

Blackburn Lake Wetlands Regeneration Project



We have an exciting new project to regenerate the Blackburn Lake Wetlands.

After removing weeds, we will plant 4,000 indigenous plants, upper storey, mid-storey and ground covers.

Celebration and Information session for the community

- Why do the wetlands need to be regenerated?
- What will the project entail?
- What are the benefits?
- How can you get involved in this exciting project?

You are invited to come along and find out more

Sunday 21st July at 2 pm

All welcome! Afternoon tea provided.

Blackburn Lake Sanctuary Visitor Centre

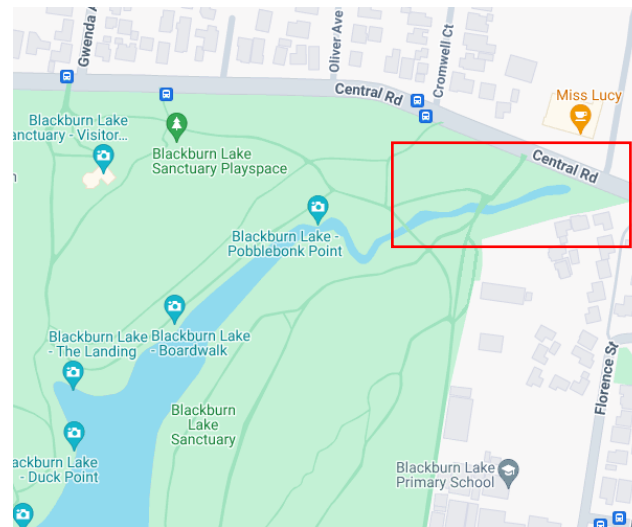
The Blackburn Lake Wetlands

The wetlands improve the water quality in the lake.

They were constructed at the main inlet to the lake, using rock barriers to create a series of ponds that slow the water flow, help to stop erosion, prevent sediment from entering the lake, and help oxygenate the water.

The benefits of constructing the wetlands have been improved water quality for the lake, improved habitat for flora and fauna and the beautification of this part of the Sanctuary.

Understandably, the wetlands have degraded with time, and with this project we will be able to regenerate the habitat and water quality of the area.



Location of the wetlands

Planned regeneration activities

Removal of dead and dying trees

There are dead and dying short-lived trees that need to be removed and replaced with longer-living trees, including eucalypts and acacias.



Examples of the dead and dying trees

Removal of weeds

There are many woody and herbaceous weeds that need to be removed and replaced by riparian and open woodland indigenous flora.

The woody weeds are sweet pittosporum, ash and non-indigenous native plants. There are various herbaceous weeds, including wandering tradescantia, milk thistle and various grasses.



Sweet pittosporum



Wandering tradescantia

Planting

The weeds will be replaced by indigenous species. In the riparian zone, this will include species that form tussocks, such as *Poa* spp., *Carex* spp., *Juncus* spp. and *Lomandra* spp. Further away from the water, a wider range of indigenous species will be planted.



Poa sp.



A dragonfly on *Carex*



A pair of Chestnut Teal ducks

Who is doing the regeneration work?

The regeneration work will be done by Whitehorse City Council, contractors and several volunteer groups that work in the Blackburn Lake environs.

“Community caring for the Wetlands”

The benefits of the regeneration project

The Sanctuary hosts 90 species of birds, two types of possum, sugar gliders and rakali (native water rat), as well as a wide variety of indigenous flora. The regeneration will greatly enhance the local habitat both for wildlife and the community.

The lake is part of a larger water system. From the lake, water continues on to the Yarra River and Port Phillip Bay via KooyongKoot (Gardiners Creek). The wetlands will improve not only the quality of the water that enters Blackburn Lake, but also the other waterways that it feeds into.

If you would like to be involved, please come to the information session on **21st July at 2 pm**. Any queries contact BLSAC@bigpond.com.

Project partners



This project is supported by the Victorian Government through the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's Green Links program.