

## What is Bushcare?

Bushcare is a volunteer-based program managed by Council. The program aims to protect, conserve and restore bushland areas under the care and control of Council. This is done through the use of recognised bush regeneration techniques and methods to achieve a sustainable indigenous plant community.

Bushland is a valuable part of the urban landscape. Bushland provides visual amenity, recreation, habitat, biodiversity and ecosystem services such as clean air and water. But due to the impacts of the surrounding urban landscape and lack of natural processes, urban bushland needs to be managed to ensure that bushland areas are not overrun by weeds, increase biodiversity and manage negative impacts.

The term 'bush regeneration' was first introduced in 1971 by the Bradley sisters and consists of three basic principles:

1. Always work outwards from 'good bush' towards weedy areas.
2. Reduce disturbance as much as possible.
3. Let the rate of native plant regeneration dictate the degree of weed removal.

Through the Bayside bushcare program, Council aims to regenerate, protect and preserve urban bushland areas within the Bayside Council area with the support and management of volunteers for the enjoyment of future generations.

## What do Bushcare volunteers do?

- ▶ Weed removal and control
- ▶ Planting
- ▶ Track maintenance
- ▶ Seed collection
- ▶ Monitoring
- ▶ Training

## What does Council provide?

- ▶ Coordination and supervision of groups
- ▶ Training, professional guidance and technical assistance
- ▶ Tools, gloves, shirt and a hat
- ▶ Morning tea
- ▶ Personal accident and public liability insurance
- ▶ Promotion of the Bushcare program and related activities

If you would like to become a bushcare volunteer please, complete the Bushcare Volunteer Application form and return to Council.

[www.bayside.nsw.gov.au](http://www.bayside.nsw.gov.au)