hole and firm down with your hands.
8. Water in your plant.

NATIVE GARDEN TROUBLE-SHOOTING

You may need to check your soil type and condition through a soil test. The plants you are using may not be suitable for your area or may be planted in the wrong part of your garden. The native plant list in this guide includes information on which species are best suited to which soil types. You should also analyse the frequency at which you are watering your plants. Many natives only require a small amount of water and become stressed if they are over watered.

MY NATIVES ARE NOT FLOWERING...HELP!

Seasonal variation may affect this, along with the amount of sun or shade in the plant's location. Pruning at the wrong time and water stress can also be a factor.

MULCHING AND FERTILISING

The great thing about native plants is that they don't need to be fertilised very often. Initially, it can be beneficial to fertilise newly planted natives. If doing so, make sure you use a native-specific fertiliser which has little to no phosphorous. This type of fertiliser is available at nurseries, hardware stores and supermarkets. Mature natives that are well established don't require fertilising.

MOST OF THE COMMONLY CULTIVATED AUSTRALIAN PLANTS HAVE ADAPTED TO GROW IN NUTRIENT-POOR SOIL. THIS MEANS THAT, UNLIKE OTHER PLANTS AROUND THE WORLD, OUR NATIVE PLANTS ONLY NEED A FRACTION OF CERTAIN PLANT NUTRIENTS LIKE PHOSPHOROUS TO GROW WELL.

YOUR AVERAGE GARDEN FERTILISER WILL HAVE TOO MUCH PHOSPHOROUS IN IT FOR YOUR NATIVE PLANTS.
SO WHEN YOU BUY YOUR FERTILISER, MAKE SURE IT IS A NATIVE PLANT SPECIES-SPECIFIC FERTILISER. THIS WILL BE JUST WHAT THE PLANT DOCTOR ORDERED.

Mulching your garden is a fantastic alternative to fertilisers. It can boost the activity of soil micro-organisms and will improve the water holding capacity of the soil. Mulch should be spread to a depth of 5cm, and topped up annually.

Be sure the mulch you use does not contain seeds of weeds. Poor quality mulch may contain weed seeds. This can breed unwanted competition for your native garden. Most suppliers will confirm the presence or absence of weed in their mulch.

WATERING

1. Water your plant thoroughly, at well-spaced intervals.
2. Water your plant around its drip line. This is the area under the plant canopy.
3. Always water in the cooler parts of the day. Early morning is best.
4. Water less once the plant is established.

SOIL TYPES

The Campbelltown area has a number of soil types, which have different characteristics. Plants are often suited to particular soil conditions. If you know your soil type, you can choose vegetation appropriate to your garden and get the best results.

So what does it mean to have sandy, clay, silt or even loamy soil? There are differences in these soil types and these differences mean some plants will thrive while others will not. Below is a brief description of the difference in soil types that are found in Campbelltown.

1. SANDY

Sandy soils have particles which are easily visible to the unaided eye, and are usually light in colour. Sand feels course when wet or dry, and if moist will not form a ball when squeezed in your fist. Sandy soils stay loose and allow moisture to penetrate easily, but do not hold water for later use.

2. CLAY

Clay soils are made of very small particles. They feel slick, sticky and wet. Clay soils hold moisture well, but resist water and even air infiltration because the particles are so small. Often puddles form on clay soils and they become easily compacted.

3. SILT/LOAM

Silt soils and loam soils are similar in that they are the soils between the sandy and clay soils. They are made up of rock and mineral particles that are larger than clay but smaller than sand. Silt soil is usually more fertile than other types of soil, with a good balance of holding water and letting air move through, while a loam is said to be the perfect soil for growing plants. In many areas of Australia, it is unlikely that you would find a 'true loam', halfway between a sandy soil and a clay soil. Some loams will have properties similar to sandy soil, while others will be closer to clay soil.

WHATEVER TYPE OF SOIL YOU HAVE, YOU CAN IMPROVE IT AND KEEP IT HEALTHY BY ADDING ORGANIC MATTER, SUCH AS COMPOST, MULCH AND MANURES...

HOW TO TEST WHAT TYPE OF SOIL IS IN YOUR BACKYARD...

There are several tests you can use to discover what type of soil exists in your backyard. The following tests range from very simple and quick to scientifically precise. No matter what test you use, you will learn much more about your soil than you knew previously.

