



Greening Vic Park

2022 Urban Forest Program Booklet

Vic Park, let's celebrate another successful and collaborative 2022 planting season around Town!

vicpark.info/urbanforest



TOWN OF
VICTORIA PARK

Foreword from Mayor Karen Vernon

Four years since Council adopted our community-led Urban Forest Strategy for implementation, our various #GreeningVicPark activities and programs have delivered many positive and powerful social, environmental, health and community outcomes.

As we complete our fourth dedicated planting season through collaboration between Town staff, Council and our community, I am delighted to share our many achievements through this 2022 Urban Forest Program booklet.

In these next few pages, I invite you to discover how the simple act of planting trees and shrubs and learning about our environment – as part of our Urban Forest program – is making a difference for everyone to live in healthier and greener spaces and communities.

There is much to celebrate and acknowledge from our 2022 Urban Forest Program. From planting an additional 3,386 trees and 21,822 shrubs, to creating a connected and safe Kent St verge ecosystem for our endangered Carnaby and vulnerable Red-Tailed Cockatoos, to winning State and National Awards and being recognised on the world stage (against big cities such as Paris and Bogota).

Congratulations Vic Park, and a BIG thanks as always to each and every one of you for your passion, dedication and support in #GreeningVicPark.

Mayor Karen Vernon
Town of Victoria Park



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A summary of our 2022 planting season

Below is a summary of how our 2022 Urban Forest program contributed to the six strategic outcomes outlined in our Implementation Action Plan. Access the full report at vicpark.info/ufreports (see QR code).

Strategic Outcome 1: achieve 20% tree canopy target. In 2022, we planted 3,386 trees and 21,822 shrubs, contributing to an extra 111,697m² of projected canopy cover.

Strategic Outcome 2: maximise community involvement. We've worked with our residents and community this planting season through our Urban Forest at Home and Green Basins programs and community planting days.

Strategic Outcome 3: increase tree diversity. A total of 40 tree species and 44 shrub species were planted as part of our 2022 planting season.

Strategic Outcome 4: improve vegetation health. We're helping to maintain our urban forest health through our citizen science program, our bi-annual GIS mapping and selection of climate resilient planting stock and species.

Strategic Outcome 5: improve water and soil quality. We are using permeable paving innovation and a series of bushland restoration techniques to support our urban forest growth.

Strategic Outcome 6: improve urban ecosystems. We've planted at public areas, parks, and verges using flora propagated from remaining natural, local bushland. Additionally, 33 bird waterers have been installed across 18 local governments, providing clean and low maintenance water sources for our local fauna.





Microparks: Sumps in these locations have been turned into community micro parks through our Green Basins program: vicpark.info/greenbasins



Community planting 1: Residents, community groups and businesses joined our NAIDOC themed Community Planting Day 1 on Sunday 3 July 2022.



Community planting 2: 120+ residents, community members and volunteer groups from all over Perth took time out to help plant trees and shrubs at Kent St Verge, as part of National Tree Day.



Staff Planting Day: Town staff participated in the first ever Staff Planting Day at Kent St Verge.



New micro-parks, street trees, bus stop gardens and more around Town



2022

Planting season



2021

Planting season



2020

Planting season



Leafy streets Vic Park: This initiative continues the planting of appropriately selected species of trees in suitably identified street verges around the Town's suburbs.



Bus Stop Thank You Garden: We've transformed another bus stop in Town, from its typical concrete surroundings into a 'garden' with plants and trees.



Urban ecosystems: We've increased tree and shrub planting in these parks, verges and public areas around Town for a healthier urban environment.



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.

2022 Urban Forest program highlights

Let's take a look at some of our Urban Forest program's unique and notable achievements, achieved through a collaborative approach between our Town staff, residents, community members and businesses.

🌿 Vic Park Leafy Streets:

This year, the Town's Urban Forest team worked with our contractors to plant 1,061 appropriately selected species of street trees, contributing to 58,255m² projected canopy cover.



🌿 Urban Forest at Home:

In 2022, our community members and residents continued to embrace planting trees and shrubs at home, contributing to 20,441m² projected canopy cover. A total of 1,075 tree seedlings and 6,120 local native shrubs were collected for home planting.



