



2022 Planting Season Report

Foreword

As the Town of Victoria Park, its residents and community complete a fourth dedicated planting year, we are pleased to share the results of our Urban Forest program achievements from May - September 2022.

This year's report focuses on how our planting season activities contribute to the six key strategic outcomes from the Urban Forest Implementation Action Plan. An important highlight is the addition of 3,386 trees and 21,822 shrubs planted, contributing to 111,697m² in projected canopy cover for our Town.

On the community front, we are proud to report significant social, educational, health and benefits, further expanded in this report.

As always, the success of our planting season lies in the greening collaboration between Town staff and community. A big thank you to each and everyone who continues to lend their green thumbs to our Urban Forest.





Planting summary

To achieve our 20% canopy cover target and all other strategic outcomes from our Urban Forest Implementation Action Plan, the Town plans, delivers and implements - with our community - the following initiatives from our Urban Forest programs during planting season, contributing to an overall 3,386 trees[^] and 21,822[^] shrubs planted, and adding to 111,697m² projected canopy cover*.

Leafy Streets Vic Park

1,061 street trees were planted on street verges around the Town, contributing to 58,255m² projected canopy cover.

Urban Forest at Home

In 2022, our residents continued to embrace planting 1,075 trees and 6,120 shrubs at home, contributing to 20,441m² projected canopy cover.

Community planting

Through two community planting days at Kent St Verge and Forward Reserve, we planted 257 trees and 10,349 shrubs, adding 7,428m² projected canopy cover.



Urban Forest Grants

Our grant recipients from Millen Primary School and Kent Street Senior High School Parent and Citizens Association continue to care for and grow their trees as part of their winning planting projects.

WA Tree Festival

We participated in WA's first ever Tree Festival, delivering multiple workshops, guided tours and online local stories for reading anytime, anywhere.



Urban ecosystem

Around Town, trees and low shrubs, propagated from natural bushland have been planted at suitably identified public areas, parks and verges. A total of 1,227 trees and 37,096 shrubs were planted, contributing to 37,096m² projected canopy cover.

Vic Park Green Basins

Residents on Huntingdon, Merton and Esperance Streets helped turn sumps into micro parks, adding 30 trees, 900 shrubs and 1,021m² of projected canopy cover.



Our Urban Forest program won...

- Highly Commended Award for AIPH World Green City Award 2022 for Biodiversity
- Tree City of the World 2022 designation
- AILA WA 2022 award - WA Medal & Infrastructure category
- AILA National 2022 award - Award of Excellence - Community Contribution category
- Institute of Public Administration Australia WA (IPAA) Finalist for our Bird Waterers innovative design.

Urban Centres Greening

16 locations were upgraded along Albany highway installing street trees with permeable paving surrounds, allowing water runoff to infiltrate back into the ground.

*The Town is using a Projected Canopy Methodology to measure our output and to gauge our efforts in achieving an eventual canopy coverage of 20% across both public and private land. We use our own tree audit data to determine the average canopy size at maturity of each species. This local data accounts for the size each species reaches at maturity in local conditions and the urban context in which we plant them. We then tally the amount of each species planted each year to determine the overall projected canopy figure for each project and each planting season.

[^]These figures factor in the standard tube stock failure rate of 25%.



Planting summary: where we planted!