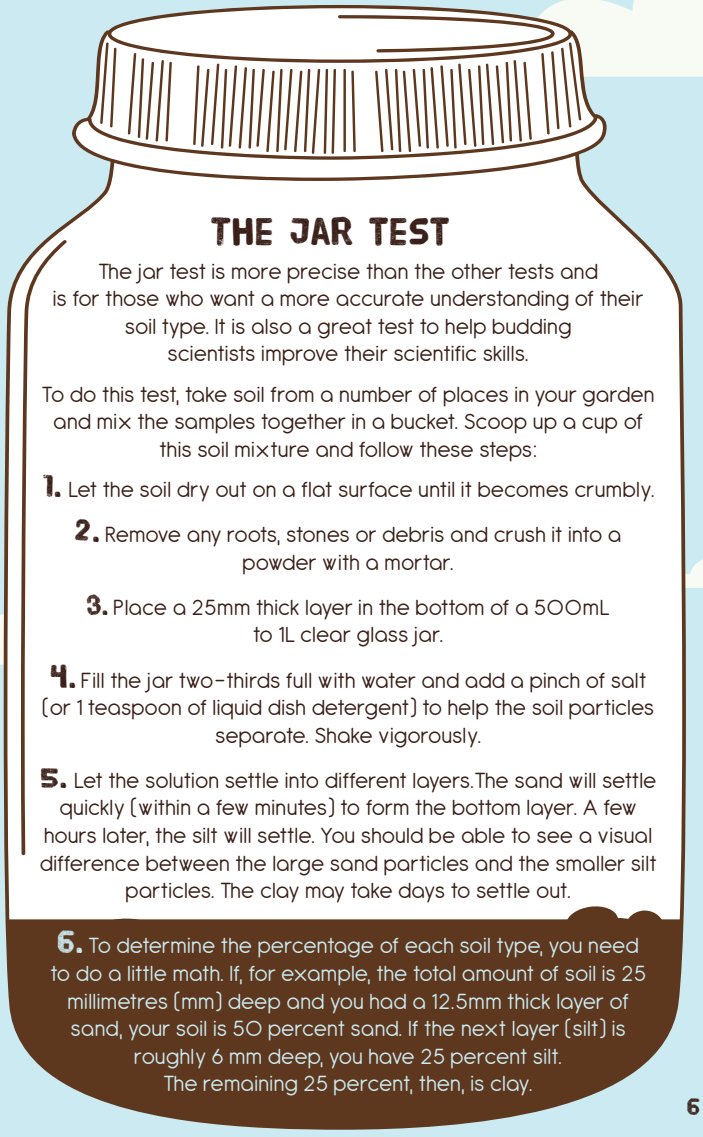
THE SQUEEZE TEST

To do this test, be sure your soil is damp, but not soaking wet. Grab a small handful of the soil in your hand. Rub some of the soil between your fingers. If it feels gritty, it's mostly sand. If it feels slick and slimy, it's mostly clay.

THE RIBBON TEST

Take a handful of damp soil and make a ribbon by rolling the soil between your hands.

If you can form a ribbon and hold it vertically without it breaking, you have mostly clay soil. If you can make a ribbon, but it breaks off when you try to hold it up, you probably have somewhere between 25 and 50 per cent clay in your soil. If you can't make a ribbon at all, chances are your soil is more than half sand.



THE JAR TEST

The jar test is more precise than the other tests and is for those who want a more accurate understanding of their soil type. It is also a great test to help budding scientists improve their scientific skills.

To do this test, take soil from a number of places in your garden and mix the samples together in a bucket. Scoop up a cup of this soil mixture and follow these steps:

1. Let the soil dry out on a flat surface until it becomes crumbly.
2. Remove any roots, stones or debris and crush it into a powder with a mortar.
3. Place a 25mm thick layer in the bottom of a 500mL to 1L clear glass jar.
4. Fill the jar two-thirds full with water and add a pinch of salt (or 1 teaspoon of liquid dish detergent) to help the soil particles separate. Shake vigorously.
5. Let the solution settle into different layers.The sand will settle quickly (within a few minutes) to form the bottom layer. A few hours later, the silt will settle. You should be able to see a visual difference between the large sand particles and the smaller silt particles. The clay may take days to settle out.
6. To determine the percentage of each soil type, you need to do a little math. If, for example, the total amount of soil is 25 millimetres (mm) deep and you had a 12.5mm thick layer of sand, your soil is 50 percent sand. If the next layer (silt) is roughly 6 mm deep, you have 25 percent silt. The remaining 25 percent, then, is clay.

STRUCTURE OF VEGETATION

Vegetation structure can differ greatly from plant to plant. The following plant species come in a variety of shapes and sizes that ecologists group into vegetation structures:

TREES

Trees are a large woody plant whose stem is bare low to the ground and carries branches at its top.

SHRUBS

Shrubs are small to medium-sized woody plants. They differ from a tree by having many stems and a shorter height, usually less than six metres tall.

CLIMBERS

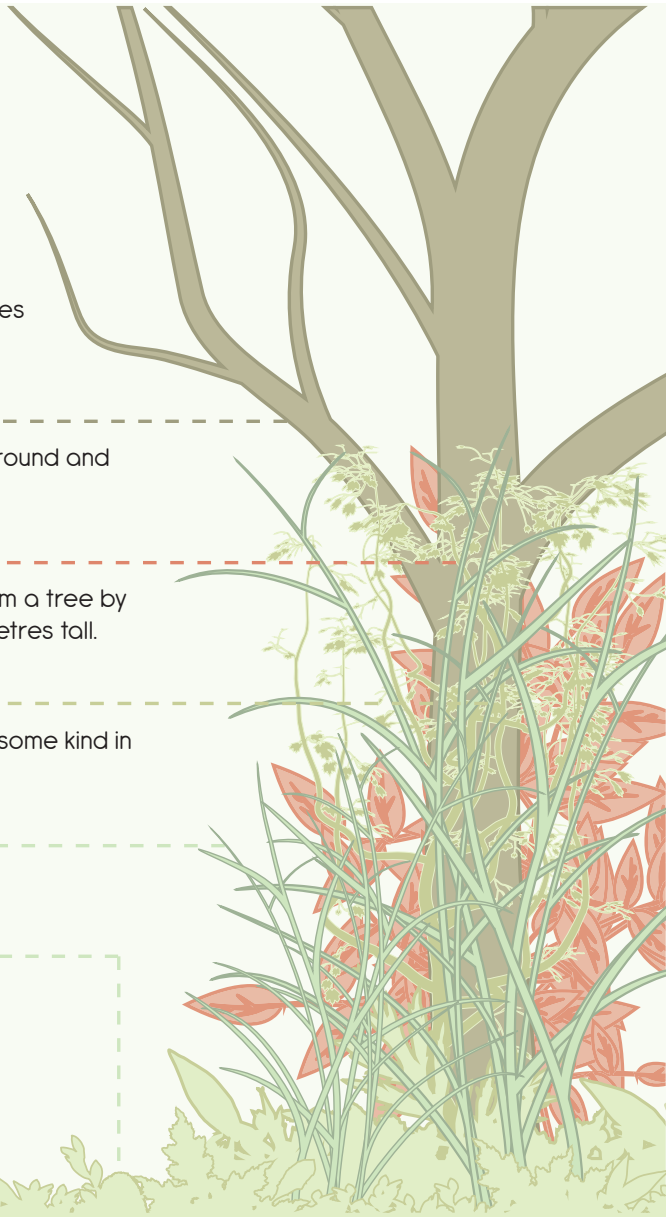
Climbers are a group of plants or vines which need support of some kind in your garden to grow vertically.

