

Growing Victoria's Botanic Gardens Grants Program

Successful Projects: Round Two 2020

A climate ready garden, new landscaping, plant collection management and labelling, visitor precinct designs and improved water supply are among 26 significant botanic gardens projects from across the state receiving a grant through the Growing Victoria's Botanic Gardens grants program. Round Two of the grants program will provide \$2.42 million for works and projects at botanic gardens, old and new, across Victoria.

The Growing Victoria's Botanic Gardens grants program is an initiative of the Victorian Government to enhance the botanic gardens across Victoria with grants to rejuvenate the gardens and grow their important role in conservation, education and community wellbeing.

This is the second and final round of funding under the Growing Victoria's Botanic Gardens grants program.

Botanic Garden	Project
Australian Botanic Gardens, Shepparton	<p>A grant of \$32,010 has been awarded to the Friends of the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton Inc for its 'Signs for the Times - Caring for our Rare Species' project. The project will tell the story of the garden's collection of rare plants, providing informative interpretive signs, plant labels and brochures for visitors. This project will further contribute to visitor experience and promote an understanding of the conservation role of botanic gardens.</p> <p>Established in 2011, the Australian Botanic Gardens features thematic gardens on a large terraced mound, wetlands and thematic landscaping and gardens in the surrounding forest and woodland area.</p> <p>The project will be auspiced by Greater Shepparton City.</p>
Ballarat Botanical Gardens	<p>A grant of \$150,000 has been awarded to the City of Ballarat towards landscaping in a central fernery precinct which is currently being redeveloped. Funding will support garden design with a focus on detailed heritage design and planning for an appropriate historic landscape and garden collection at the reinstated fernery site. Funds will also contribute to initial landscaping works.</p> <p>Overall, the project will see the enhancement of plant collections and contribute to the return of a much-valued fernery feature. The fernery precinct will provide a new attraction for visitors to this historic garden, established in 1858.</p>

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Botanic Garden	Project
Bendigo Botanic Gardens, White Hills	<p>A grant of \$200,475 has been awarded to Greater Bendigo City for landscaping and construction of garden beds within the new visitor centre precinct. Themed garden beds, and landscape and waterscape features will provide opportunities for learning about botany, ecology, conservation and sustainability. Landscaping will also provide new recreation space and improved visitor amenity. There will be an emphasis on local indigenous planting which will include grasses, shrubs and trees.</p> <p>The precinct will be an important link between the early formal botanic garden and the Garden for the Future established in 2018. When completed, the visitor centre buildings and landscaping will form the main entrance of the Bendigo Botanic Gardens, offering a central meeting place and providing enhanced visitor information and amenities.</p>
Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand (BGANZ)	<p>A grant of \$171,000 has been awarded to Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand (BGANZ), to develop a Victorian Regional Gardens Plant Record Management System. This will be a purpose-built botanical gardens plant database for individual botanic gardens capturing information on plant numbers, species diversity and rare and threatened species held within collections. The grant will facilitate the design, development, implementation and training for the database, to be available to 17 Victorian gardens initially. The records system will have a public interface for visitors, providing access to information on plant collections.</p> <p>BGANZ is a 'not for profit' peak industry body, formed in 2004, to represent the interests of botanic gardens in Australia and New Zealand. A major aim of BGANZ is to build capacity and actively support regional botanic gardens and arboreta. There are 34 member gardens in Victoria.</p>
Camperdown Botanical Gardens and Arboretum.	<p>A grant of \$83,000 has been awarded to Camperdown Botanic Gardens and Arboretum Trust Inc for protective fencing of the arboretum, arboricultural works to heritage trees, renewal of gravel paths and provision of new furniture for visitors, and planting of succession trees. These projects support the role of the botanic garden and arboretum. Redesigned in the 1880s by William Guilfoyle, Camperdown botanic Gardens is recognised as one of Victoria's significant 19th century botanic gardens and has an important collection of heritage trees.</p> <p>Arboricultural works will improve and prolong the health of the tree collection while propagation and sourcing of twenty selected trees will contribute to a tree specimen succession plan. Trees in the original arboretum will be protected from sheep and cattle grazing by new perimeter fencing. Upgraded paths and new bench seats and picnic tables will add to the amenity of the gardens and improve visitor experience.</p> <p>The project will be auspiced by Corangamite Shire.</p>
Castlemaine Botanical Gardens	<p>A grant of \$100,000 has been awarded to Mount Alexander Shire, to install an irrigation system to the main lawn surrounding the rotunda and repair of the deteriorated path network in the Flora and Fauna Reserve section of the gardens. Installation of the irrigation system in the main lawn area will complete a staged irrigation project designed to improve visitor use, health benefits and enjoyment of the garden, enhance plant health and protect the garden's significant heritage trees and plant collections. Rehabilitation of paths will support improved access and visitor appreciation of the important environmental flora and fauna reserve area of the gardens.</p> <p>Castlemaine Botanic Gardens, established in 1860, is recognised as one of Victoria's significant 19th century botanic gardens and funding will contribute to continuing and sustainable use and management of this valued community asset.</p>

