



# *Land for Wildlife*

A voluntary wildlife conservation program

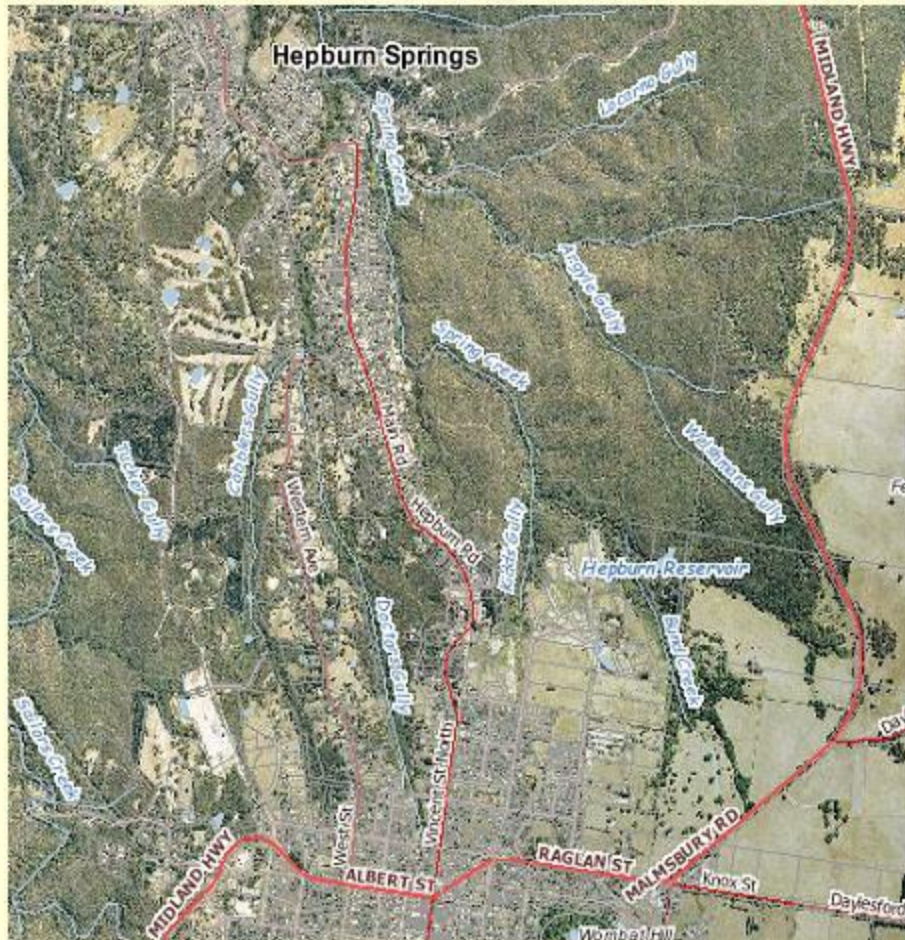


# Land for Wildlife program



- Started in 1981
- Idea from Bird Observers Club
- Became official in 1989
- Extension officers joined the team in 1990

# Land for Wildlife Today



- 5,887 properties involved
- Property area 545,081ha
- Area for conservation 145,333ha
- Number of properties WTR: 927
- Number of Properties with TFN Covenants: 163



# Land for Wildlife Today



- Area of native vegetation remaining on private land in Victoria = approx 1 Million Ha  
Percentage represented by LFW properties = 16%.
- Percentage of Threatened Habitat represented= 15% of total property area.
- Property Area equivalent to the Area of The Grampians National Park.