GRASSES

Grasses are typically short plants with long, narrow leaves.

GROUND COVERS

Groundcover plants refer to any plant that grows over an area of ground. They are often used to provide protection from erosion and drought.



NATIVE PLANTS SUITABLE FOR YOUR GARDEN...

Chose from species that are native to the Sydney Basin and in particular, the Campbelltown area.
Please check with your local nursery prior to purchasing plants in order to ensure that they will be suitable for your garden, in terms of soil type, exposure to the sun, water needs etc.

1. SCIENTIFIC NAME

Each plant has a single name that is used worldwide to identify it. By using the scientific name or the botanical name of the plant it prevents people from confusing different species of plants as it serves as an international language, gives information on where the plant grows and how it looks and indicates species that are related.

2. COMMON NAME

The main advantage of using common plant names is ease of usage and common understanding in certain geographical areas and it helps to prevent confusion among people who are not aware of the scientific name of the plant.

3. FEATURES

Each plant will have different features. The key at the bottom of each plant list will help you understand what soil that plant prefers, whether it attracts native fauna and if it is native to the Campbelltown area.

4. CHARACTERISTICS

Here you can learn what features the native plant has. It details the height to which the plant grows and what you can expect the plant to look like.

THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE PLANTING LARGE TREES

Trees are a vital part of Campbelltown City. They provide a number of benefits for both people and the environment.

ONE LARGE TREE CAN PROVIDE A DAY'S SUPPLY OF OXYGEN FOR A FAMILY OF FOUR AND IN ONE YEAR, ABSORB 21 KILOGRAMS OF CARBON DIOXIDE OUT OF THE AIR, THEREBY PREVENTING IT FROM GOING INTO THE ATMOSPHERE.

However, trees can cause a number of problems if planted in an unsuitable position. They can cause damage to footpaths, underground pipes, buildings and can also create problems for neighbours by blocking sunlight or dropping leaves and branches. With some simple planning, you can prevent these problems from occurring.

For more information about planting trees in the Campbelltown area, access a copy of Council's Tree Planting Guide at: campbelltown.nsw.gov.au/trees or contact Council's Environment team on 4645 4601 and ask to have a copy sent out to your home!

Corymbia Gummifera Red
BLOODWOOD

Angophora Floribunda
SMOOTH-BARKED APPLE

Tristaniopsis Laurina
WATER GUM

LARGE TREES

Note: Not all tree species will be suitable for residential gardens. You should consider the size of trees once fully grown when determining whether a tree species would be suitable for your property.

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FEATURES	CHARACTERISTICS
ALLOCASUARINA LITTORALIS	BLACK SHE-OAK	S N F	Tree is about 12 metres tall. Hard rugged bark and slender branches. Flowers May to June.
ALLOCASUARINA TORULOSA	FOREST OAK	C N F	Graceful tree 12 to 20 metres tall. Hard, deeply furrowed bark with corky appearance. Flowers March to September.
ANGOPHORA COSTATA	SMOOTH-BARKED APPLE	S N F	Characteristic tree of the Sydney area. Grows to 25 metres. Branches are often twisted and gnarled. Flowers mostly November to December.
ANGOPHORA FLORIBUNDA	ROUGH-BARKED APPLE	S C N	Medium to large spreading tree to 25 metres with a short furrowed, fibrous-barked trunk. Frequently with lower crooked branches hanging close to the ground. Flowers October to December.
ANGOPHORA SUBVELUTINA	BROAD-LEAVED APPLE	C N F	Characteristic tree of the Sydney area. Grows to 25 metres. Recognised by its dense light green foliage. Flowers October to December.
CASUARINA GLAUCA	SWAMP OAK	S N F	Neat and pyramidal when young but matures into a scraggly tree to 20 metres. Flowers May to August.
CORYMBIA GUMMIFERA	RED BLOODWOOD	S N F	Grows up to 15 metres tall. Flowers January to April.
CORYMBIA MACULATA	SPOTTED GUM	S N F	Medium to tall tree growing 15 to 22 metres tall. Easily recognised by its smooth mottled bark. Flowers May to September.
EUCALYPTUS AMPLIFOLIA	CABBAGE GUM	C N F	Medium sized tree common on low-lying parts of the Cumberland Plain. Similar to Forest Red Gum but easily distinguished by its very broad leaves. Flowers November to January.
EUCALYPTUS EUGENIOIDES	THIN-LEAVED STRINGYBARK	C N F	Medium sized tree growing to 25 metres. Utilised by koalas within the Campbelltown LGA. Flowers September to December.
EUCALYPTUS MOLUCCANA	GREY BOX	C N F	Medium sized tree with a spreading crown. Most common species on the Cumberland Plain. Flowers January to April.

