

Australia's Native Plants Together

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Acknowledgement of Country



Photo by [Nerissa J](#) on [Unsplash](#)

[Householders' Options to Protect the Environment \(HOPE\) Inc. \(Australia\)](#) acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and recognise their continuing connection to the land, waters and native plants that have been cared for over thousands of years. As we explore the importance of conserving Australia's native flora, we acknowledge the invaluable knowledge and stewardship of First Nations peoples, whose relationship with Country continues to inspire environmental care today.

Discovering the Work of the Australian Network for Plant Conservation



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When we think about Australia's unique wildlife, animals such as koalas, kangaroos, quokkas and echidnas often come to mind. Yet behind every healthy forest, woodland, grassland and wetland are the native plants that make these ecosystems possible. They provide food and shelter for wildlife, protect our soils, improve water quality and help landscapes recover after drought, fire and other natural events. Without healthy native vegetation, many of the plants and animals we treasure simply could not survive.

Across Australia, these plants are facing increasing pressure. Land clearing, habitat fragmentation, invasive weeds, plant diseases and climate change are affecting many native species, some of which are now threatened with extinction. Safeguarding Australia's flora is therefore about much more than saving individual plants. It is about caring for the ecosystems that support wildlife, communities and future generations.

This important work is supported by the [Australian Network for Plant Conservation \(ANPC\)](#), now publicly known as **Plant Conservation Australia**. Established in 1991, the organisation brings together people with diverse backgrounds who share the same goal of caring for Australia's native plants. Researchers, botanic gardens, government agencies, conservation groups, Traditional Owners, volunteers and local communities all play a part, recognising that the best conservation outcomes are achieved when people work together.

Connecting People and Sharing Knowledge



Photo by [Michael Jerrard](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Plant Conservation Australia is different from many environmental organisations because its role is to connect people, ideas and experience. Rather than managing national parks or carrying out large restoration projects itself, it helps build partnerships needed to make conservation more effective across Australia.

By bringing together researchers, conservation practitioners, botanic gardens, government agencies and community groups, the organisation creates opportunities to share experience, learn from one another and work towards shared conservation goals.

For more than three decades, the organisation has built a national network, developed practical conservation resources and strengthened plant conservation efforts across Australia.

The organisation also recognises the important contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, whose deep knowledge of Country continues to provide valuable insights into caring for Australia's landscapes and native vegetation.

From Research to Real Conservation



Photo by [Alesia Gritcuk](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Scientific research is essential for protecting threatened plant species, but research only makes a difference when it can be put into practice. Plant Conservation Australia helps bridge that gap by making scientific information practical and accessible.

To support this work, the organisation has produced nationally recognised guidance on topics such as threatened plant translocation, native seed collection, seed banking and plant conservation. These resources are widely used by conservation practitioners, land managers, researchers, and community groups, helping restoration projects achieve more successful and lasting outcomes.

The organisation also supports learning through webinars, workshops and publications that allow people to share ideas, discuss challenges and learn from one another. In this way, knowledge continues to grow and spread throughout Australia's conservation community.

Responding to Today's Challenges



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Plant conservation is an ongoing task, and new challenges continue to emerge.

One issue receiving significant attention is [Myrtle Rust](#), a serious fungal disease that affects many Australian plants in the Myrtaceae family, including some eucalypts, bottlebrushes, tea trees and lilly pillies. Working alongside researchers and partner organisations, the organisation is to support recovery planning, encourage exchange of ideas and promote coordinated action to protect vulnerable native species.

The organisation also works closely with governments and conservation partners to share research evidence and practical experience when environmental policies are being developed. These contributions help ensure Australia's native plants remain an important part of decisions that affect the environment.

Bringing People Together



Photo by [Australasian Plant Conservation Conference](#)

A key part of Plant Conservation Australia's work is creating opportunities for people to learn from one another.

Throughout the year, the organisation presents webinars, workshops and professional development events that cover subjects ranging from seed banking and ecological restoration to threatened species recovery and climate resilience. It also hosts the [Australasian Plant Conservation Conference](#), which brings together researchers, conservation practitioners, students, volunteers and Traditional Owners from across Australia and New Zealand to exchange ideas, share experiences, and explore new approaches to protecting native plants. The [15th conference](#), planned for Port Douglas in August 2026, will focus on culture, collaboration and change in plant conservation.

These events are a reminder that when people work together with a common purpose, even small actions can grow into lasting change.

Learning More



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Plant Conservation Australia provides a range of resources for anyone interested in learning more about Australia's native flora, including its quarterly bulletin, [Australasian Plant Conservation](#), which features stories about research, restoration projects, conservation successes and practical experiences from across the country. Its free electronic newsletter, [The Leaflet](#), also keeps readers informed about current projects, events, workshops and opportunities to become involved.

Whether you work in conservation or simply enjoy spending time in nature, these resources offer an opportunity to learn more about Australia's remarkable native plants and the people working to protect them. Therefore, conservation is not limited to scientists. Everyone has something to contribute.

Everyone Can Make a Difference



Photo by [Rashpal Singh](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Caring for Australia's native plants is not only the responsibility of scientists or environmental organisations. Every one of us can contribute in different ways.

Supporting local bush regeneration projects, planting native species in the gardens, learning about the plants that grow in our local area, volunteering with community groups or simply sharing what we learn with others can all help build a stronger culture of conservation.

Those wishing to become more involved can visit www.anpc.asn.au to learn about membership, upcoming events, publications, educational resources and the free newsletter, [The Leaflet](#).

Looking Forward



Photo by [Thế Hùng Nguyễn](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Australia's native plants have been part of these landscapes for millions of years. They provide food and shelter for wildlife, bring character to our environment, and help keep our ecosystem on track. Looking after them is a shared responsibility that depends on knowledge, cooperation and a willingness to act.

The Australian Network for Plant Conservation demonstrates how much can be achieved when people from different backgrounds work towards the same goal. By connecting science with practical conservation and encouraging collaboration across Australia, the organisation continues to make an important contribution to conserving Australia's native flora.

Its work reflects HOPE Australia's commitment to responsible and sustainable stewardship of the environment. As individuals and communities, we all have an opportunity to appreciate, protect and restore the natural heritage that has been entrusted to us. Working together today will help ensure Australia's remarkable native plants continue to flourish for generations to come.

How to Get Involved

There are many ways to support Australia's native plants. You can become a member, subscribe to [The Leaflet](#) newsletter, attend workshops and conferences, volunteer with conservation projects or make a donation. Every contribution, no matter how big or small, helps ensure Australia's native plants remain part of our landscapes for future generations.