LEGEND



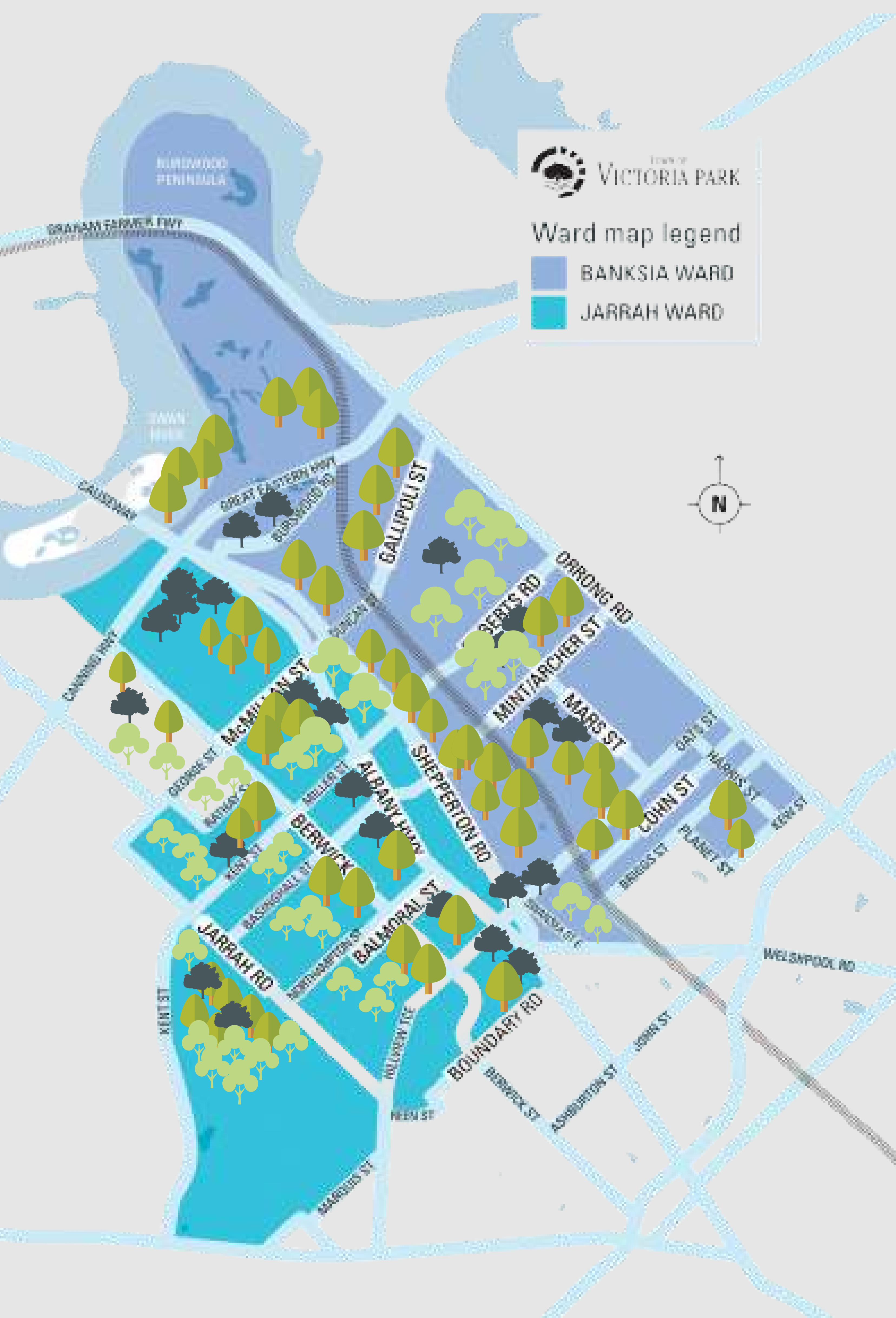
Planting season - 2022



Planting season - 2021



Planting season - 2020



Community Planting locations:

- Kent Street Verge
- Forward Reserve

Green Basins and Micro Parks planting locations:

- 11 Esperance Street
- 20 Huntingdon Street
- 3 Merton Street
- 76 Canterbury Terrace

Urban Ecosystems locations:

- Fraser Park
- George St Reserve
- Harold Rossiter
- Carlisle Extension

Bus Stop Thank You Garden:

- Mackie Street

Leafy Streets Vic Park planting areas:

- Star Street
- Washington Street
- Hill View Terrace
- Asteroid Way
- McMaster Street
- McMillan Street
- Leichardt Street
- Leonard Street
- Wyndam Street
- Adie Court
- Streatley Road
- Lichfield Street
- Cookham Road
- King George Street
- Mackie Street
- Maple Street
- Hayman Road
- Cornwall Street
- Midgley Street

