

PROJECT DETAILS

Across Greater Geelong, more than 260,000 nature strips stretch through our neighbourhoods – an area equal to over 500 Kardinia Park ovals. Most are simple mown lawns, but together they hold extraordinary potential. Imagine these spaces transformed into vibrant, living gardens that cool our streets, support wildlife, and bring neighbours together.

Our project takes a hopeful step toward that future. One hundred homeowners will join Rotarians and community volunteers to plant indigenous gardens across Geelong and the Bellarine Peninsula. Building on the success of our 2024-2025 pilot, which created 20 thriving nature strip gardens, this expanded project will follow the same proven model while incorporating new learnings.

Nature strip gardens offer powerful environmental benefits: they reduce emissions from mowing, conserve water through drought-tolerant native plants, increase carbon capture, and create habitat for pollinators, birds, and other wildlife. They also help manage stormwater and cool our urban areas – all vital contributions to a zero-emissions, climate-resilient city.

Many residents have concerns that establishing a compliant nature strip garden will be difficult, but our project will provide clear designs, plant lists, and friendly support.

As we saw in our pilot, these gardens spark conversations, build connections, and inspire a shared sense of pride. Together, we can turn everyday spaces into something extraordinary.

WHAT IS PROVIDED TO RESIDENTS IN OUR PROJECT?

- Guidance on site preparation including removal of existing grass and weeds
- Leaf mulch provided and delivered to site
- Thirty local indigenous tube stock plants provided, as selected by garden designer
- Guidance on garden design
- Advice for ongoing maintenance

Streets to see nature strip gardens from 2025 - remember they are still developing!

- Verner St, South Geelong
- Kilgour St, South Geelong
- Bellevue Ave, Highton
- Parkwood Dve, Highton
- Torulosa Crt, Highton
- Roslyn Rd, Belmont
- Sommers St, Belmont
- Culbin Ave, Belmont
- Phillip St, Manifold Heights
- Windermere Rd, Lara
- MacKillop St, Geelong
- Austin St, Newtown
- Golden Wattle Dve, Mount Duneed

Our Partners

- Ocean Grove Coast Care
- Rotary Clubs of Bayside Geelong, Geelong East, Geelong West, Greater Geelong, Bellarine North, Grovedale Waurin Ponds, Ocean Grove
- Rachel Scott-Smith - Garden designer

Suppliers

- Acorn Tree Services
- Bellarine Landcare Nursery
- Wild Places
- Murrell Group

Contact Us: barb.sheehan@rotary9780.org