



GREEN GIVING:

WIRES

FOLIAGE DONATION

PROGRAM

Guidelines & Eligibility Criteria



Introduction

The Green Giving: WIRES Foliage Donation Program, is a sustainable way for gardeners, landholders, arborists, landscapers, and local councils to dispose of their green waste through donating native foliage to wildlife in care.

A crucial factor for the successful rehabilitation of native wildlife is access to a diet that closely replicates what they would be eating in the wild. For WIRES wildlife carers who rehabilitate omnivorous and herbivorous species, this requires them to have reliable access to often large quantities of native vegetation both for feeding and housing of the animals in their care.

As all WIRES wildlife carers are volunteers, gathering foliage in suitable quantities is a time-consuming and challenging task. While our Wildlife Foodbank program helps cover some dietary needs in specific regions, we're now expanding to accept suitable foliage clippings, branches, logs, and other natural materials that would otherwise go to waste.

This is where your green waste can make a real difference.

Whilst donations from pre-planned gardening works make an invaluable difference to wildlife in care, we also encourage sustainable harvesting of native plants to ensure that food and shelter for wild native species is also protected.

By donating foliage, you'll be directly supporting wildlife rehabilitation efforts, providing much-needed food, shelter, and enrichment to animals who desperately need it. And the best part? You'll be helping reduce waste and contribute to a more sustainable future.

How It Works

1. Review Eligibility Criteria

Before donating, check to ensure that your green waste meets the program's eligibility criteria. This ensures the foliage is appropriate and beneficial for wildlife care. Examples of acceptable plant species can be found in this document.

2. Sign Up

Sign up through our easy-to-use online form to become a donor. It's quick, free, and straightforward!

3. Let Us Know What You're Cutting

Tell us about the foliage you're donating—what species it is, how much you have, and when and where you're cutting it.

4. Local Carer Match

If your foliage is suitable, we'll endeavour to match you with a local WIRES carer or branch who will arrange for pickup or collection. We aim to make the process as seamless as possible for both donors and wildlife carers.

5. Ongoing Donations

If you're a business or large-scale donor, we'll discuss establishing an ongoing partnership. Many larger operations, such as landscaping firms, Councils, and arborists, are perfect candidates for regular donations.

Who Can Participate?

- **Gardeners & Landholders**

Whether you're clearing out your garden, trimming trees, or thinning out invasive plant species, your unwanted foliage can be a lifesaver for wildlife.

- **Arborists & Landscapers**

If you manage a landscape or tree care business, your regular green waste could be a valuable resource for WIRES wildlife carers.

- **Local Councils**

Municipalities can help reduce waste while providing essential resources for wildlife rehabilitation.

- **Businesses & Large-Scale Operations**

Companies with regular green waste streams are invited to form ongoing donation partnerships, ensuring a steady supply of foliage for local wildlife carers.

Approved species guide

Under the foliage donation program, green waste produced from garden works can be donated to WIRES volunteers to assist in the rehabilitation of native wildlife. The below catalogue of native species is a basic guide of approved items for donation, however should not be used as a comprehensive list of all species that can be accepted.

For more information please contact programs@wires.org.au.

What cannot be donated:

- Fruit or vegetables
- Non-native species
- Plants from unknown origin (eg. Unknown species)
- Foliage exposed to vehicle emissions (roadside)
- Chemically treated or sprayed material
- Foliage that is wilted or showing evidence of wilt at the time of cutting
- Foliage that is not freshly cut or has been on the ground for an extended period
- Foliage that is showing signs of disease or dieback

What can be donated:

Bottlebrush (Callistemon spp.)



Eucalypts spp.

Scribbly Gum (*Eucalyptus rossii*)



Red Bloodwood (*Corymbia gummifera*)



Narrow-Leafed Peppermint (*Eucalyptus radiata*)



Grey Gum (*Eucalyptus punctata*)



Flooded Gum (*Eucalyptus grandis*)



Narrow-Leafed Red Ironbark (*Eucalyptus crebra*)



Angophora

Dwarf Apple (*Angophora hispida*)

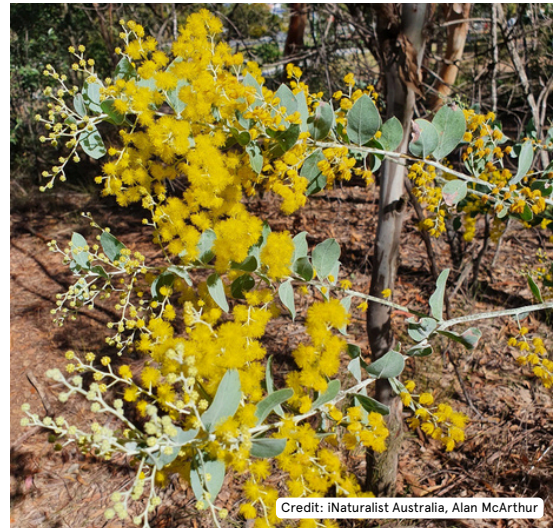


Sydney Red Gum (*Angophora costata*)



Acacia spp.

Mount Morgan Wattle (*Acacia podalyriifolia*)



Coastal Wattle (*Acacia longifolia*)



Black Wattle (*Acacia mearnsii*)



Banksia spp.



Casuarina and Allocasuarina spp.



Grevillea spp.



Melaleuca spp.

Swamp Paperbark (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*)



Native fig (*Ficus spp.*)



Lilly Pilly (*Syzygium spp.*)



Tea Tree (*Leptospermum* spp.)



Hakea spp.



Native Conifer

Callitris spp.



Tickbush (*Kunzea* spp.)





Grasses

- Weeping Grass (*Microlaena sti poides*)
- Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda australis*)
- Red Grass (*Bothriochloa macra*)
- Queensland Bluegrass (*Dichanthium sericeum*)
- Wallaby grasses (*Rytidosperma* species)
- Warrego Summer Grass (*Paspalidium* sp)
- Queensland Blue Grass (*Dichanthium sericeum*)
- Snowgrass (*Poa sieberiana*)

NOTE: use of spp. in botanical names refers to a variety of species within the plant family.

For more information, please contact programs@wires.org.au

Where Can You Donate?

The program is currently being trialled in selected regions across New South Wales (NSW), including Sydney and surrounding areas. However, we welcome interest from other regions and are looking to expand the program as it grows.

Get Involved Today

By donating your green waste, you can help reduce landfill, support wildlife rehabilitation, and become part of a vibrant, environmentally responsible community.

Sign up [here](https://forms.wires.org.au/t/mwieijcEXzus) (<https://forms.wires.org.au/t/mwieijcEXzus>) to donate your foliage, or get in touch with us at programs@wires.org.au to find out more about how you can contribute.

**Have questions? Get in touch with us via our contact form
or by emailing programs@wires.org.au**



Join Us in Protecting Our Wildlife
Together, we can create a more sustainable, wildlife-friendly future.
**Every donation counts, no matter how small. Thank you for being a part
of this important cause!**