🌿 Community planting days:

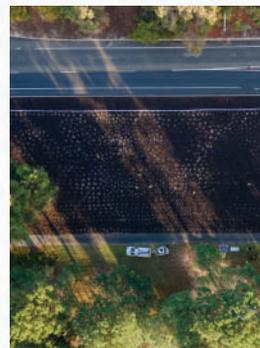
250+ community members participated in two community planting days in 2022 (coinciding with NAIDOC and National Tree Day Celebrations). Our community planted 257 trees and 10,349 shrubs, adding 7,428m² projected canopy cover.



🌿 At Kent St Verge our community helped to:

Build over a hectare of rehabilitated urban landscape for local wildlife to move freely from Jirdarup Bushland to other urban habitats beyond Hayman Rd.

Connect our Kent St Verge planting corridor, known roosts for the 'Endangered' Carnaby Cockatoo and the 'Vulnerable' Forest Red-tailed Cockatoo.



🌿 Vic Park Green Basins:

Residents on Esperance, Huntingdon and Merton Streets helped turn Sumps into micro parks for all of us to enjoy! A total of 30 trees and 900 shrubs were planted, adding 1,021m² of projected canopy cover.



🌿 Urban ecosystems:

At Fraser Park, Carlisle Extension, Harold Rossiter, George St Reserve and other identified Town areas, we planted 1,250 trees and 37,096 shrubs, contributing to 38,597m² projected canopy cover.



🌿 Urban Forest Grants Program:

Our grant recipients from Millen Primary School, Perth Individual College 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:

With other local government councils, we went 'beyond the bark' at WA's first ever tree festival, from 9 April - 9 May 2022. Five community events, including four 'Vic Park Green Future' workshops and Kensington Bushland guided tour with Friends of Jirdarup were delivered. Check the workshop recordings: vicpark.info/treefestival



🌿 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.



Our award winning #GreeningVicPark initiatives

The 2022 planting season saw our Urban Forest program win big at various greening, industry and sustainability awards

The recognition of our Urban Forest program is made possible through the ongoing support, passion and commitment of our residents and community members who continue to collaborate with us in #GreeningVicPark

- 🌿 **Australian Institute of Landscape Architecture (AILA) WA 2002 Awards:** Our Urban Forest program took out the top awards for this year's WA Australian Institute of Landscape Architecture award (July 2022): Award Excellence in the Infrastructure Category and the WA Medal.
- 🌿 **Tree Cities of the World status renewal:** In May, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations and the Arbor Day Foundation, congratulated the Town of Victoria Park for renewing its Tree City of the World Status – still the only council in WA to earn this recognition.
- 🌿 **Australian Institute of Landscape Architecture (AILA) WA Awards:** Our Urban Forest program took out the top prize – Award of Excellence – in the Community Contribution category, recognising how our Urban Forest program contributes to the Town's social infrastructure and inter- and intra- generational opportunities.
- 🌿 **International Association of Horticultural Producers (AIPH) 2022 World Green City Awards:** We received a Highly Commended Award for the Biodiversity Category, with Paris and Bogota.
- 🌿 **Institute of Public Administration WA (IPAA):** We are a finalist for the innovative design of our Bird Waterers.

'The [judging] panel was impressed with the depth of community engagement. It is clear that the community has a strong sense of ownership of the public realm and their role in developing and implementing public policy is commendable.'

– AILA WA judging panel

'Being recognised in the Tree Cities of the World programme means that your city is committing to go above and beyond to define trees as critical green infrastructure for your citizens.' – Dan Lambe, Chief Executive of Arbor Day Foundation

'The jury was even more impressed by the development of the Town's social infrastructure and the foresight to invest in inter- and intra-generational opportunities.' – AILA National judging panel

Your say on our Urban Forest program

'More, more, more' for Greening Vic Park

Thank YOU to our residents and community members who completed our 2022 planting season surveys! Your words, feedback and enthusiasm for creating a greener Vic Park is inspirational.

Into 2023, we look forward to further innovating and strengthening our greening collaboration between the Town of Victoria Park with residents and community members.

What you said about our Urban Forest Program:

- 🌿 97% of respondents got involved in our 2022 planting season!
- 🌿 87% of respondents got involved in Community Planting, 81% in Urban Forest at Home, 64% by asking a free street tree or submitting a planting proposal
- 🌿 75% of respondents are **#GreeningVicPark** to increase Town biodiversity and Urban Forest goals
- 🌿 86% of respondents are experiencing and enjoying the social & community benefits of planting
- 🌿 92% of respondents discovered and learnt new things about planting and Urban Forest

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

– Vic Park resident

'Keep the programme it is a wonderful initiative. It improves our local streetscapes and brings back a larger number of local birdlife.'