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Colac Botanic Gardens	<p>A grant of \$47,500 has been awarded to Colac Otway Shire for construction of mulch and material bays, designed to recycle leaf matter from within the gardens. This project will contribute to self-sufficiency and sustainable garden management, making use of a renewable source of mulch to use on garden beds and as potting mix. Recycling plant matter provides for sustainable management and for savings to be applied elsewhere in the garden.</p> <p>Colac Botanic Gardens is a heritage listed garden established in 1865 featuring an avenue of trees, many specimen trees, clumped shrubberies and garden beds.</p>
Dandenong Ranges Botanic Garden, Olinda	<p>A grant of \$150,000 has been awarded to Parks Victoria to supply and install a robust and reliable irrigation system that will support and irrigate a new 'Conservation Garden' precinct. This garden area will provide a focus on conservation collections of rare and threatened native and exotic plants. A reliable irrigation system will safeguard the new plantings, contributing to long term plant conservation and opportunities for the community to visit and learn about plants and the conservation role of botanic gardens.</p> <p>2017, the former National Rhododendron Garden was renamed the Dandenong Ranges Botanic Garden, with a new role of conserving and displaying cool climate plants. The garden is managed by Parks Victoria, as a delegated committee of management for the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.</p>
Euroa Arboretum	<p>A grant of \$134,354 has been awarded to the Euroa Arboretum Committee of Management to establish a climate ready garden and outdoor visitor precinct. The project will provide a shaded, restful outdoors area for events and visitor education during summer heat. Partnering with Taungurung Traditional Owners, the new space will showcase a display of drought tolerant and local native species, and demonstrate a local garden adapted for climate change.</p> <p>Euroa Arboretum was established in 1994 and specialises in growing, researching and displaying plants representing local Ecological Vegetation Classes. The project improves visitor facilities and amenity, and creates new education resources for visitors, local community and Traditional Owners.</p>
Gargarro Regional Botanic Garden	<p>A grant of \$200,000 has been awarded to the Girgarre Development Group (Gargarro Botanic Garden Ltd) for a major landscaping project, to include construction of an ephemeral stream, a key component of the garden's design. With initial works and plantings now completed, following the launch of the garden in 2012, the grant will provide a major boost for Phase 1 landscape implementation.</p> <p>Gargarro Regional Botanic Garden is a long-term project being undertaken by the Girgarre community in northern Victoria. This is a flagship project contributing to the establishment of a new botanic garden, with strong benefits for the local and wider community.</p>
George Pentland Botanic Garden	<p>A grant of \$70,000 has been awarded to Frankston City to redesign the walking paths system through the garden's western precinct. The new path system will provide walking connections that are safe, offer access for all abilities and will allow visitors to wander and explore the gardens.</p> <p>George Pentland Botanic Gardens was established in 1975 and focuses on plants from South Eastern Australia and the Mornington Peninsula. The new path hierarchy will enhance the present design, which is characterised by curving beds of native plantings and long stretches of lawn, providing improved access to the labelled botanic collections developed over the years.</p>

