

Landcare matters

Lake Clifton Sub-catchment

Edition 2
June 2018

Lake Clifton Landcare Matters - a bi-monthly update on Natural Resource Management (NRM) in the Lake Clifton subcatchment. NRM refers to the management of natural resources such as land, water, soils, plants and animals. It brings together landuse planning, water management, biodiversity conservation and the future sustainability of industries such as agriculture, mining, tourism, fisheries and forestry.



Catchment Critters

Western ringtail possums (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) are a small to medium marsupial found only in the South-West of Western Australia. Lake Clifton is home to some of the northern most populations of ringtails as they are generally thought to reside from Dawesville as far south as Manjimup. Recently the PHCC supported the City of Mandurah and the Bouvard

Coast Care group with a Community Environment Grant to install a possum bridge in Dawesville, allowing the resident possums to travel between fragmented vegetation through the tree tops.

Ringtail possums spend most of their lives in tree canopies, the West Australian peppermint trees in Lake Clifton provide wonderful habitat for these iconic critters.

Unfortunately, the western ringtail possum is listed as critically endangered. Car strikes, habitat destruction and predation by foxes and cats are major threats to the remaining population. But there are things you can do to help!

Retaining established trees on your property and revegetating with over story natives such as peppermint trees and local eucalyptus species can help improve habitat conditions for your possum friends. Containing your domestic cats and dogs (especially at night when these nocturnal critters are most active) is one of the easiest and most effective ways of protecting local fauna, as well as controlling feral cats and foxes which can have devastating effects on our native wildlife.

Macrozamia riedlei

Macrozamia riedlei is an iconic native species in the South-West, commonly known by the name zamia palm.

Noongar people have used the brightly coloured fruit of the zamia palm in traditional bush tucker dishes for many years. However, a careful and lengthy preparation process is required prior to consuming to remove the poison which makes the fruit highly toxic.

Dogs, cattle and even sheep are affected by the toxins in the fruit and young leaves of the palm. With no treatment available, please ensure your four legged friends don't treat themselves to a poisonous snack!



2018 Seedling Giveaway

Residents of Lake Clifton and Herron are invited to the 2018 Seedling Giveaway. Join us for a morning of knowledge sharing and networking at the Lake Clifton Community Centre. Enjoy a yummy morning tea, catch up with your neighbours and speak to volunteers and professionals involved in rabbit control, ringtail possum rehabilitation, artificial hollows for black-cockatoos, the Backyard Bandicoot project and the Land for Wildlife program.

Attendees who have RSVP'd for the event will be provided with a selection of local native seedlings as well as tree guards and mulch to assist in their establishment.

Be sure to bring along a container for your seedlings and mulch on the day!

Please note that after this edition, Landcare Matters will be distributed via email only. If you wish to continue to receive this newsletter, please ensure you provide us with an email address. If you do not have an email address please contact us on 6369 8800 to discuss the best delivery method.

Coming Up...

June 10 **Seedling Giveaway**

8:45 am – 12:00 pm

Lake Clifton Community Centre, Tuart Grove Avenue, Lake Clifton

RSVP essential:
rsvp@peel-harvey.org.au

more details on our website...
www.peel-harvey.org.au