

THINK
water!

Native Plant Rebate Scheme

On an annual basis the Town of Cottesloe distributes a voucher to all residents enabling the purchase of a range of native plants at a subsidised price from Apace Nursery. This aims to encourage the planting of native species, which in turn will increase biodiversity throughout Cottesloe.

Additional Resources

Growing Locals: Gardening with Local Plants in Perth R. Powell & J. Emberson, WA Naturalists Club (Inc.) 1996

Coastal Plants, Perth & South West Region E. Rippey & B. Rowland, UWA Press, 2004

Volunteer Master Gardeners, Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority. Ph: 9480 3672.

Cottesloe Coastcare Association,
www.cottesloecoastcare.org

For further information contact the Town of Cottesloe council on 9285 5000 or visit our website at www.cottesloe.wa.gov.au

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Town of Cottesloe



Planting
a Local,
Native
Garden



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In an era of rising temperatures and decreasing rainfall it is important to look at how we use water in our gardens.

Did You Know?

Over 50% of the water typically used in our homes is actually used to water the garden (and of that almost all of it is used to water lawns).

Many of us water lawns that we simply don't use, or water in excess of what we need to. Similarly, often the plant species in our garden are exotic and not entirely suitable to our climate, needing more water to survive.

Why Go Native?

- Native plants are best suited to the local climate, conditions and soil. Therefore they require minimal inputs such as water, fertiliser and maintenance.
- They attract local wildlife, insects and birds and provide corridors of biodiversity in developed areas.
- They have minimal impact on the environment – unlike many introduced species; which have become bushland weeds and prove difficult and expensive to eradicate; and
- They represent local heritage, teaching us about nature and our local identity.

Garden Planning and Design

It is important to consider the following aspects when planning a native garden:

- Colour and flowering seasons
- Shade and sun requirements
- When to plant
- Garden layout (positioning and number of plants)

Information on the design and layout of your garden can be found in the *Western Suburbs Greening Plan Guide: Wildflowers and Other Local Plants for Your Garden* which is available from the Town of Cottesloe Civic Centre.

Plant Selection

Species chosen for planting within Cottesloe should be appropriate to the local area. A list of plants can be found in the *Cottesloe 'Grow Local Plants' Guide* which can be found in your information pack or alternatively at Cottesloe council. This also provides detailed information on *Watering*, and *Garden Maintenance* (pruning, mulching fertilising etc).

Before You Start Digging...

Residential Verges

If you intend to plant natives on your verge/nature strip it is important you notify council of your proposal.

Firstly, ensure you are aware of the details outlined in the Cottesloe Residential Verge Policy which can be found on the Town of Cottesloe website at www.cottesloe.wa.gov.au

Secondly, it is important to provide an application in writing to the Council accompanied by sketch plans showing the details of your proposal. This would include the plants maximum heights and positioning.

Council may be able to assist you with mulch to get your project started and advice on species selection and maintenance.

Any planting you undertake in your backyard is free from council approval.

Becoming Involved



The annual *Great Gardens workshop* run in conjunction with Landcare Solutions and the Town of Cottesloe provides a forum in which to learn about waterwise and fertiliserwise gardening. The free, interactive workshop unlocks the myths about gardening and demonstrates practical ways to create and maintain a sustainable garden.

The *Great Gardens Competition* is an opportunity to recognise gardens throughout the Cottesloe area that have been designed and maintained with sustainability principles in mind. Residents are encouraged to nominate gardens they believe compliment Cottesloe's natural environment in this way. Judging is carried out by gardening specialists on a range of criteria including:

- design and general layout;
- mulching, composting etc;
- complimentary planting/shading for moisture retention/winds;
- plant species suitability;
- biodiversity/conservation features;
- waterwise strategies

Prizes are awarded which further encourage sustainable gardening.