KEY: S = SAND C = CLAY L = SILK/LOAM N = NATIVE TO THE CAMPBELLTOWN AREA F = FAUNA ATTRACTING = KOALA FOOD TREE

LARGE TREES...CONTINUED

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FEATURES	CHARACTERISTICS
EUCALYPTUS SIDEROXYLON	MUGGA IRONBARK	S F	Medium size tree to 25 metres. Easily recognised by its blue-grey foliage, often covered with a fine protective dust or bloom. Flowers April to October.
SYNCARPIA GLOMULIFERA	TURPENTINE	C N F	Has grey, fibrous bark and dark grey-green foliage. Shelter tree for koalas within the Campbelltown LGA. Flowers September to November.
TRISTANIOPSIS LAURINA	WATER GUM	S N	Small spreading tree can grow to 15 metres. Bark becomes scaled with age. Flowers December to February.

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SMALL TREES AND LARGE SHRUBS

Syzygium Australe
BRUSH CHERRY

Persoonia Levis
BROAD-LEAF GEEBUNG

Xanthorrea Australis
AUSTRAL GRASS TREE

SMALL TREES AND LARGE SHRUBS

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FEATURES	CHARACTERISTICS
ACACIA DECURRENS	BLACK WATTLE	C N F	Medium sized tree with dark grey to black bark. It has bright yellow flowers from July to September.
ACACIA IMPLEXA	HICKORY WATTLE	S C N	Large shrub or small tree, 4 to 10 metres tall with graceful willowy foliage. Yellow flowers January to March.
ACACIA FALCATA	SICKLE WATTLE	C N F	Large shrub or small tree, to 5 metres. Droopy leaves, cream flowers April to July.
ACACIA FLORIBUNDA	SALLY WATTLE	S C N F	Rounded shrub growing 2 to 4 metres tall. Pale yellow flowers August to September.
ACACIA PARRAMATTENSIS	SYDNEY GREEN WATTLE	C N F	Small tree to 8 metres. Pale yellow flowers in October to February.
ACMENA SMITHII	LILLYPILLY	S C F	A shrub or small tree with dense glossy foliage, edible fruit with sour, refreshing flavour. Cream white flowers November to February.
ALPHITONIA EXCELSA	RED ASH	S	Small tree 6 to 10 metres. Leaves are dark green and glossy on top and whitish underneath. Flowers are numerous, small and cream in colour. Flowers December to March.
ANGOPHORA BAKERI	NARROW-LEAVED APPLE	S N	Compact rough-barked tree growing to a maximum of 15 metres. Cream flowers December to January.
BACKHOUSIA MYRTIFOLIA	GREY MYRTLE	S C N	Spreading shrub growing 3 to 4 metres with dark green foliage. Cream and green flowers November to December.
BANKSIA ERICIFOLIA	HEATH BANKSIA	S C N F	Rounded shrub growing 2 to 5 metres. Orange flowers April to August.
BANKSIA SERRATA	OLD MAN BANKSIA, SAW BANKSIA	S N F	Shrub or small tree, 4 to 8 metres tall with a rough barked trunk, leathery leaves and bristly flower spikes. Flowers December to June.
BANKSIA SPINULOSA	HAIRPIN BANKSIA	C N F	Erect rounded shrub to 2 metres high with narrow upright leaves. Golden yellow to orange flower spikes appear March to September.
BURSARIA SPINOSA	BLACKTHORN	C N F	Erect prickly shrub 2 to 3 metres tall. Small white, 5-petalled fragrant flowers January to April sometimes August.
CALLISTEMON CITRINUS	CRIMSON BOTTLEBRUSH	S N F	Erect shrub to 2 metres with lemon-scented leaves. Flowers March to May and October to December.

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SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FEATURES	CHARACTERISTICS
CALLISTEMON SALIGNUS	WILLOW BOTTLEBRUSH	S C N F	Tall shrub, 3 to 4 metres tall with cream flowers September to October. Likes moist soil.
CERATOPETALUM GUMMIFERUM	CHRISTMAS BUSH	S N	Shrub growing 2 to 4 metres tall, with small, white flowers and pink sepals October to November.
DODONAEA TRIQUETRA	COMMON HOP BUSH	S C N F	Erect shrub 1 to 3 metres tall. Flowers chiefly in July to October but often at other times.
ELAEOCARPUS RETICULATUS	BLUEBERRY ASH	S N F	Straight tree usually 4 to 10 metres. Fantastic in summer with masses of white flowers like fringed lampshades appearing October to December. Has blue berries and leaves which turn red before falling.
EXOCARPUS CUPRESSIFORMIS	CHERRY BALLART	S N	A tall shrub or small tree, 2 to 6 metres. Resembles a cypress with red fleshy fruit.
HAKEA SERICEA	NEEDLE-BUSH	S N F	Tall shrub up to 3 metres tall. Abundant white flowers appear June to September.
JACKSONIA SCOPARIA	DOGWOOD	S N	Grey-green shrub to 3 metres. Yellow and red pea flowers October to November.
MELALEUCA DECORA	WHITE FEATHER HONEY MYRTLE	C N F	Shrub or large tree, 3 to 7 metres tall. Sweet-smelling creamy white flowers November to January.
MELALEUCA LINARIIFOLIA	SNOW IN SUMMER	S C N F	Small tree to 8 metres with paperbark. Dense spikes of 'fluffy' cream flowers appear October to January.
MELALEUCA STYPHELIOIDES	PRICKLY-LEAVED PAPER BARK	S N F	Small to medium tree 6 to 15 metres tall with papery bark. Has sharp pointy leaves and cream coloured flowers. Common on the Cumberland Plain. Flowers from November to December.
PERSOONIA LEVIS	BROAD-LEAF GEEBUNG	S N F	Medium to tall shrub growing up to 4 metres tall. It has black flaky, papery bark which is a brilliant red underneath. Flowers mainly September to December, but some flowers at other times.
SYZYGIUM AUSTRALE	BRUSH CHERRY	S C F	Small tree, 3 to 8 metres tall, with dark dense foliage. Edible pink to red succulent fruit. White flowers January to April.
XANTHORREA AUSTRALIS	AUSTRAL GRASS TREE	S C F	Short black trunked plant with long grass like leaves growing to 1 metre depending on age. Creamy white flowering spikes 1 to 2 metres long in November to December.

