



Plant selection

Banyule City Council recommends planting locally indigenous plants to create habitat and enhance our local environment. If you have favourite non-indigenous plants you want to plant, ensure that they are not likely to become weeds and spread beyond your property.

What are indigenous plants?

Indigenous plants are those which occur naturally in the local area. Over 300 species have been recorded within Banyule. They range from the majestic River Red Gum to delicate Chocolate Lilies.

Why plant indigenous plants in your garden?

- They are adapted to local conditions so don't need fertiliser or water once established.
- Many species of birds, mammals, reptiles and insects are dependent on indigenous plants for habitat and food. More indigenous plants means more wildlife.
- Indigenous plants are part of the local ecosystem so won't become weeds in local bushland.
- Indigenous vegetation planted on private land connects remnant populations in parkland helping these species to survive in the long term.
- Indigenous plants help to define the character of the Banyule.

How do you select the best plants for your garden?

Now you've got your design you can start to choose plants for your garden but don't rush, a little research will help you achieve the best results.

Read: The following publications give information about the appearance and use of indigenous plants

- Sustainable living in Banyule: A guide for your garden (phone 9457 9821 for a copy)
- Banyule's Indigenous Plants for Your Garden poster (phone 9457 9821 for a copy)
- Flora of Melbourne published by the Australian Plants Society of Maroondah
- Native Plants of Melbourne and Adjoining Areas by David and Barbara Jones
- Native Trees and Shrubs of South-eastern Australia by Leon Costermans
- Web site of the Sustainable Gardening Australia www.sgaonline.org.au

Look: Visit local parks and indigenous gardens further a field and see what appeals to you.

- Burnley Gardens has a beautiful natural style indigenous garden.
- Edendale Farm Community Environment Centre has four different indigenous gardens
- Royal Botanic Gardens at Cranbourne showcases native plants
- Banyule parklands such as Banyule Flats in Viewbank

Ask: Staff at specialist indigenous nurseries can help you with your selections. Make sure you can tell them what conditions exist in your garden and how much space you need to fill.

Sources of Indigenous Plants for Banyule

- Melbourne Wildlife Sanctuary Nursery, located at the La Trobe Bundoora campus. Melway reference 19 H5 www.latrobe.edu.au/wildlife/kpn, Phone 9479 2871
- Victorian Indigenous Nursery Co-Operative (VINC) on Yarra Bend Road, Fairfield. Melway reference 2D F4 www.vinc.net.au, Phone 9482 1710
- Bulleen Art and Garden Melway reference 32 D5 www.baag.com.au, Phone 9850 5155