***Note:**

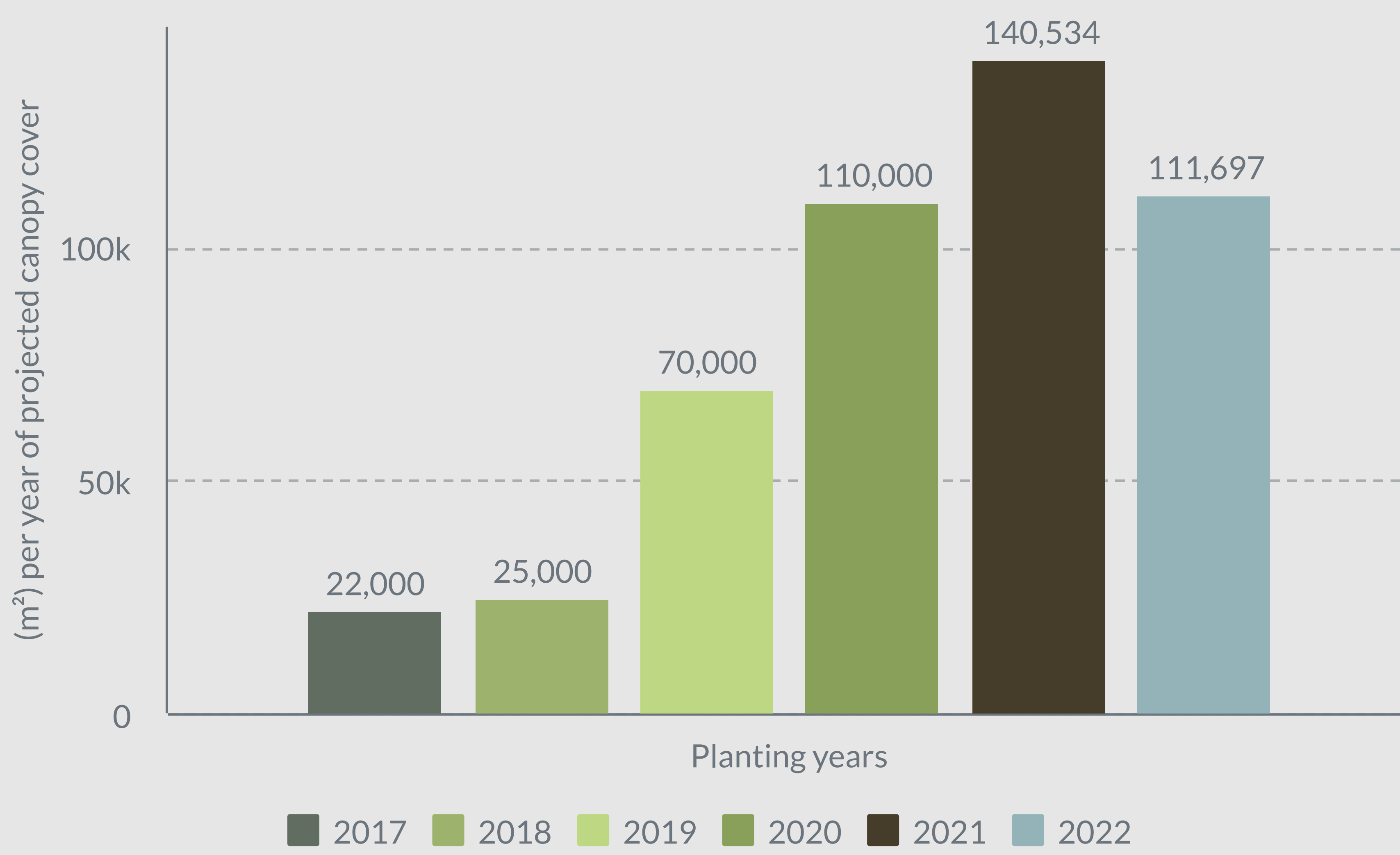
The above map is a graphical representation of trees planted throughout the Town for the 2022, 2021 and 2020 planting seasons. The graphic does not represent accurate locations of trees planted, rather it is intended to provide an image view of trees planted.



Strategic Outcome 1: achieve 20% tree canopy target

A key strategic outcome of our Urban Forest program is planting sufficient trees to achieve the 20% tree canopy target as supported by Council.

Since the Town focused on yearly planting seasons in 2017, our urban forest projected canopy cover continues to grow - helping to create a healthier, happier and greener Vic Park. In 2022, our planting season activities contributed an extra 111,697m² projected canopy cover.

