

Media Release

Tuesday 16 April 2019

Volunteer with Camden Bushcare

Mayor of Camden, Cr Peter Sidgreaves, is calling for volunteers for Council's Bushcare Program, to help with vital work in managing and maintaining the beautiful natural environment across the Camden area.

"Many of our residents may not know, but Camden is home to some incredible biodiversity.

"Cumberland Plain Woodland and Elderslie Banksia Scrub Forest can both be found right here and are listed as Critically Endangered Ecological Communities. The River-Flat Eucalypt Forest, Swamp Oak Floodplain Forest and Moist Shale Woodland are also located in Camden and are Endangered Ecological Communities. Not to mention the 557 native flora and 225 native fauna species that call Camden home, many of which are either regionally significant, threatened in NSW or threatened nationally.

"All this beautiful wildlife is in constant need of protection, which is why Council proudly runs the Bushcare Program. We're always welcoming new volunteers to ensure the protection and restoration of Camden's bushland.

"The Bushcare Groups are led by qualified bushland supervisors, with tools and materials provided on-site. You'll also have training and technical advice available to you, so there is no experience or equipment necessary – just enthusiasm and the desire to help."

Bushcare volunteers help to:

- Regenerate degraded bushland;
- Remove weeds which threaten the integrity of the site;
- Maintain areas by follow up work to assist in native plant regrowth;
- Create habitat for native fauna; and
- Empower others and share information.

Volunteers are welcome to join any Bushcare Group currently working in bushland areas, including:

- Harrington Forest, Scanlon Crescent, Harrington Park third Saturday of the month, 9am-noon;
- Hayter Reserve, Wire Lane, Camden South first Friday of the month, 9am-noon;
- Kings Bush Reserve, Chellaston Street, Camden every Tuesday, 9am-noon and the first Sunday of the month, 9am-noon;
- Parrott Farm Reserve, Richardson Road, Narellan (next to RFS) second Friday of the month, 9amnoon;
- Ron Dine Reserve, corner McCrae and Cowper Drives, Camden South third Friday of the month, 9am-noon;
- Sickles Creek Reserve, Sickles Drive, Grasmere last Sunday of the month, 9am-noon;
- Spring Farm Bush Corridor, Hampshire Boulevard, Spring Farm second Saturday of the month, 9am-noon.

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Council will provide:

- Technical advice on required work programs at each site and weed and native plant identification;
- On-site supervision at each site, for three hours per session;
- · Work Health and Safety training;
- Tools at each site on Bushcare days, including secateurs, herbicide, gloves and first aid kit;
- Public liability and personal accident insurance that covers persons 15 to 90 years of age; and
- Reminder notices sent to volunteers on a regular basis.

For more information, or to register your interest in Bushcare, please call Council's Natural Resource Project Officer on 4654 7777 or email bushcare@camden.nsw.gov.au

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