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SMALL AND MEDIUM SHRUBS

Grevillea Sericea
PINK SPIDER FLOWER

Callistemon Subulatus Dwarf
BOTTLEBRUSH

Melaleuca Thymifolia Thyme
HONEY MYRTLE

SMALL AND MEDIUM SHRUBS

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FEATURES	CHARACTERISTICS
CALLISTEMON SUBULATUS	DWARF BOTTLEBRUSH	S C F	Small, red flowering bottlebrush, 1 to 2 metres tall. Flowers October to February.
DAVIESIA ULICIFOLIA	GORSE BITTER PEA	C N	Erect spiky shrub about 1 metre tall. Small, yellow and red-brown petals in colour. Flowers August to November.
DIANELLA REVOLUTA	SPREADING FLAX LILY	S C N F	Tufted lily to 1 metre with mauve to blue colours. Flowers October to January. Fruit is a blue berry.
DILLWYNIA SIEBERI	EGGS & BACON, PARROT PEA	C N	High erect spiky shrub to 1.5 metres tall, covered in sparse stiff prickly leaves. Flowers August to October.
DORYANTHES EXCELSA	PEA GYMEA LILY	S C N F	Clumping plant with wide thick leaves 1 to 2 metres long. Deep red flowers are carried on a spear-like stalk up to 4 metres tall during August to November.
ERIOSTEMON AUSTRALASIUS	PINK WAX FLOWER	S N	Erect shrub usually 1 to 2 metres tall. Easily recognised by the large pink flowers and thick grey-green foliage. Flowers September to October.
GREVILLEA JUNIPERINA	PRICKLY SPIDER FLOWER	S F	Tall rounded shrub to 2 metres with dark needle-like leaves. Clusters of yellow/orange flowers appear June – November with some flowers occurring as late as January.
GREVILLEA MUCRONULATA	GREEN SPIDER FLOWER	S N F	Shrub 1 to 2 metres tall. Green or red and green in colour. Flowers April to October.
GREVILLEA SERICEA	PINK SPIDER FLOWER	S C N F	Shrub 1 to 2 metres tall with pink flowers mostly July to November, but some flowers at other times.
HIBBERTIA ASPERA	ROUGH GUINEA FLOWER	S N	Small shrub often only 20 to 25cm but may grow up to 60cm tall. Yellow flowers August to December.
INDIGOPHERA AUSTRALIS	NATIVE INDIGO	S C N F	Small shrub 1 to 1.5 metres tall. Bright pink pea shaped flowers August to September.
KUNZEA AMBIGUA	TICK BUSH	S N F	Small shrub 2 to 3 metres tall with white, fragrant flowers October to December.

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SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FEATURES	CHARACTERISTICS
LEPTOSPERMUM POLYGALIFOLIUM	YELLOW TEA TREE	S N	Graceful shrub 2 to 3 metres tall. White flowers August to December.
MELALEUCA THYMIFOLIA	THYME HONEY MYRTLE	S C N	Small shrub to about 1 metre tall with slender wiry stems, corky bark and delicate feathery pink/mauve flowers. Flowering mainly October to January, but some flowers other times.
OLEARIA MICROPHYLLA	SMALL-LEAVED DAISY BUSH	S N	Shrub up to 1 metre tall. Small white flowers are borne abundantly along branches during August to November.
OZOTHAMNUS DIOSMIFOLIUM	SAGO FLOWER	S C N	Large branched shrub, often 2 metres or more tall, with narrow crowded leaves and large terminal white flower clusters. Flowers October to December.
PERSOONIA LINEARIS	NARROW-LEAF GEEBUNG	S C N	Attractive shrub can grow quite tall, but usually only 2 to 3 metres tall. Yellow flowers are borne near the end of branches in December to July.
PULTENAEA VILLOSA	WILLDENOW	S C N	Leafy softly spreading or erect shrub 0.5 to 2 metres tall. Abundant yellow flowers August to October.

