

**21.05**

19/11/2015  
C73

**NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**

**Key Issues**

The most prominent natural environment issues for the City are:

- Impacts from development, traffic and pollution threaten Banyule's unique environmental assets.
- The rehabilitation and enhancement of remnant habitats is needed for a number of threatened indigenous species. Promoting their survival requires linking areas of natural habitat.
- The natural habitats along the Yarra River, Plenty River and Darebin Creek require rehabilitation to provide adequate buffers from development.
- Storm water quality is critical (Melbourne Water, the Environment Protection Authority and Local Government are working together to improve stormwater management.)

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**Objectives and Strategies**

**Objective 1 – Flora, fauna & habitat**

To protect, conserve and enhance areas of floral, faunal and habitat significance.

Strategies to achieve this objective include:

- Link open spaces.
- Discourage land use and development that detrimentally effects Banyule's environmental or conservation values.
- Protect and enhance the amenity of Banyule's diverse landscape values.
- Protect remnant vegetation and natural habitat.
- Improve the natural habitat and areas supporting remnant vegetation.
- Ensure that land use and development do not encourage plant and animal pests.
- Encourage and provide environmental linkages between areas of natural habitat, in accordance with the Natural Environment Framework Map.

**Objective 2 – Waterways and wetlands**

To protect and enhance the natural values of waterways and wetlands.

Strategies to achieve this objective include:

- Rehabilitate natural habitats along waterways.
- Provide adequate buffers between development and waterways.
- Manage stormwater run-off to protect the quality of receiving water bodies.
- Minimise discharges of sediment and litter and protect the quality of surface and ground water.
- Manage stormwater and run-off so that flooding is avoided for storms less than the 1 per cent event.
- Ensure that riparian vegetated buffers are provided around waterways, wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas, so that their integrity is protected from nearby land uses and development impacts.
- Support a regional approach to the management of waterways and catchments.

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**Implementation**

The Responsible Authority will implement the objectives and strategies for the Natural Environment by:

## BANYULE PLANNING SCHEME

- Applying appropriate zones and overlays, in the Banyule Planning Scheme, including:
  - Rural Conservation Zone on land with high environmental values in the vicinity of the Yarra and Plenty Rivers in Lower Plenty.
  - Public Conservation and Resource Zone on publicly owned land predominantly used and managed for conservation purposes.
  - Public Park and Recreation Zone on that public open space predominantly used and managed for recreational purposes.
  - Environment Significance Overlays for specific sites and areas identified as having environmental significance.
  - Vegetation Protection Overlays for specific sites and areas containing significant vegetation.
  - Significant Landscape Overlays for areas of significant landscapes, in particular areas adjacent to the Yarra and Plenty Rivers.
  - Design and Development Overlay 1 (Darebin Parklands and Rockbeare Park Environs) on land adjacent to significant open space.
- Using the Environmentally Sustainable Development Local Policy (22.05) when assessing relevant planning permit applications to encourage residential and non-residential proposals to address sustainable development principles and objectives.

Natural Environment Framework Map