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Gisborne Botanic Gardens	<p>A grant of \$130,000 has been awarded to Macedon Ranges Shire for the installation of an automatic recycled water irrigation system which will deliver more sustainable use of water within the gardens. The grant will also finance expansion of the garden's living collection which will include indigenous and exotic plants.</p> <p>The Gisborne Botanic Garden was opened in 1996 with a botanic collection focusing on plants from New Zealand, including Pittosporum and Hebe species, and local indigenous plants. Introduction of new plants to the garden supports botanic garden function and will benefit visitor experience.</p>
Grampians Flora Botanic Garden, Halls Gap	<p>A grant of \$50,876 has been awarded to the Community Association of Halls Gap for improvements to facilities at the Grampians Flora Botanic Garden. Improvements will include a major upgrade and expansion of the water irrigation system and improvements to the Garden group's administration and works area within the gardens, to improve amenity and sustainability.</p> <p>The garden was established in 1996 to showcase a representative collection of indigenous Grampians flora and provide easy access to an attractive and educational garden landscape. The grant will support continued community involvement and interest in Grampians flora.</p> <p>The project will be auspiced by Halls Gap Caravan Park and Recreation Reserve Committee of Management Inc.</p>
Grampians Flora Botanic Garden, Halls Gap	<p>A grant of \$6,000 has been awarded to the Community Association of Halls Gap for installation of interpretive signs providing information on local indigenous knowledge and use of plants. The project will support creating connections with traditional owners and provide opportunities to expand local and visitor knowledge about the garden's botanical collection.</p> <p>The garden's collection of indigenous Grampians flora provides opportunities to develop valuable educational resources and the grant will contribute to an enhanced understanding of local plants and visitor experience.</p> <p>The project will be auspiced by Halls Gap Caravan Park and Recreation Reserve Committee of Management Inc.</p>
Horsham Botanic Garden	<p>A grant of \$28,000 has been awarded to Horsham Rural City for new educational signage for plant collections in the garden. Established in 1878, Horsham Botanic Garden has over 50 individually themed garden beds, showcasing plants from many different parts of the world. New signage will replace outdated, poorly positioned and damaged signs, and expand interpretation to include most of the garden collections.</p> <p>New signs will be attractive, easy to read and more accessible. They will contribute to improved visitor and community education and experience, supporting a primary role and function of botanic gardens.</p>
Horsham Botanic Garden	<p>A grant of \$50,000 has been awarded to Horsham Rural City for an upgrade of the major path within the formal garden precinct. Visitor access and use of the gardens will be enhanced by sealing the major pathway and reinstating path edging. An upgraded path will be more comfortable to use, particularly for users with mobility issues, in all weather conditions.</p> <p>The formal precinct of this traditional 19th century botanic garden features a network of paths linking shrubberies, lawns, specimen trees and built features, including the Australia Pond, rotunda and pergola. Overall, this project will provide a higher quality, comfortable and safe access for all users of the path and gardens and reduce maintenance costs.</p>

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Botanic Garden	Project
Karwarra Australian Native Botanic Garden, Kalorama	<p>A grant of \$80,000 has been awarded to Yarra Ranges Shire for an upgrade to the main path network and a water storage project. Paths will be made more accessible for visitors and maintenance costs reduced. Additional water storage will allow more water to be collected on site, supporting maintenance of the botanical collection and the network of water features in the gardens.</p> <p>Established in 1969, Karwarra is one of the earliest gardens in Victoria to grow Australian plants exclusively. Upgrades to pathways and water storage will enhance visitor enjoyment of the botanical collections and water features, support the propagation and trialling of new species for horticulture and contribute to sustainable management.</p>
Malmsbury Botanic Garden	<p>A grant of \$50,000 has been awarded to Macedon Ranges Shire to upgrade the present manual irrigation system to an automatic system. The upgrade will provide a more effective water supply for the garden's trees and plant collections, maintain and improve plant health and assist in future-proofing the garden.</p> <p>The garden, established in 1863, has a fine collection of mature exotic trees, including cedars, oaks, elms, poplars and redwoods, many of which are identified as significant trees. The project will address water supply issues and support tree succession planting. Green spaces in the garden during Summer will enhance visitor experience and use.</p>
Melton Botanic Garden	<p>A grant of \$117,000 has been awarded to Melton City towards the development of a nature play space which will use natural elements and plants to create an engaging play area that supports the themes and use of the garden. The play space will be designed to complement the garden, adding to a social and recreational hub on the northern side of the lake and will be available for local community use as well as for visitors to the garden.</p> <p>Established in 2011, the Melton Botanic Garden is being developed in strong partnership with the Friends of Melton Botanic Gardens. The nature play space will be a major feature that attracts new visitation, expanding opportunities for education that will enhance understanding of botanical and horticultural values and outdoor recreation.</p>
Phillips Botanical Garden, Maryborough	<p>A grant of \$150,000 has been awarded to Central Goldfields Shire to upgrade the garden's irrigation system. The upgrade will make the present irrigation system more sustainable and extend irrigation to other areas of the garden, supporting new plantings and green lawns, and as a result, improving visitor experience.</p> <p>Established in 1872, the Phillips Garden has a collection of trees and plants considered to be of local significance. This project will provide water security and add value to the specimen tree planting project funded in Round One, further supporting renewed interest in the botanical values of the garden.</p>
Port Fairy Botanic Garden	<p>A grant of \$20,000 has been awarded to Moyne Shire to rejuvenate and enhance the formal entrance of the garden. The project will see the re-installation of a fully refurbished ornate fence and gate, replacing the replica 1980s wrought iron fence and gate which are badly corroded.</p> <p>Port Fairy Botanic Gardens, established in 1859, is recognised as one of Victoria's traditional 19th century botanic gardens, now featuring a small area of historic ornamental garden, specimen trees and historic recreational buildings. This modest project will improve the entrance, support the heritage values of the garden and add to visitor experience.</p>

