



Selecting a waterwise native garden.

There are hundreds of native trees, plants, shrubs and groundcovers available to you from garden centres today.

What's right for your garden will depend on the size of your garden and the overall effect you're looking to achieve.

For your native garden to be successful, you'll need to consider soil improvement, mulch and irrigation plus the amount of water that each plant will require which is categorised by 'Drop Zones' that you can refer to on the back of this leaflet.

SOIL IMPROVEMENT, MULCH AND IRRIGATION.

Soil improvement should be carried out for all planting to enhance plant growth and maximise water retention. Consult your landscape supplier to ensure that the material used does not contain levels of phosphorous and other nutrients that might cause an adverse reaction in the native plants, particularly Grevilleas. A surface mulch should also go over all planted areas. Leaf litter from the plants will blend in perfectly with the composted shredded vegetation suggested.

Ideally, the irrigation system should be designed so that each of the Drop Zones can be watered independently.

CONVERTING AN EXISTING GARDEN TO BECOME WATERWISE

The most important factor in converting an existing garden is rationalising landscape treatments and plants to create areas that require similar amounts of water - Drop Zones. Think carefully about how you want your garden to function and look, and work towards having higher water use planting around prominent and heavily used areas and lower water use treatments elsewhere. You may need to rearrange plants to achieve this.

Shift plants from one place to another, according to water use, replace them with new ones. Consider your lawn areas carefully so you have the minimum you need to create the appearance and accommodate the functions you require. Narrow strips of lawn are particularly difficult to water efficiently.

If you have an existing irrigation system, you may be able to alter it by amalgamating existing sections or adding new ones to suit the rearranged garden. A new controller may give you greater flexibility in the delivery of water. Your irrigation supplier can advise you on this. If it is not possible to change your system satisfactorily, you may be able to rearrange the planting to suit it. Soil improvement around new plants, and mulching to all garden beds will help too.

REMEMBER THAT BY INVESTING IN WATERWISE PLANNING AND PREPARATION
OF YOUR GARDEN NOW, YOU WILL REAP SAVINGS IN THE COST OF WATER IN THE FUTURE.

NATIVE PLANTS AND THE WATER EACH ONE REQUIRES.

The water requirements of Native plants can be classified into two Drop Zones, with Drop Zone One requiring less water than Drop Zone Two.

Native plants have their origins in Australia. In many cases there is a wide choice of species and cultivars. Your Waterwise Garden Centre may have an even wider range and can help you in making your selection.

Once established these plants should not be watered more frequently than every 4 to 7 days.

Those marked * are able to go much longer between waterings.



TREES

*Banksia. Small trees to groundcovers, showy bird attracting flowers.

*Gum Tree, EUCALYPTUS Many small species to choose from including grafted forms.

*Kurrajong, BRACHYCHITON. Semi-deciduous, deep green foliage, showy spring flowers, several to choose from.

Native Frangipani, HYMENOSPORUM. Slender erect tree, dark green leaves, fragrant cream to yellow flowers.

*Paperbark, MELALEUCA. Wide range of small trees and shrubs, bottle brush-like flowers.

SHRUBS

Dwarf Peppermint, AGONIS. Many selections available chosen for shape and foliage colour.

Lilli Pilli, SYZYGIUM. Glossy foliage, colourful new growth, range of sizes.

*Native Hibiscus, ALYOGYNE. Fast growing shrubs, lilac to blue flowers, small range.

Native Rosemary, WESTRINGIA. Fast growing, decorative foliage and flowers, large range.

*Poverty Bush, EREMOPHILA. Large range of shrubs to groundcovers, showy bird attracting flowers.

*Thryptomene. Arching branches, massed mostly white flowers in spring, small range.

*Wattle, ACACIA. Large shrubs to groundcovers, foliage and/or flowering plants, large range.

*Wax Flowers, CHAMELAUCIUM Wide range including many Geraldton waxes.

Wax Flower, ERIOSTEMON. Rounded shrubs, star-like flowers winter to spring, small range.

*Wedding Bush, RICINOCARPOS. Bright green foliage, fragrant white flowers spring to summer.

*Woolly Bush, ADENANTHOS. Fast growing, dense silver-grey 'woolly' foliage, bird attracting.

PERENNIALS, SMALL SHRUBS, GROUND COVERS & CLIMBERS

*Bluebell Creeper, SOLLYA. Vigorous twining creeper, dainty flowers in spring and summer.

*Conostylis. Low clumping plants, grey to green foliage, yellow flowers in dense woolly heads.

Crowea. Small shrubs, slender foliage, pink or white star flowers in spring and/or summer.

*Cushion Bush, LEUCOPHYTA (CALOCEPHALUS). Ornamental slender silver-grey branches in low mound.

*Feather Flower, VERTICORDIA. Mostly small shrubs, showy 'feather' flowers, several to choose from.

*Fringed Lily, THYSANOTUS. Small clumping plant, showy blue flowers.

*Hardenbergia. Twining climber, blue pea flowers in early spring.

*Kangaroo Paw, ANIGOZANTHOS. Wide range of species and cultivars, bird attracting flowers.

*Kennedia. Climbers or groundcovers, pea flowers, mostly red. Several to choose from.

Lechenaultia. Small semi woody shrubs, showy flowers mostly in spring. Wide range to choose from.

*Lippia, PHYLA. Alternative to grass in full sun to light shade.

*Lomandra. Reed-like leaves in clumps, some with fragrant flowers, small range.

Native Fuchsia, CORREA. Small bush, bird attracting flowers in winter.

*Rice Plant, PIMELEA. Rounded bush, dense foliage, pink flowers, attracts butterflies.

*Snake Bush, HEMIANDRA. Dense groundcover, prickly foliage, blue or white flowers.

Strawflower, BRACTEANTHA. Small branching plants, 'everlasting' daisy flowers.

*Winter Pink, ASTARTEA. Small semi weeping shrubs, small leaves, white flowers spring and summer.



SHRUBS

*Bottlebrush, CALLISTEMON. Easily shaped, showy bird attracting flowers, wide range available.

Mint Bush, PROSTANTHERA. Aromatic foliage, massed spring flowers, small range.

PERENNIALS, SMALL SHRUBS, GROUND COVERS & CLIMBERS

Australian Daisies, BRACHYSCOME. Long flowering period, wide range available.

Baeckea, BAECKEA. Small bright green dense foliage, easily shaped, white spring flowers.

Boronia. Highly fragrant spring flowers. Several to choose from.

Dichondra. An alternative to grass for small shady spots.

Fan Flower, SCAEVOLA. Small shrubs to groundcovers, free flowering, several to choose from.

*Grevillea. Ask your nursery about low and groundcover species.

Native Violet, VIOLA. Creeping groundcover for light shade, blue and white violet flowers over summer.

Paper Daisy, RHODANTHA. Small dome shape, aromatic foliage, white papery flowers in spring.

Wonga Vine, PANDOREA. Evergreen climbers, some with long flowering period.