

Garden Rubbish Dumping

Dumping of garden waste is one of the main ways that weeds escape from gardens and inhabit bushland and waterways. Always dispose of green waste through your Green Waste Bin, green waste collections or at the City's Green Waste Recycling Facility in Wangara.

Disposal of green waste in your General Waste Bin is discouraged. For more information on green waste disposal contact the City on **9400 4000**.

Tips for Managing the Spread of Weeds

- Identify plants in your garden that have the potential to become bushland weeds. Manage weeds to prevent escaping (e.g. cut off flowers to stop seeds spreading) or remove them completely.
- Ensure you dispose of all garden waste correctly (Green Waste Bin, City green waste collections, mulching etc).
- Maintain your property so weeds do not re-establish (apply dense mulch, replant weeded areas with suitable plants).
- For future planting, consider using local, native species where possible.
- Consider joining a Friends Group to participate in bushland restoration and enhance your knowledge of native plant species.

Many weed species have invaded the City's natural areas, through escaping backyard gardens or through dumped garden waste. Weed species impact upon local biodiversity. Weed identification can assist in prevention and ongoing management of weed species.

This Guide provides an overview of common and threatening weed species regularly planted in the City of Joondalup.

Key for Weed Species

Declared – Legislation under the *Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Act 2007* that requires landholders to control or eradicate the weed when it grows on their land.

WONS – Under Australian Weeds Strategy 2017 - 2027 identified as a Weed of National Significance because of its invasiveness, potential for spread, and economic and environmental impacts.

Areas Found

C – Coastal B – Bushland W – Wetland

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Purchasing and Growing Native Plants

For a list of alternative plants to grow in your garden see the City of Joondalup publication:

- 'Growing Locals' - In Quindalup, Cottesloe, and Karrakatta Soils.

This publication lists plants that suit your soil and climatic conditions and don't pose any adverse effects to local bushland.

Native plants can be purchased from many specialist nurseries. For a list of native nurseries in your area visit the Australian Native Plants Society website or enquire at your local nursery.

Additional Resources

- Hussey, B, Keighery, G and Dodd, J (2007) *Western Weeds*.
- Brown, K and Sandiford, L (2002) *Bushland Weeds: A Practical Guide To Their Management*.

Online

- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
agric.wa.gov.au
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
dpaw.wa.gov.au
- Florabase
florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/weeds

For further information on weeds in your local area visit the City's website at joondalup.wa.gov.au



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City of
Joondalup

Being WEEDwise Environmental Weeds

Victorian (Coastal) Tea Tree

What is a Weed?

Weeds may be either introduced plants, or native plants growing outside their natural range.

A weed is a plant which has, or has the potential to have, a detrimental effect on economic, social or conservation values. (National Weeds Strategy, 1997)

Weeds invade or take over ecosystems and compete with native flora.

Many ornamental plants growing in backyard gardens have the potential to become environmental weeds in local bushland.

Characteristics of a Weed

- The ability to spread by vegetative means (e.g. bulbs, roots or stem fragments).
- Produce seeds in fruit that can be eaten or dispersed by birds (e.g. olives).
- Produce large amounts of seeds which can be dispersed by wind.
- The ability to survive and in some cases thrive in varied and often harsh conditions.

Weed Dispersal

Weeds are often spread by a number of methods:

- Dispersal of seeds by wind, birds, animals or human or vehicle movement.
- Through underground root systems.
- By garden rubbish dumping.

Impacts on Bushland

Weeds can:

- Displace native plant species.
- Harbour pests and diseases.
- Create fuel loads for fires.
- Impact negatively on fauna and flora and their habitats.
- Compete with native species for space, water and nutrients.

Planting unsuitable native or exotic species in your garden increases the risk of these plants 'escaping' to bushland areas and negatively impacting upon biodiversity values.



Victorian (Coastal) Tea Tree
Leptospermum laevigatum C, B

Shrub or tree, up to 6 metres high. Displays white flowers in autumn to spring. Small, oblong, grey-green leaves.

Introduced as a garden plant (often grown as a hedge), and has become a major bushland weed.

Invades coastal and bushland areas.



Bridal Creeper (WONS)(Declared)
Asparagus asparagoides C, B, W

Climbing herb or vine to 3 metres, arising from a short rhizome attached to tuberous roots. Small, glossy, leaf-like structures, white flowers, and bright red berries.