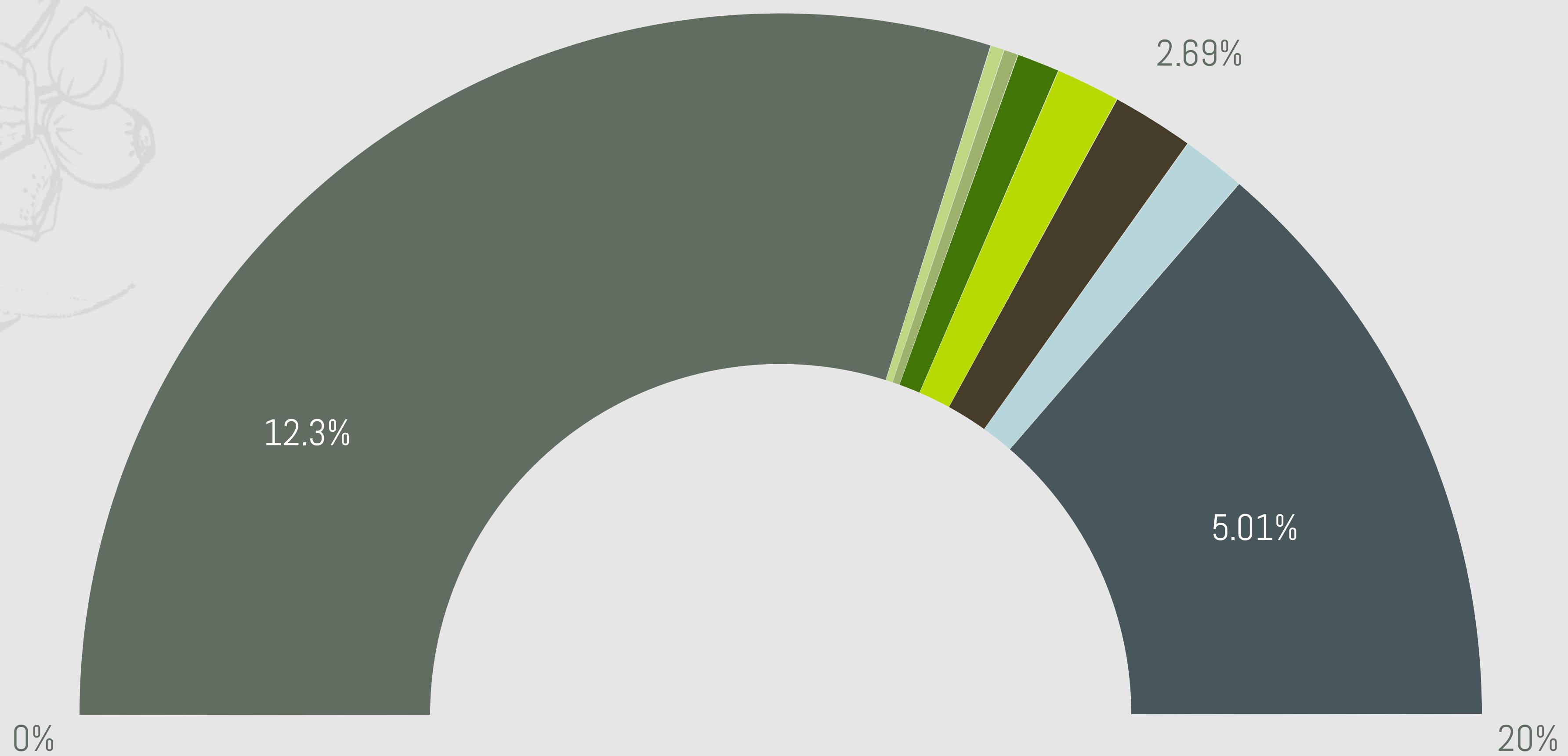


How we're tracking to achieve our 20% increased canopy cover

Prior to our dedicated Urban Forest program, canopy that is above 3m in height covers 12.3% (or 2,214,000m²) of the Town. To get to our goal of 20%, we need to increase canopy coverage across our Town to 3,600,000m².

That means we require an additional 1,386,000m² of canopy cover to be added to the Town's Urban Forest. Through our Urban Forest programs to date, we have added a projected canopy of 484,231m². That's 34.94% of our total goal achieved!

