

Landcare after the fires: Restoring our Landscape



Natural regeneration will bring back most bushlands with our protection. As time goes on, you may wish to do supplementary plantings and establish new revegetation areas to further protect your land. This information sheet is a supplement to the booklet “Restoring our Landscape”.

This information sheet includes principles applicable to most properties affected by fire, but includes details and actions specific to fire areas on the northern side of Melbourne in 2014.

After the 2009 Black Saturday fires, the Upper Goulburn Landcare Network produced a booklet “**Restoring our Landscape: a basic revegetation guide for fire affected areas**” (the Guide), which can be viewed or downloaded from:

<http://www.landcarevic.net.au/resources/for-land-managers/bushfire-recovery-resources-for-landholders>

This information sheet expands on some of the recommendations in the booklet, and revises the species lists for the different landscapes in the fire areas north of Melbourne.

Selecting your plants (*Restoring our Landscape* pages 20-24)

The guide has plant lists for four different environments, roughly corresponding to the different land classes in the landscape. The lists have been modified for the fire area.

Streamsides, flood plains and moist lower gullies

TREES	SHRUBS	GROUNDCOVERS/CLIMBERS
Silver wattle Blackwood River Red Gum Swamp Gum (damp areas) Candlebark Manna Gum	Varnish Wattle Sweet Bursaria River Bottlebrush Prickly Tea-tree Common Cassinia Hemp Bush Hop Bush Hop Goodenia Woolly Tea-tree Rough-bark Honey-myrtle Tree Violet	Tall Sedge Tassel Sedge Spiny-headed Mat-rush Common Tussock-grass Weeping Grass

Rolling lower hills and wide valleys

TREES	SHRUBS	GROUNDCOVERS/CLIMBERS
Silver Wattle Lightwood Black Wattle Blackwood Broad-leaf Peppermint Red Stringybark Yellow Box Grey Box Candlebark River Red Gum (on basalt)	Golden Wattle Hedge Wattle Gold-dust Wattle Varnish Wattle Sweet Bursaria Drooping Cassinia Grey Parrot-pea Showy Parrot-pea Small-leaf Parrot-pea Narrow-leaf Bitter-pea Austral Indigo Tree Violet	Thin-leaf Wattle Chocolate Lily Clustered Everlasting Twining Glycine Running Postman Purple Coral-pea Wattle Mat-rush Kangaroo Grass

Sheltered slopes, higher altitude and higher rainfall areas

TREES	SHRUBS	GROUNDCOVERS/CLIMBERS
Silver Wattle Blackwood Messmate Narrow-leaf Peppermint Broad-leaf Peppermint Manna Gum	Cinnamon Wattle Common Cassinia Hop Bitter-pea Narrow-leaf Bitter-pea Austral Indigo Hop Goodenia Prickly Tea-tree	Tasman Flax-lily Button Everlasting Ivy-leaf Violet Purple Coral-pea Kangaroo Grass Weeping Grass

Dry north and west facing slopes and rocky ridges

TREES	SHRUBS	GROUNDCOVERS/CLIMBERS
Lightwood Black Wattle Drooping She-oak Broad-leaf Peppermint Long-leaf Box Red Stringybark Red Box	Golden Wattle Spreading Wattle Gold-dust Wattle Hedge Wattle Sweet Bursaria Drooping Cassinia Showy Parrot-pea Grey Everlasting Large-leaf Bush-pea Gorse Bitter-pea Small-leaf Parrot-pea Cats-claw Grevillea	Thin-leaf Wattle Sticky Everlasting Button Everlasting Fuzzy New Holland Daisy Small-leaf Clematis Black-anther Flax-lily Purple Coral-pea Running Postman Rock Isotome Austral Stork's-bill Grey Tussock-grass

For more detailed information about your particular site, go to the vegetation profiles for the Broadford area in the Goulburn Broken Revegetation Guide:

<http://www.gbcma.vic.gov.au/revegetation/1/Index5.html>

In addition a wide diversity of native grasses and smaller herbs can be grown and planted. Local indigenous plant nurseries will be able to suggest other species suitable for your land.

Site preparation (*Restoring our Landscape* page 10)

Weed control: Phalaris is a major issue in revegetation sites particularly in damper and more fertile sites. Phalaris out-competes smaller native species and can increase the fire risk in plantations. Intensive control is recommended with three sprayings at times of active growth: after the Autumn break, in Spring, and in the Autumn before planting.

Deep ripping: Deep ripping is good for land that is compacted. However, it is not always needed or desirable. Where there is already a good ground cover of native species, ripping will disturb the ground for weeds and may dry the ground surface. Ripping can also create very rough ground where rocks are near the surface. And ripping across contours on steep slopes is risky.

For more information on fire recovery north of Melbourne:

<http://www.landcarevic.net.au/resources/for-land-managers/bushfire-recovery-resources-for-landholders>

www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au/council/news-media-notices/news-updates/information-fire-affected-farmers-animals.html

Landcare in conjunction with other natural resource management agencies is organising a series of workshops on care of soils, pastures and bushland, revegetation and weed management. Landcare is also seeking funding and support for internal fencing to protect bushland, pastures and waterways, and for revegetation works within fire areas. Watch out for details or lodge an "Expression of Interest" with your Landcare facilitator (below).

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