Asparagus Ferns (WONS)
Asparagus spp. C, B, W

Various species of climbing Asparagus Ferns with needle like leaf-like structures. White flowers and bright orange or red berries. Popular garden plant, particularly for hanging baskets.

Quickly smother native vegetation, easily spread through seed dispersal by birds and other animals consuming their berries.



Tall Fleabane
Conyza sumatrensis C, B, W

Soft, hairy plant with very leafy stems that branch only at the flowers. Grows to 2 metres forming a pyramid of small greenish-white flowers in summer.

Found on roadsides, wetlands and disturbed or vacant land.



Kikuyu, Buffalo and Couch grasses C, B, W

Kikuyu *Cenchrus clandestinus* – Perennial grass up to 15cm high. Displays green flowers from spring to autumn. Prefers moist habitats.

Buffalo *Stenotaphrum secundatum* – Flat growing perennial grass up to 50cm high. Displays green or purple flowers from spring to autumn.

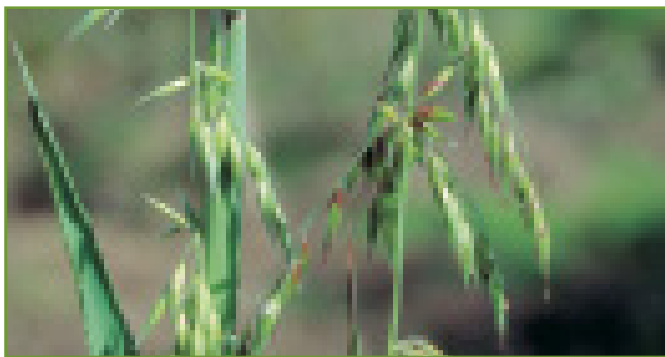
Couch *Cynodon dactylon* – Flat growing perennial grass up to 30cm high. Displays green or purple flowers from winter to summer.

All cultivated as lawn, but have become a widespread weed in natural areas.



Geraldton Carnation Weed
Euphorbia terracina C, B

Erect perennial, up to 1.2 metres high. Leaves are long and linear, 1-4cm long and minutely toothed. Displays green and yellow flowers from spring to summer. Found in coastal areas and wetlands. Produces a toxic milky sap.



Annual Veldt Grass
Ehrharta longiflora C, B, W

Small, densely tufted annual grass up to 60cm high. Displays purple and green flowers from winter to spring. Widespread weed of coastal areas and bushland.



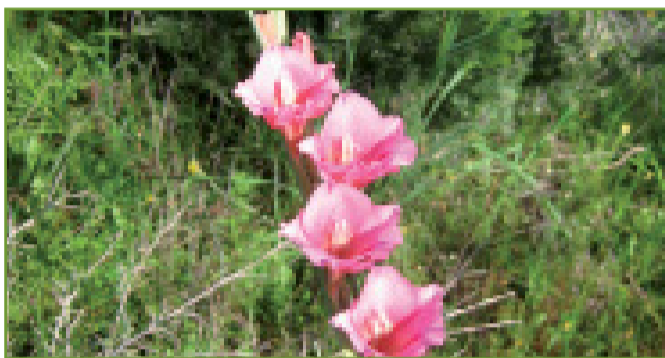
Perennial Veldt Grass
Ehrharta calycina C, B

Densely tufted perennial grass up to 1 metres high. Displays green, purple and red flowers from autumn to spring. Widespread weed of roadsides, bushland and vacant land and can be a significant fire hazard.



Rose Pelargonium
Pelargonium capitatum C, B, W

Shrubby perennial up to 1 metres high. Displays a compact head of pink flowers from summer to autumn and winter to spring. Common weed of coastal areas.