Urban Forest Program Overall Canopy Tracking



- Current canopy cover around Town (as of Dec 2020) = 2,214,000m²
- 2017 projected canopy cover addition = 24,000m²
- 2018 projected canopy cover addition = 25,000m²
- 2019 projected canopy cover addition = 73,000m²
- 2020 projected canopy cover addition = 110,000m²
- 2021 projected canopy cover addition = 140,534m²
- 2022 projected canopy cover addition = 111,697m²
- Canopy cover remaining to achieve our 20% target = 902,303m²



Strategic Outcome 2: maximise community involvement

Underpinning the year on year success of our Urban Forest program for each planting season is the greening collaboration between the Town, its residents and community members.

- 92% of participants discovered and learnt new things about planting & Urban Forest;
- 86% of participants are experiencing the social & community benefits of planting;
- 75% of participants say they are #GreeningVicPark to increase Town biodiversity and Urban Forest goals

Here are the ways the Urban Forest program has maximised community involvement and collaboration in its implementation for the 2022 planting season.



“More more more, I love all of the initiatives.”

“This matters greatly to me and my family.”

“This makes Vic Park a place so many connect to and want to live in.”

“I feel proud to live in the Town and the Urban Forest program is a big part of that”



Strategic Outcome 3: increase tree diversity

Our Urban Forest program recognises the importance of increasing the tree species diversity within the Town, whilst favouring local endemic and Western Australian species that also support wildlife. This is strategic outcome 3 for our Urban Forest Implementation Action Plan.

How we're tracking....



Tree Diversity Policy

- The Town has produced a tree diversity policy for the Town's public urban forest and guidelines for private land, based on data from regular tree audits.

Diversity of tree species for 2022 planting

- A total of 40 tree species and 44 shrub species were planted as part of our 2022 planting season.
- Continuing on from our 2021 focus on ensuring more native tree species are planted, the top 5 species planted for the 2022 planting season are local to Australia and WA. They include:



Banksia menziessi
(Firewood Banksia | Bulgalla)



Banksia attenuata
(Candlestick Banksia | Biara)



Eucalyptus tottiana (Coastal blackbutt
pricklybark | Dwutta)



Corymbia eximia (Yellow Bloodwood)



Corymbia ficifolia (Red Flowering Gum)

Urban Forest at Home local species

- All trees provided in the Urban Forest at Home Program are local Western Australian species and the shrubs were propagated from seed collected in the local remnant bushland. This helps spread local species from our preserved bushland through Town, contributing to efforts to rebuild local ecology and preserve biodiversity.





Strategic Outcome 4: vegetation health

To maintain the Town's urban forest in good health, the Town's Urban Forest team are working with specialists and the community.

Citizen science program

Through our participation in WA's first ever WA Tree Festival (9 April - 9 May 2022) and collaboration with local Friends and Urban Forest groups, we provided our residents and community members with the following Green Future workshops:



Green Future Workshop: Biodiversity, 5 May 2022, with 2016 WA Scientist of the Year, Professor Kingsley Dixon.



Green Future Workshop: Sustainability at Home, 2 May 2022, with Forever Project's Chris Ferreira.



Green Future Workshop: Climate Proof Cities, 30 March 2022, with Dr Julian Bolleter.



Green Future Workshop: Green Lab for Kids, 12 April 2022, with Millennium Kids.

Town's efforts



Selection of climate resilient stock & species: Our Urban Forest program is collecting 62 endemic species to propagate them into plant stocks for our annual planting activities with our community, encouraging them to 'jump the fence.'



Planting tips from Stephen aka "Bushy" Our Urban Ecosystems Supervisor - Stephen (aka Bushy) shared recorded tips for home gardens for the 2022 planting season, including:

- Benefits of planting tube stock;
- Transferring tube stock to ground;
- Weeding tips;
- Garden design tips.



Bi-annual GIS mapping

At the end of 2022, the Town's Urban Forest team will conduct a GIS mapping and analysis of our urban forest to track the status of our canopy cover. Data will also be used to determine areas of urban island heat effect and highlight planting areas of focus for future planting years.