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Olearia Microphylla

Doryanthes Excelsa

GROUND COVERS, CLIMBERS AND GRASSES

Cheilanthes Distans
BRISTLY CLOAK-FERN

Aristida Ramosa
THREE-AWN SPEARGRASS

Viola Hederacea
NATIVE VIOLET

GROUND COVERS, CLIMBERS AND GRASSES

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FEATURES	CHARACTERISTICS
ARISTIDA RAMOSA	THREE-AWN SPEARGRASS	S N	Grass with 20 to 50 centimetres tall florets (reduced flower of grass) twisted just below the bristle – like appendages. Flowers December to April.
BAUMEA SPP.	SQUARE TWIG-RUSH BARE TWIG-RUSH SOFT TWIG-RUSH JOINTED TWIG-RUSH	S N	Rhizomatous perennial sedges which have clumps of erect stems.Fruit is a nut and flowering can occur from August to December. Flowers are spiky and reddish brown.
BLANDFORDIA SPP.	CHRISTMAS BELL	S C N	Erect perennials with showy red bell-shaped flowers with yellow lobes. Flowers December to February.
BRUNONIELLA AUSTRALIS	BLUE YAM	S N	Small erect herb 15 to 30 centimetres. Mauve-blue flowers from October to December.
CAREX SPP.	STRAND SEDGE DROOPING SEDGE TUFTED SEDGE TALL SEDGE	S N	Perennial herbs with flat leaves often with scabrous margins. Fruit is a nut and flowering occurs during September to December. Flowers are spiky and reddish brown.
CHEILANTHES DISTANS	BRISTLY CLOAK-FERN	S C N	Small short creeping fern to 15 centimetres. Easily recognised by its short, erect hairy fronds.
GAHNIA SPP.	ROUGH SAW-SEDGE BLACK-FRUIT SAW-SEDGE SLENDER SAW-SEDGE RED-FRUITED SAW SEDGE CHAFFY SAW-SEDGE	S N	Tufted perennials with leafy stems. Leaves are strappy. Spikelets usually with flowers which are black and orange.
GLYCINE TABACINA	LOVE CREEPER	C N	Slender trailing plant, pink to mauve flowers with long racemes (stalked flowers). Flowers September to November. Non-invasive.
GOODENIA HEDERACEA	IVY GOODENIA	S N	Small perennial herb to 25 centimetres with toothed leaves. Yellow flowers, mainly in September to March, with some flowers at other times.

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GROUND COVERS, CLIMBERS AND GRASSES... CONTINUED

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FEATURES	CHARACTERISTICS
ACTINOTUS HELIANTHI	FLANNEL FLOWER	S N	Slender herb 30 to 40 centimetres tall. Entire plant is covered in a dense layer of whitish woolly hairs, and its white flowers with green tips are similar to a daisy. Flowers September to January.
ADIANTUM AETHIOPICUM	COMMON MAIDENHAIR FERN	S C N	Delicate fern 15 to 40 centimetres tall. Well known and popular.
ARTHROPODIUM MILLEFLORUM	PALE VANILLA LILY	S N	Branching slender herb 20 to 50 centimetres tall, with narrow flat, grass like leaves about 20 centimetres long rising from the base. Flowers are pale lilac and appear in clusters of two or three along an erect flowering stem from November to December.
CLEMATIS ARISTATA	OLD MAN'S BEARD	S C N	A vigorous twining climber with masses of white flowers from October to November and fluffy clusters of fruit.
DICHONDRA REPENS	KIDNEY WEED	S C N	Inconspicuous herb, with hairless creeping stems. Leaves are kidney shaped. Flowers are small and yellowish white from September to December.
DIANELLA CAERULEA	PAROO LILY, BLUE FLAX LILY	S C N F	Tufted herb approx 50 centimetres tall with hard, stiff, glossy leaves 30 to 50 centimetres long. Rich blue with yellow anthers. Flowers appear October to February and are bright blue and edible.
DIANELLA LONGIFOLIA	SMOOTH FLAX LILY	S C N F	An erect tufted herb to 80 centimetres. Flowers are pale blue with orange anthers. Fruit is a white to blue berry. Flowers October to January.
EREMOPHILA DEBILIS	WINTER APPLE	C N F	An attractive ground cover plant, with prostrate stems up to 1 metre long. Flowers are pink to mauve, October to April.
HARDENBERGIA VIOLACEA	PURPLE TWINING-PEA	S C N	Scrambling vine with rich purple flowers July to October. Non invasive.
HIBBERTIA DIFFUSA	GUINEA FLOWER	S C N	Small prostrate or sprawling shrub around 50 centimetres long. Yellow flowers August to February.
KENNEDIA RUBICUNDA	DUSKY CORAL PEA	C	Robust climber with large red pea flowers July to November, with some flowers at other times. Non-invasive.
LOMANDRA FILIFORMIS	WATTLE MAT-RUSH	C N	Tufted plant characterised by narrow incurved or inrolled leaves up to 30 centimetres long. Cream coloured flowers October to December.