# Benefits



- Advice about native plants & animals
- Support
- Access to resources
- Recognition
- Annual news letter



# Types of properties assessed

- bush blocks
- farms
- golf courses
- schools
- cemeteries
- streets



# Registering



- Application
- Assessment



# Registration



- Full registration
- Working towards registration





# How the program helps landholders

## Advice on how to improve habitat by:

- Protecting large trees and hollow trees
- Adding more understorey
- Identifying what you have
- Choosing local plants
- Weed & pest control methods
- Looking after what is there



# What can you do?

1. Protect the existing remnant patches
2. Retain isolated patches and try to join them up
3. Increase the amount of habitat by natural regeneration and revegetation





# Have a plan



Keep records

- Atlas cards
- Bird lists
- photo points



# What makes good habitat?



Trees & hollows

Shrubs

Understorey

Leave litter and  
branches, rocks



# Remnants aren't just trees



# Fencing remnants

- Fence all or part of remnants
- Add a gate
- graze when native species are not flowering or seeding.





# Paddock trees are valuable

- important for wildlife conservation
- often over 200 years old
- provide more food than younger trees
- allow fauna dependant on hollows to persist in areas
- usually suitable hollows only occur in old trees



hollows, dead trees, fallen  
timber and logs are all  
important



1/5 of our birds  
nest in or need  
hollows





# Manage firewood collection

- plan for a firewood lot
- stop the removal of logs
- add logs, old fence posts and fallen timber





## Nest boxes







Perspex sheet under a removable wooden side to allow viewing inside box

# Weed & pest control

weeds and rabbits impact on biodiversity.





# plant identification



Native grass  
or noxious  
weed?



Foxes and birds spread  
weeds





Replace weeds  
with local native  
plants







Natural  
bird food  
includes:



Seeds,  
Nectar,  
Fruits,  
Insects,



Lerps,  
Small,  
reptiles





# Using fire



- Fuel reduction
- Weed control
- Fire prevention

# Add the missing layers

- supplementary planting
- use local species and local seed
- advice on species selection.



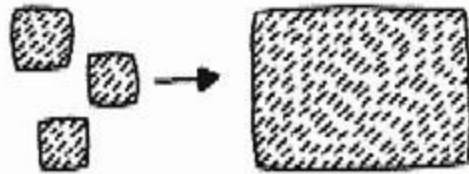


# Organic litter

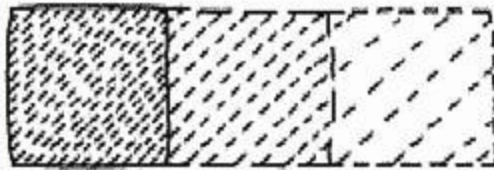
- avoid excessive tidying of sites.
- bird diversity increases in sites where there is leaf litter.
- organic litter provides valuable habitat.
- have a fire plan.



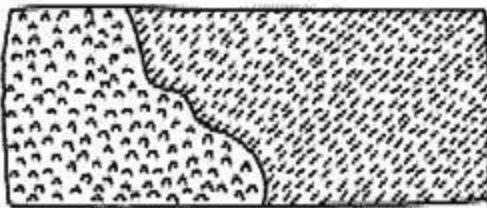
# Planning planting sites



a single large block rather than several small blocks



blocks that build on to each other over time;



building onto existing remnants





# Stepping Stones

Where you can't have corridors

- have stepping stones
- or patches of native vegetation



# Widen linear strips

Include good roadside  
vegetation and reserves







Revegetation  
along the  
waterway

# Buffer Zones

- buffer around paddock trees and remnants
- 5 m+ from edge of the canopy
- Firebreaks & buffers in same area
- Slashed breaks 10m width





# Water

Dams can provide good habitat

- may need to add plants
- have strips to filter water
- exclude farm animals
- provide organic matter



# How to provide habitat around a dam







- Cover bare areas
- Slow water flow





Vegetation provides:

- habitat
- structure
- a filter





# Wetlands

- impact of plantings near wetlands?
- do broilgas use the site?
- fence type impacts on fauna movement





**Land for Wildlife notes are available from:**

**[www.dse.vic.gov.au/landforwildlife](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/landforwildlife)**

**or phone 136186**





**Celebrating more than 25 years of  
voluntary wildlife conservation**