

Why have a catchment friendly garden?

- It's good for the environment.
- Your garden will attract birds and other animals.
- You will save water, a precious and scarce resource.
- You will be helping to conserve our unique plant heritage.
- It can save you time and money.
- Frogs will make a home in your garden.
- You will become addicted to local Australian plants!



Resources

Books & Websites

- Grow Local Plants brochure - Town of Vincent
Lists local plants suitable for the Vincent area
- Growing Locals - Robert Powell and Jane Emberson
- A New Image for West Australian Plants
- George Lullfitz
- Building Frog Friendly Gardens - The WA Museum
- Waterwise gardening ideas
www.watercorporation.com.au
- Grow Local Plants brochure for your area
www.localplants.nmcg.com.au
- Florabase - Searchable database of WA plants
www.florabase.calm.wa.gov.au

Local Plant Nurseries

- Apace Nursery web.argo.net.au/apace
9336 1262 1 Johannah Street, North Fremantle
- Boola Wongin Nursery www.boolawongin.com.au
9397 0160 619 Armadale Road, Forrestdale
- Lullfitz Nursery www.lullfitz.com.au
9405 1607 Cnr Caporn St & Honey Rd, Wanneroo
- Zanthorrea Nursery www.zanthorrea.com
9454 6260 155 Watsonia Road, Maida Vale



Wildflower illustrations courtesy of Margaret Pieroni

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Catchment Friendly Gardening

What's it all about?



A catchment friendly garden is a living component of the environment, providing habitat for native birds, animals and insects. It uses local Australian plants that are adapted to our climate, soil and scarce water.

The City of Vincent Garden Competition has a category for Catchment Friendly Gardens. First prize is \$500 in cash.
Why not enter your garden?

A Catchment Friendly Garden is ...

Suited to local climate and soil

Thousands of years of evolution have meant that indigenous plants can survive in our dry climate and poor soils without any assistance.

They do not require constant applications of fertiliser and water to stay alive.

Not overfertilised

Excess fertiliser that is not absorbed by plants easily washes through Perth's sandy soil into our local lakes and waterways. This wastes money and can lead to algal blooms and botulism outbreaks that harm wildlife.

Use slow release fertilisers, and follow the recommended application rate to reduce the environmental impact of your garden. Mulch and other "organic" additives contain nutrients and therefore replace any need for fertilising.



Waterwise

Water is a precious resource and gardens account for approximately 60% of the water used by Perth households. Reduce your water use by choosing plants that suit the climate, grouping plants by their water needs and installing a trickle or sub-surface irrigation system.

Self-contained

If you throw plant cuttings in the rubbish, you are throwing away valuable nutrients. Retain cuttings in your garden as mulch or compost and your garden will require less fertiliser.

Leave the catcher off when you mow the lawn and it will fertilise itself!

Fauna Friendly

Local plants provide food and shelter for birds, frogs and other animals.

Make your garden fauna friendly by taking an animal's view of your garden. Provide food, water, shelter and places to breed by creating a natural ecosystem, with a variety of native plants including small plants, shrubs and trees.



Chemical free

Any chemicals in your garden will directly affect living creatures. Remember frogs breathe and drink through their skin.



Remove weeds by hand or pour boiling water over them. Remove insects by hand or leave them to the birds!