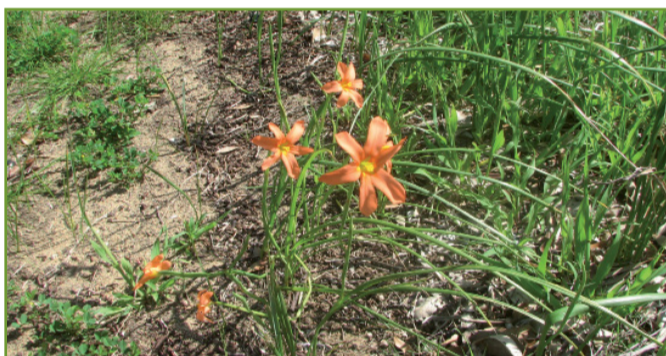
Wild Pink Gladiolus
Gladiolus caryophyllaceus B

Perennial bulb up to 1 metres high, with twisted leaf blades. Displays pink flowers from winter to spring. Increasingly common in urban bushland areas.



Sand Plain Lupin
Lupinus cosentinii B

Multi-branched annual up to 1.4 metres high. Has prickly, thick upright stems and rosettes of bright green finger-like leaves. Displays blue flowers on a central spike with many pea-shaped flowers. Large seed pod with 6 or so pea-like seeds. Flowers from winter to spring. Commonly found in bushland areas.



One Leaf Cape Tulip (Declared)
Moraea flaccida C, B

Single leaf perennial bulb, up to 75cm high. Displays yellow-orange (salmon) flowers in spring. Very invasive in bush and coastal reserves with sand over limestone (e.g. Iluka). Prior to flowering infestations can be recognised at a distance from brown tinge resulting from dying tips of their leaves. Toxic to animals.



Wild Oat
Avena fatua C, B

Erect annual grass up to 90cm high. Displays green flowers from winter to summer.

Bearded Oat (pictured)
Avena barbata C, B

Erect annual grass up to 1 metres high. Displays green flowers from winter to spring.



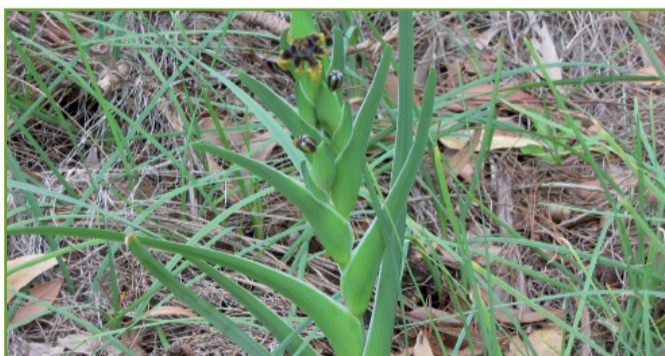
Caltrop (City of Joondalup Pest Plant)
Tribulus terrestris C, B

Flat growing annual with greyish leaves, yellow flowers less than 1cm across, and very spiny roughly spherical seed pods. Flowers in summer. Found along roadsides and vacant land. Sharp thorns are a hazard to bike tyres and pets. Can be confused with doublegee as it has similar spiny seed pods.



Prickly Lettuce
Lactuca serriola C, B

Erect annual or biennial (blooms in second year), up to 2 metres high. Displays yellow flowers from spring to summer. Found along roadsides and disturbed sites.



Black Flag
Ferraria crispa C, B

Perennial bulb to 60cm high. Displays brown to yellow mottled flowers from winter to spring. Spread by seeds and bulbs. A garden escapee found in coastal areas and bushland. Often found growing in dense clumps and easily distinguishable by its succulent foliage.



Dune Onion Weed
Trachyantha divaricata C, B

Perennial to 35cm high with an underground root system. Displays white flowers in spring. Flowers often have a pair of yellow spots near base. Flat leaves and widely branched flowering stalk. Flower stalk produces seeds that ripen, dry out, break off and blow in the wind, scattering seeds. Commonly found in coastal and bushland areas.



Sea Spinach
Tetragonia decumbens C

Soft, semi-succulent shrub up to 30cm high and 2 metres wide. Has dry, brown winged seed pods. Displays yellow flowers from autumn to spring. Found in sand dunes.



Wild Turnip
Brassica tournefortii C, B

Annual up to 60cm high. Displays pale yellow or cream to white flowers from winter to spring. Aggressive weed of disturbed ground, bushland and coastal areas.



Fumitory Family
Fumaria capreolata (whiteflower fumitory) C, B, W

Climbing or scrambling annual up to 3 metres high. Displays flowers that range from white to reddish/brown from winter to spring with bright green leaves. Common on road verges and vacant land.