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GROUND COVERS, CLIMBERS AND GRASSES... CONTINUED

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FEATURES	CHARACTERISTICS
LOMANDRA LONGIFOLIA	SPINY-HEADED MAT-RUSH	C N	Large tufted herb with tough strap-like leaves about 50 centimetres long. Flowers are cylindrical and creamy, often with purple centres. Flowers appear August to December.
LOMANDRA MULTIFLORA	MANY FLOWERED MAT-RUSH	C N	Tufted plant with thick leaves 40 to 70 centimetres long. Characterised by abundant yellow flowers which are borne in clusters on flower stems up to 30 centimetres tall. Flowers September to January.
PANDOREA PANDORANA	WONGA-WONGA VINE	S C N F	A woody climber with branches several metres long. Flowers are tubular and white with purple markings. Non-invasive. Flowers August to September.
PIMELEA LINIFOLIA	SLENDER RICE FLOWER	S C N F	Low clumped shrub 30 to 40 centimetres tall with abundant white flowers. Flowers are occasionally tinged with pink. Flowers mainly in July to October.
VIOLA HEDERACEA	NATIVE VIOLET	S C N	Small herb which spreads by runners. Leaf blades are kidney shaped or oval. Flowers are white to pale violet with darker blotches towards the centre. Flowers mainly September to December, with a few flowers at other times.
PATERSONIA SPP.	PURPLE-FLAG	S	Small herbs with rhizomes. Flowers are fragile and short-lived with three broad petals. Leaves are tough, stiff, linear and overlapping. Flowers September to December.
STYPANDRA GLAUCA	NODDING BLUE LILY	S	Erect herb, up to 1 metre. Leaves are in an unusual fishbone arrangement. Flowers are blue with yellow stamens and are borne on nodding stalks in branching clusters. Flowers mainly in July to October, with some flowers at other times.
THEMEDA AUSTRALIS	KANGAROO GRASS	S C F	Very common native grass up to 1 metre, with distinctive brown and purplish spikelet clusters. Flowers September to March.

KEY: S = SAND C = CLAY L = SILK/LOAM N = NATIVE TO THE CAMPBELLTOWN AREA F = FAUNA ATTRACTING

NO SPACE? NO PROBLEM! CREATE A NO-DIG GARDEN

If you lack space in your backyard, have trouble bending over into the garden, have very poor soil, or no soil at all, the no-dig garden is the perfect option for you. It allows you to have your veggies and eat them too!

The no-dig garden is what the name suggests – a garden that requires no digging with an above-ground option that allows you to build a garden on virtually any base that is perfect for your height.

Some people like to leave the whole bed until it has broken down, but it is not always necessary. Initially it is better to grow established seedlings in a new no-dig garden rather than direct sowing. The best plants to use are potatoes and shallow rooted plants like lettuce and bok choy, and even some annuals and perennials.

Once the garden is more mature, it is much easier to establish the deeper-rooted crops like carrot, beetroot and potato, when the soil has broken down.

TO CREATE A NO-DIG GARDEN REQUIRES A FEW INGREDIENTS THAT YOU CAN COLLECT FROM YOUR LOCAL NURSERY:

- lucerne hay (alternatively you could use pea-straw or crop-straw)
- organic fertiliser-a chicken manure
- straw
- compost
- worms

TO BUILD YOUR NO-DIG GARDEN, FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE STEPS...

STEP 1

Mark out the area you want to build your garden with bricks or any material that will contain the soil when it is built. It can be as big or small as you like

STEP 2

Cover the entire area with wads of newspaper a good half centimetre thick (this will smother any weeds if you are building on soil). Overlap the pages and avoid using as much coloured print as possible. Water the newspaper well so that it starts breaking down immediately.

STEP 3

Cover the area with pads of lucerne hay, which will break down easily. This could be substituted by pea-straw or crop-straw like rye or canola, whatever is cheap and available. Water the straw lightly.

STEP 4

Next, apply a layer of organic fertiliser. Chicken manure is excellent because it has high amounts of nitrogen, which helps to breakdown high carbon materials, but any farm manure will perform the function.

STEP 5

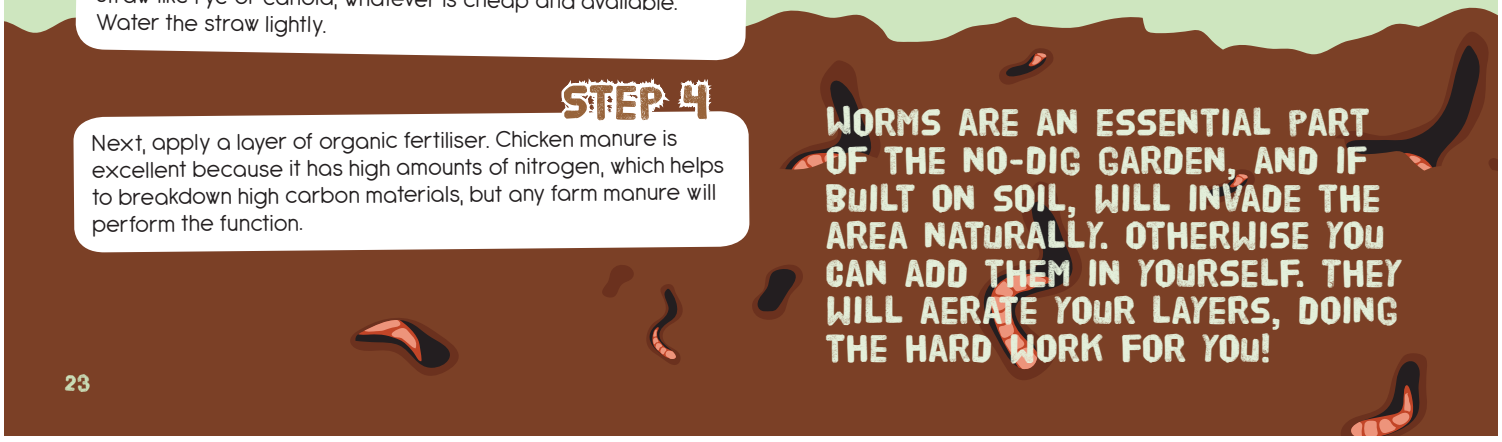
Add a 20 centimetre layer of loose straw.

