

Environmental Weeds in Mitchell Shire

Grasses

Angled onion*
Annual veld grass
Cocksfoot
Quaking grass
Yorkshire Fog
Herbs/small shrubs

Allium triquetrum
Ehrharta longiflora
Dactylis glomerata
Briza maxima
Holcus lanatus

Fennel*

Gazania
Ragwort*
St John's Wort*
White Arum Lily

Foeniculum vulgare
Gazania linearis
Scenecio jacobaea
Hypericum perforatum
Zantedeschia aethiopica

Creepers/Climbers

Blackberry*
Blue periwinkle
Bridal Creeper*
Cape Ivy
Common Forget-me-not
Creeping Buttercup
English Ivy
Japanese Honeysuckle
Wandering Dude
Himalayan Honeysuckle

Rubus fruticosus
Vinca major
Asparagus asparagoides
Delairea odorata
Myosotis sylvatica
Ranunculus repens
Hedera helix
Ipomoea indica
Tradescantia fluminensis
Leycesteria Formosa

Trees/Shrubs

Box-Thorn*
Cape Broom*
Cherry Plum
Cootamundra Wattle
Cotoneaster
Dessert Ash
Early Black Wattle
English Broom*
Flax Leaf Broom*
Hawthorn*
Holly
Pine
Poplar
Sweet Briar Rose*
Tree Lucerne
Willow*

Lycium ferocissimum
Genista monspessulana
Prunus cerasifera
Acacia baileyana
Cotoneaster spp.
Fraxinus angustifolia
Acacia decurrens
Cytisus scoparius
Genista linifolia
Crataegus monogyna
Ilex aquifolium
Pinus radiata
Poplar spp.
Rosa rubiginosa
Cytisus palmensis
Salix fragilis, S. cinera
and S. nigra

New and Emerging Weeds in Mitchell Shire

Bulbs

Artichoke Thistle
Arum Lily
Belladonna Lily
Freesia

Cynara cardunculus
Zantedeschia aethiopica
Amaryllis belladonna
Freesia alba x Freesia leichtlinii
Watsonia meriana
variety bulbifera

Watsonia

Grasses

Blue Canary Grass
Cane Needle Grass
Chilean Needle Grass*
Serrated Tussock*
Texas Needle Grass

Phalaris coerulescens
Nassella hyalina
Nassella neesiana
Nassella trichotoma
Nassella leucotricha

Shrubs

Cape Broom*
Galenia
Spanish Heath
Sweet Briar Rose*

Genista monspessulana
Galenia pubescens
Erica lusitanica
Rosa rubiginosa

Other

Prickly Pear
Wheel Cactus

Opuntia sp.
Opuntia robusta

* Indicates declared noxious weed under the Catchment and Land Protection (CaLP) Act 1994.

Produced by Environmental Programs at Mitchell Shire Council.

MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL



Mitchell Shire Council
113 High Street, Broadford, VIC 3658
t: 5734 6200
f: 5734 6222
e: mitchell@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au
w: www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au



MITCHELL SHIRE.
Environmental Weeds

*Stop the invasion in our natural
areas of Mitchell Shire*



MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL





Wild Watsonia (*Watsonia meriana*).



Gazania (*Gazania linearis*).



Blue Periwinkle (*Vinca major*).

Environmental Weeds

Environmental weeds are plants that invade natural areas. Sixty five percent of Australian environmental weeds are garden escapees. Weeds have major economic and environmental effects. It is estimated that weeds cost the agriculture industry alone in excess of \$4 billion dollars per year. The cost of controlling invasive plants to the environment and biodiversity is incalculable.

Invasive plants compete with the naturally occurring vegetation for light, nutrients, water and space, reducing the native vegetation's ability to regenerate.

The impact of environmental weeds on ecosystems includes competition for light and nutrients, reduced biodiversity due to a monoculture of plant species, loss of food sources and shelter for native animals, insects and even the choking of river systems and water ways.

Environmental weeds can be any type of plant: annuals, perennial herbs, shrubs, vines, trees, succulents and even aquatic plants. They are able to survive and spread over a wide range of conditions.

Weeds in the garden are considered a nuisance that needs to be attended to in order to make the garden more attractive. When plants become weeds in our bushland and waterways however, they pose a much more serious problem.

An environmental weed may be one that we recognise as a common garden weed, such as White Clover or Soursob. They can also be ornamental plants introduced from overseas such as Spanish Heath, or Australian plants originating from outside the 'local area,' such as Cootamundra Wattle and the Early Black Wattle brought into Victoria from New South Wales.

Some of the plants that we grow in our gardens are able to propagate themselves by seeds, cuttings, tubers and offshoots. For example, plants such as Cape Broom and Spanish Heath self-seed easily. Ivy and Wandering Dude can take root from a small piece of stem or cane.

Keeping Garden Plants 'in the Garden'

When deciding on what plant species to include in your home garden consider using non invasive plants to lessen the potential for weed spread, especially if you live near forests, rivers, and creeks. There are many non-invasive alternatives to choose from. Local native plants offer habitat for native animals. Refer to the 'Local Plants for Local Gardens in the Mitchell Shire' brochure for some native plant alternatives for your garden.

Consider keeping your garden plants inside the garden by:

- Examine the invasiveness of the species, your nursery person should be able to provide information

- Choose sterile plant varieties where available, for example, there are now sterile varieties of Agapanthus
- Cut off old flower heads from invasive species before seeds or berries are produced
- Consider planting invasive/self-seeding plants like herbs in pots
- Disposing of garden waste by double bagging for landfill. Mitchell Shire Transfer Stations also accept green waste which is then recycled into mulch (material must be weed free). Composting, Solarisation and burning are some other appropriate weed disposal techniques
- Report to the council, persons illegally dumping garden clippings or green waste in parks, along waterways, forests and vacant blocks

Avoid using plants that are known environmental weeds in your area (see back of pamphlet for some common environmental weeds). If you are not sure contact your local council or visit www.weeds.org.au for further information.

Further information on environmental weeds is available from:

- Mitchell Shire Council's 'Central Victorian Weeds Guide'
- Sustainable Gardening Australia (SGA) t: 8850 3050 or www.sgaonline.org.au
- Mitchell Shire Council's Environment Department: 5734 6200 or www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au