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Botanic Garden

Project

Queen Victoria Park Botanic Garden,
Beechworth

A grant of \$139,422 has been awarded to Indigo Shire for a conservation, enhancement and education program that will achieve a major rejuvenation of this significant 19th botanic garden. Projects will include an upgrade of the path network to improve accessibility, installation of solar lights, planting of rare specimen trees, conservation and interpretation of a historic granite quarry and remnant indigenous forest vegetation within the gardens, installation of interpretive signs and provision of new picnic facilities to improve park infrastructure and visitor experience.

Established in 1862, the gardens feature open park and formal landscaping, many, rare and significant conifers, a rotunda and stone picnic shelter, a large granite outcrop and an area of indigenous vegetation. This project supports improved botanic garden function and the scientific, education and heritage values of the garden. Upgraded paths, lighting and picnic areas will improve visitor amenity.

Sale Botanic Gardens

A grant of \$130,200 has been awarded to Wellington Shire to rejuvenate the Sensory Garden, established in 2000, and to develop the "Bill Cane" Living Collection which will be a themed garden that recognises and celebrates an important local nurseryman. Rejuvenation of the Sensory Garden will include the repair of paths and raised garden beds and redesign of the plant collection which focuses on horticultural therapy, intended to stimulate the five senses and help people reconnect with plants.

The development of the "Bill Cane" Living Collection will expand the garden's eight Living Collections and provide examples of the plant breeding achievements of Bill Cane. The grant supports botanic garden function and education, providing new opportunities for visitor enjoyment and use of this valuable botanic garden. Sale Botanic Garden was established in 1860 and is the only 19th century botanic garden in Gippsland

University of Melbourne System
Garden, Parkville

A grant of \$67,515 has been awarded to the University of Melbourne to produce new signage and interpretation for the System Garden, which features a living display of different plant groups of the plant kingdom. New themed entrance signage will welcome visitors to the garden and provide a map of the garden's unique planting arrangement, historical information and a key to the new plant labels.

The System Garden was established in 1856 for the study of botany and a master plan is now guiding a return to the original layout of the garden and increasing the diversity of plants on display, supporting new opportunities for learning and recreation. The garden is open to the public and improved signage and interpretation is expected to encourage wider community use and enhanced education opportunities.

Wail Arboretum

A grant of \$40,000 has been awarded to Barengi Gadjin Land Council towards the revitalisation of Wail arboretum for visitors. Paths will be upgraded to improve accessibility and better protect the plant collection, which features both endemic species and dryland specimen plants collected from around Australia. Visitor facilities will be upgraded to include a new shelter and benches, and new interpretation signs will be installed.

Wail Arboretum was established by the former Forests Commission of Victoria (FCV) in 1946, as a demonstration nursery for native plants. Revitalisation works will recognise the significance of the arboretum's plant collection, improve visitor amenity and educational opportunities, and provide traditional owners with a place on country to enjoy and reconnect.



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Botanic Garden

Project

Wombat Hill Botanic Gardens,
Daylesford

A grant of \$22,647 has been awarded to Hepburn Shire for the development of a Collections Policy that will guide both a botanical labelling project and a pilot planting project designed to trial new species. The policy will review and develop the existing plant collections, explore new collection opportunities, and provide direction for plant management, conservation, interpretation and education.

Wombat Hill Botanic Gardens, established in 1862, is recognised as one of Victoria's traditional 19th century botanic gardens and contains an extensive collection of conifers and cool climate plants of scientific (botanic) significance. The project will enable the garden to fulfil its scientific botanic role and provide a model for education and learning about the role of botanic gardens in the future. Addressing climate change adaptation, the collections strategy will also future proof a significant and historic tree collection and guide appropriate future planting.

For more information on the Growing Victoria's Botanic Gardens Grant Program, please call 03 8624 5729 or email botanicgardens@delwp.vic.gov.au