– Vic Park resident

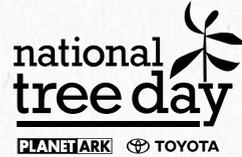
'This makes Vic Park a place so many connect to and want to live in it's wonderful and it matters greatly to me and my family.'

– Vic Park resident



Get involved in our Urban Forest School activity, take a snap of the result and email to ufs@vicpark.wa.gov.au to be in the draw to win a Banksia for your home garden.

NATIVE TREE WORDSEARCH



A	T	R	S	E	E	F	H	R	A	B	S	D	D	P	A	P	E
M	U	G	T	S	O	H	G	G	U	S	T	O	S	H	R	B	R
P	A	P	E	R	B	A	R	K	H	S	O	B	E	S	I	N	B
A	B	E	R	R	Y	S	Y	E	T	W	B	U	T	A	V	S	U
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E	R	N	L	U	D	A	F	R	A	R	R	A	D	F	E	R	M
A	E	E	B	N	K	R	A	B	Y	G	N	I	R	T	S	A	U



Look for these Australian native trees in the wordsearch - have you heard of all of them?

- | | | | |
|---------------|---------|--------------|-----------|
| cypress | jarrah | wollemi pine | burrwang |
| ghost gum | karri | dogwood | kurrjong |
| river red gum | banksia | boab | paperbark |
| blackbutt | flame | mountain ash | sheoak |

Urban Forest knowledge hub and planting tips

Get your green thumbs active with our Urban Forest Knowledge Hub!

Together with local and national sustainability, biodiversity and environmental experts, we have created an urban forest knowledge hub for our residents, community members and visitors to access. More at vicpark.info/uftips



🌿 Planting tips with Stephen (aka Bushy):

The Town's Urban Ecosystems Supervisor shares planting, weeding and garden design tips for your home gardens.



🌿 Vic Park Green Future webinars:

Listen to WA Scientist of the Year (Kingsley Dixon), leading WA urban designer (Dr Julian Bolleter) and Forever Project founder (Chris Ferreira) on how each of us can contribute to a healthier, greener and happier Vic Park.



🌿 My Tree Stories with Vic Park residents:

Find out how you can turn a sump land in your street into a micro park with Vic Park resident, Ben. Or how to complete a successful planting proposal to beautify local parks with Cara-Leigh. You can also get tips on how to submit an Urban Forest grant from Millen Park Primary School teacher, Tamara.



🌿 Apps, slime moulds and great readings:

Check out various apps to easily identify weeds and pests, find out about how slime moulds are enriching our Jirdarup Bushland and more interesting urban forest readings.





Mark these dates for our 2023 Planting Season activities!

We're excited to be able to share some initial Urban Forest program dates for the 2023 planting season so you can mark them in your diary and/or get involved starting now.

Now Open: Urban Forest Grant Applications (28 October 2022 – 24 February 2023)

Calling Vic Park community groups, businesses and schools: We'd love your help in **#GreeningVicPark** and create a healthier and happier Town to work, live and visit.

🌿 Up to \$10,00 funding available for tree planting and awareness projects supporting the implementation of the Town's Urban Forest program to:

- achieve 20% tree canopy cover
- maximise community involvement
- increase tree diversity
- maintain vegetation health
- improve water and soil quality
- improve urban ecosystems

More information and to apply: vicpark.info/grants

🌿 **Urban Forest at Home: Online orders will open on 27 April 2023 until resources are fully allocated.** Pick up at Town Depot on 27 May 2023 (9am – 3pm).

Our ever popular Urban Forest at Home program will make a comeback in 2023, offering residents free tree seedlings and shrubs, most of which have been propagated from Jirdarup Bushland to encourage endemic species to "jump the fence" and increase our biodiversity.

🌿 **Community Planting Days:** Circle the following date for our 2023 two community planting days:

Sunday 2 July 2023 at Rotary Park (NAIDOC themed planting day)

Sunday 30 July 2023 at Kent St Verge, Hayman Rd side (National Tree Planting Day theme)

🌿 More updates will be available on our website vicpark.info/urbanforest and communicated via the Town's social channels, at community centres and via mail-outs of our 2023 program booklets.



