

Swainsona Conservation Reserve



This bushland is precious

We're working to protect particular plants and animals here

The most notable flora supported in Swainsona Reserve from a conservation perspective is the Smooth Darling Pea *Swainsona galegifolia*.

It is listed as a threatened species.

This reserve contains one of the two remaining remnant populations of Smooth Darling Pea in north east Victoria.

The best time to see the Swainsona Pea and other flowering plants is spring to early summer.



Where

Swainsona Reserve is situated on Felltimber Creek Road, Wodonga. It takes approximately 15 mins to drive here from the centre of Wodonga.

For trail notes, maps and more information visit parklands-alburywodonga.org.au/explore-your-parks/Swainsona.asp



[facebook.com/wodongalandcare](https://www.facebook.com/wodongalandcare)

We are grateful for support from the Wettenhall Environmental Trust for this project.



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this land and pay our respects to their Elders, past and present, and any visiting Elders from other communities

Home is where the habitat is ...

And habitat is more like a town than a house – containing food, water, shelter, a place to raise young and corridors of trees and bushland through which to travel safely in search of food, mates and nesting sites.

Look out for special habitat features:

- **Hollow bearing trees**
homes for birds and mammals
- **Logs and natural litter on the ground**
it may look messy, but it provides valuable food and shelter
- **Pollen and nectar from flowering plants**
food for many birds, insects and tree dwelling mammals
- **The steep gully here is the beginning of Felltimber Creek**, a seasonal waterway that meanders through West Wodonga.

You will notice manufactured **nest boxes** too – these are for our small native squirrel gliders. Unfortunately, a bushfire in 2002-2003 destroyed some of their natural homes in hollows of older trees.



Meet the locals

Over 25 species of native birds and 5 species of native mammals have been recorded here.

Look out for these animals:

- **Mammals**
echidnas, possums, gliders, wallabies, kangaroos
- **Reptiles**
skinks, goannas and snakes*
- **Birds**
eagles, rosellas, honeyeaters, wrens, etc
- **Insects**
native bees, beetles, butterflies, moths and many, many more

* Red-bellied black snakes and eastern brown snakes inhabit the bushland, particularly near the creek.

Be aware when walking the tracks.

Making noise and occasionally stomping the ground will usually keep them out of your way.

What you can do

Join the Friends of Felltimber Creek

A sub-group of the Wodonga Urban Landcare Network, the Friends help with the restoration and maintenance of Swainsona Reserve and the creek from the hills to the Murray river.

Contact friendsoffelltimber@gmail.com or join up through the Wodonga Landcare website at wodongalandcare.org.au.

Help protect the Swainsona pea from invasive plants and animals

Invasive plants including blackberry, agricultural grasses like Phalaris and garden plants gone wild can out-compete the Swainsona plants. Grazing animals including farm livestock and feral rabbits and hares can decimate the pea plants in the reserve.

Never dump garden waste in reserves or roadsides.

Report sightings of invasive weeds, feral or farm animals in the reserve to the land manager - Parklands Albury Wodonga.

Contact info@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au or call 02 6023 6714.

Grow Swainsona galegifolia in your garden!

This beautiful garden specimen plant is rare but sometimes propagated by local nurseries including Our Native Garden and Sandy Creek Trees.

If you would like to propagate your own you will need a seed collection permit from the Department of Environment.

See environment.vic.gov.au.



Native resin bee on the Swainsona flowers