Access our knowledge hub





Strategic Outcome 5: improve soil and water quality

To support the survival and growth of our existing and newly planted trees, our Urban Forest Implementation Action Plan identified a focus on improving soil and water quality. By ensuring that soil moisture is maintained at optimum levels, this will contribute to supporting healthy vegetation, water quality and effective flood and water resource management.

Here are some of the ways our Urban Forest Program and activities meet this strategic outcome:

Permeable paving

Permeable paving is an environmentally responsible and sustainable form of paving. It is made from a particular type of stone that allows fresh, clean water to drain through them and flow into aquifers and groundwater supplies. As such, permeable pavers stop the rainwater from draining off into stormwater drains.

Permeable paving is installed as part of the Urban Centre Greening program throughout the Town.

They are an effective tool against pollutants that often find their way into stormwater systems. Non-permeable paving surfaces carry these pollutants to receiving rivers and wetlands whereas permeable paving help to strip nutrients and filter the water before permeating into the groundwater, hence improving water quality.

By filtering and stripping nutrients and pollutants from stormwater before it enters the groundwater system, we create a unique ecosystem that will become habitat for local fauna while expanding the area of local flora protecting our unique and globally significant biodiversity.

Area cultivation

Our Urban Forest Program uses a number of typical bushland restoration techniques within an urban context including:

- dry planting,
- large scale soil amelioration,
- site preparation and.
- ongoing maintenance programs.

These techniques are vital to enable mass urban greening that is sustainable and achievable without intensive use of resources.





Strategic Outcome 6: improve urban ecosystems

Around Town, we have identified public areas, parks, and verges which can benefit from more tree and low shrub planting using flora propagated from remaining natural bushland within Town. This will help to:

- increase vegetation, supporting our local fauna;
- support the Town's 20% urban forest canopy cover target;
- improve the ecology of the Town, making it a healthier and happier place to live.



Kent St Verge Community planting

120+ residents helped to finish planting at the Kent St Verge ecosystem corridor on Sunday 31 July.

Together we:

🌿 expanded on last year's Kent St Verge Stage One project to create over a hectare of rehabilitated urban landscape for local wildlife to move freely from Jirdarup Bushland to other urban habitats beyond Hayman Rd.

🌿 sourced over 9000 tube stock grown from seed from Jirdarup Bushland and remnant bushlands in the City of South Perth!

🌿 connected our Kent St Verge planting corridor known roosts for the "Endangered" Carnaby Cockatoo and the "Vulnerable" Forest Red-tailed Cockatoo.



Carlisle extension and Harold Rossiter:

We planted 469 shrubs at Carlisle extension and 10 trees at Harold Rossiter, adding 196m² projected canopy.



Micro parks at Huntingdon, Esperance and Merton Streets and sump planting at Canterbury Terrace:

We planted 40 trees and 1,756 shrubs, adding 1,398m² projected canopy cover.



Bus Stop Thank You Garden:

Greening of a bus stop at Mackie Street, resulted in 1 tree and 40 shrubs planted, contributing to 51 m² projected canopy cover.



Fraser embankment and playground:

We planted 39 trees and 1,550 shrubs, adding 577m² projected canopy cover.



George Street Reserve Stage 5 planning:

We added 880 trees and 8,803 shrubs to this area, contributing to 21,171m² projected canopy cover.



Bird waterers:

Our Town-designed and developed bird waterers ensure that there are safe, clean, and low maintenance water sources for the many bird species that visit our urban ecosystems and public opens spaces across the metropolitan area. There are four bird waterers currently in operation at Jirdarup Bushland, Harold Rossiter, Alday Reserve and Rayment Park, with another two soon to be installed at GO Edwards Park and George St Reserve.

Our bird waterers have been endorsed by Birdlife WA and the Black Cockatoo conservation community. There are now 32 bird waterers installed across the urban landscape in 18 LGs including four at 115 Hamilton residential development, two at ECU Joondalup, one each at Riverton Primary and Rossmoyne Kindergarten and seven at the City of South Perth.





TOWN OF
VICTORIA PARK

2022 Planting Season Report

We say a BIG Thank You for contributing to another successful planting year in 2022.

Thank you to all residents, community groups, organisations and members, businesses and Elected Members, and Town staff for your support and involvement in #GreeningVicPark this year.



More on our
Urban Forest
program

