



FLORA OF THE OSBORNE PENINSULA

Osborne Peninsula is part of the “Yarra Lowland Hills Region” (NEROC Report-Beardsell), and our vegetation ranges from dry foothills forest - the grassy woodlands that encompass the ridges and many of the housing envelopes - to the riparian stretches lining the river.

We have several riverine escarpment plant communities that slope down to alluvial river terraces and that foster a delicately balanced, yet rich strip of habitat. Both communities are home to a wide variety of flora & fauna. The higher, stonier communities have Red box, Red Stringybark (now largely died out), and Long-leaf Box as the overstorey. The understorey is of grasses, small flowering shrubs, flowering perennials, lilies and orchids. On sloping ground is Yellow Box, Candlebark and Narrow-leaf Peppermint.

The gullies, which have damp root runs, contain populations of Swamp gum and Blackwood. Under these gums grow much Kunzea, many species of wattle, and a wide variety of shrubs that enjoy shelter and dampness. The Riparian strips feature mighty Manna gum, Yellowbox and Messmate. Under these, is a variety of lush shrubs of all dimensions. In places of deep shade the herbaceous plants are replaced by tussocks, sedges, climbers and ferns.

Our gardens give us the opportunity to restore and increase local species and allow us to create a network of habitat links and nodes that make the Osborne Peninsula a home for people, native creatures and birds.

Locally Rare and Threatened Species

Alpine Greenhood (*Pterostylis alpina*)

Australian Buttercup (*Ranunculus lappaceus*)

Blady Grass (*Imperata cylindrica*)

Clustered Everlasting (*Chrysocephalum semipapposum*)

Common Ruddyhood (*Pterostylis squamata*)

Grassland Geranium (*Geranium retrorsum*)

Hare Orchid (*Leptoceras menziesii*)

Hairy Rice-grass (*Tetrarrhena distichophylla*)

Hairy Stylewort (*Levenhookia dubia*)

Hop Wattle (*Acacia stricta*)

Mayfly Orchid (*Acianthus caudatus*)

Mutton-wood (*Myrsine howitiana*)

Pale Grass-lily (*Caesia parviflora*)

River Bottlebrush (*Callistemon sieberi*)

Saloop (*Einadia hastata*)

Slaty Helmet Orchid (*Corybas incurvus*)

Small Grass-tree (*Xanthorrhoea minor*)

Small Mosquito Orchid (*Acianthus pusillus*)

Small Spider-orchid (*Caladenia parva*)

Tasman flax-lily (*Dianella tasmanica*)

Tassel Sedge (*Carex fascicularis*)

Tiger Orchid (*Diuris sulphurea*)

Tussock Sedge (*Carex iynx*)

Wiry Buttons (*Leptorhynchos tenuifolius*)