STEP 6

Add another layer of manure and again water lightly. Of course, you can create as many layers as you like.

STEP 7

Finally, you will need some good compost to plant the seeds and seedlings into. If there is enough available, the whole surface area of the garden could be covered with compost to about 10 centimetre. Alternatively, pockets of compost can be created for planting so that it can support a new plant while the new garden is breaking down.



WORMS ARE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE NO-DIG GARDEN, AND IF BUILT ON SOIL, WILL INVADE THE AREA NATURALLY. OTHERWISE YOU CAN ADD THEM IN YOURSELF. THEY WILL AERATE YOUR LAYERS, DOING THE HARD WORK FOR YOU!

HELP PROTECT OUR LOCAL KOALAS

Campbelltown residents are blessed, having a large amount of native bushland within their reach. This means koala sightings are not an uncommon occurrence!

If you have the space available, you can help this vulnerable species by planting trees that are suitable for the koala as both a food source and habitat.

As the following list of trees will grow quite large, it is recommended you read Council's Tree Planting Guide at campbelltown.nsw.gov.au/Trees before planting.

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME
PRIMARY	
Eucalyptus tereticornis	Forest red gum
Eucalyptus viminalis	Ribbon gum
SECONDARY	
Eucalyptus longifolia	Woolybutt
Eucalyptus moluccana	Grey box
Eucalyptus punctata	Grey gum
SUPPLEMENTARY / STRINGYBARK	
Eucalyptus agglomerata	Blue-leaved Stringybark
Eucalyptus consideniana	Yertchuk
Eucalyptus globoidea	White Stringybark

HELP PROTECT OUR LOCAL KOALAS...CONTINUED

It may not be possible for you to plant the trees listed, however, there are still many things you can do to help preserve this iconic species:

1. Protect their habitat- Don't destroy eucalyptus trees (gum trees) or other native vegetation and retain as much native vegetation on your property as possible for food and shelter.

2. Keep a look out for koalas crossing the road when you are driving. It is not uncommon for a koala to cross a road if their habitat is in an urban or semi-urban area.

3. Restrain or confine your dog(s) when you become aware of koalas on or near your property. Keep your dog restrained or confined until the koala has left your property. Also let your neighbours know that there is a koala in the area, so that they can do the same

4. If you are building or fixing a fence on your property, create a koala friendly fence. A koala friendly fence is a fence that a koala can either move underneath or climb over.

5. Place a koala escape pole on your property that allows koalas to climb and escape predators.

6. Make sure your pool fencing is not koala friendly and to go that extra step further you can have an escape rope in your pool that a koala can use to pull themselves to the edge.

IN THE EVENT THAT YOUR DOG HAS ATTACKED A KOALA, PLEASE CALL WIRES IMMEDIATELY ON 1300 WIRES OR 1300 094 737, OR CONTACT YOUR LOCAL VET.

Why not become a Bushcare volunteer?

Becoming a Bushcare volunteer is a great way to learn about the native vegetation, wildlife, birds and insects that call Campbelltown City home. If you have a passion for your local environment and want to help conserve our natural assets, becoming a Bushcare volunteer would suit you perfectly.

Bushcare groups meet regularly and participate in activities such as native tree planting, erosion control, removing dumped rubbish and weed removal.

No experience is necessary, and Council will provide all the training you need.

Bushcare groups are currently operating at the following locations:

- Noorumba Reserve, Rosemedaow
- Spring Creek, St Helens Park
- Redfern Creek, Macquarie Fields
- Campbelltown Golf Course, Glen Alpine
- Scattergood Reserve, St Helens Park
- Kentlyn Bushland, Kentlyn
- Cook Reserve, Ruse
- Panorama Estate, Glenfield

Interested? Please contact Council's Environment Unit on 4645 4601 or visit campbelltown.nsw.gov.au/bushcare

OUR NATURAL AREAS

Did you know that more than 50 per cent of Campbelltown's LGA is home to remnant native bushland? We have our very own National Park – the Dharawal National Park, along with many other pristine bushland areas, unspoilt waterways and prolific wildlife – and all within a stone's throw of our urban centres.
Whether it's quietly bird-watching, spotting platypus by the river, or set-your-own-pace activities like swimming, trekking and fishing, our native bushland has a lot to offer.

PLUS! There is a good chance you will see some of the native plants you have planted at home, thriving in their natural habitat, so get out there and begin exploring!

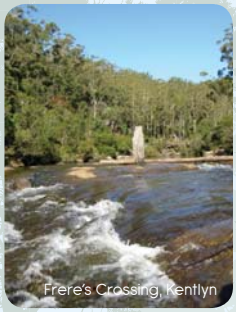
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OF THESE LOCATIONS, VISIT CAMPBELLTOWN.NSW.GOV.AU/NATURALAREAS OR PHONE COUNCIL'S ENVIRONMENT TEAM ON 4645 4601


Dharawal National Park, Wedderburn


Noorumba Reserve, Rosemeadow


Ingleburn Weir, Ingleburn


The Woolwash, Airds


Frere's Crossing, Kentlyn


The Basin, Kentlyn


Simmo's Beach, Macquarie Fields

For further information, contact:
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Campbelltown City Council
Cnr Broughton and Queen Streets
Campbelltown NSW 2560

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campbelltown city council

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