#GreeningVicPark stories

Our community members, residents, Aboriginal Elders and youth share their inspirational tree stories and "why" they are helping in #GreeningVicPark. Full stories at: vicpark.info/treestories

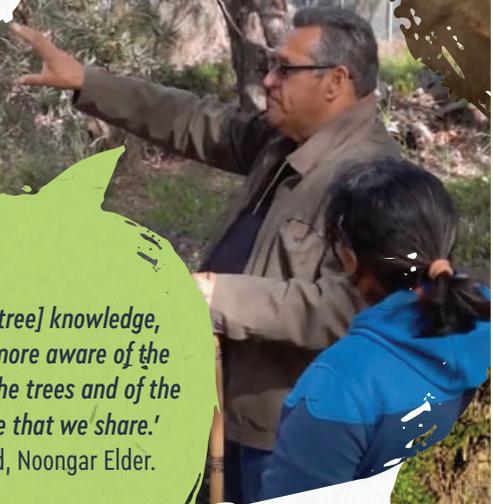
'When you see and experience all of these positives from the act of planting trees, you forget about the struggles and the hard work. Instead you get this wonderful thing called hope. And that's a powerful feeling to keep everyone going.'

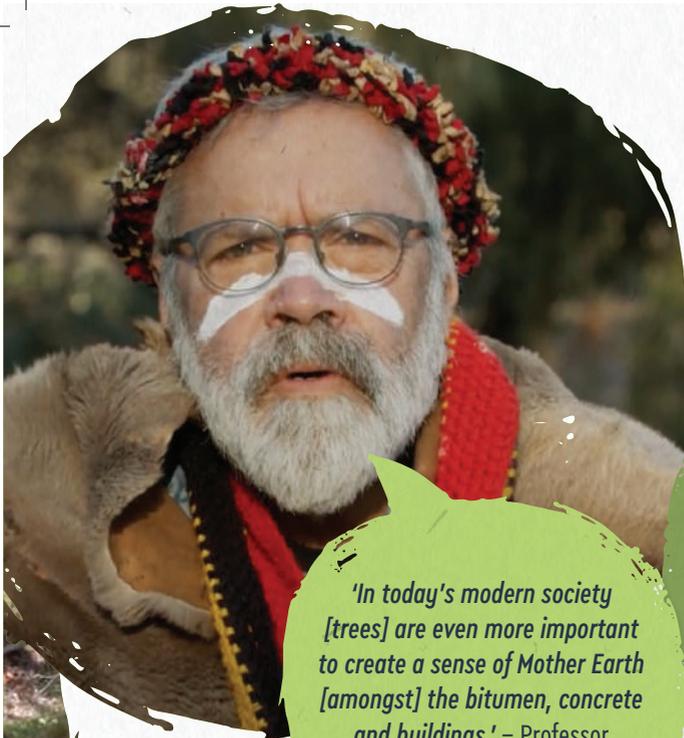
– Tamara, teacher, Millen Primary School.

'To share that [tree] knowledge, people become more aware of the environment, of the trees and of the Noongar culture that we share.'

– Neville Collard, Noongar Elder.

'The benefits of being involved in the Town's Urban Forest Grants as a youth have continued beyond the postcards. I've been invited to talk at the Perth Zoo, the Association of Independent Schools of WA and more, about the project.' – Patrick, Urban Forest Grants recipient in 2020.





'In today's modern society [trees] are even more important to create a sense of Mother Earth [amongst] the bitumen, concrete and buildings.' – Professor Simon Forrest, Noongar Elder.



'I think many of us - especially at Vic Park where I see and hear so much support for greening - are now swinging the pendulum back from concrete buildings to understand how it is important to be surrounded by nature.' – Ben, Vic Park resident



'As a family, we love that our neighbourhood has large trees that have been around for 10-15 years, so it's great that the Council supports our efforts and ideas to make sure that our space stays green, happy and healthy.' – Cara-Leigh, Vic Park resident



'We're proud of the fact that we've been able to hold onto the largest tree in the street.' – Emma, Vic Park resident, 23 years and counting



THANK YOU

Vic Park for your support, passion and commitment, contributing greatly to another successful planting season in 2022.

We look forward to further collaborating with our residents, community members and businesses in **#GreeningVicPark** in 2023 and beyond.

To find out more about our Urban Forest program and stay up to date with our 2023 program, vicpark.info/urbanforest or get in touch ufs@vicpark.wa.gov.au | 08 9311 8111

