

Borough of Queenscliffe



Victoria Park Planting Schedule 2022- 2025

Background

On 29 October 2021, a storm caused considerable damage to the vegetation within Victoria Park requiring removal and lopping of numerous trees. The trees included indigenous Moonah (*Melaleuca lanceolata* ssp. *lanceolata*) and other historical trees of significant age. Council developed the *CP054 Victoria Park Policy* to set out Council's commitment to restoring and managing vegetation within the planting zones of Victoria Park.

The Friends of Victoria Park (FoVP) were successful in sourcing funding for the revegetation area (Yellow line – Map 1-Area Zones). FoVP has completed three planting days within revegetation zones (red areas - Map 1) and will assist in future maintenance until the summer of 2023. Responsibilities of the Central zones (green areas- Map 1) as well as the future maintenance of the whole revegetation areas lie with Council.







Works to be completed in 2023 are herbicide spraying to kill off grass areas and mulch in preparation for planting in the Central zones. These areas will be planted with indigenous species recommended by Bellarine catchment Network (BCN 2020) and if suitable space, consideration of adding exotic specimens.

Community consultation was undertaken during February 2023 on the draft Victoria Park Planting schedule and Council agreed to :

- No extra pathways/tracks are to be added to the revegetation areas.
- Seating will be installed in the revegetation area in the safest and most suitable locations and consistent design/style of other parks.
- Public access will be allowed
- Some open space to be retained (Blue areas-Map 1).
- Informative Bird and Moonah signs to be developed and installed.

Map 1- Area zones



-  Central Revegetation Zones
-  Existing Open spaces to remain
-  Friends of Victoria Park revegetation zones- responsible to Dec 2023
-  Fenced area
-  Pedestrian Access
-  Vehicle a & Pedestrian Access

Species and densities

The species and densities of plants (Table 1) have been based on the species which characterize a Coastal Moonah Woodland (DSE 2003) and EVC 858 Coastal Alkaline Scrub Bioregion (DSE 2004). Friends of Victoria Park have conducted two planting days with plants and densities (Table 1).

Through the central zones informal plantings will form clusters and patches to give a “woodland” feel and strengthen existing vegetation patches. The existing vehicle access tracks will remain to provide ongoing maintenance and emergency access.

Two species, Seaberry Saltbush (*Rhagodia candolleana*) and Bower Spinach (*Tetragonia implexicoma*) are recommended species listed for “Moonah” woodland. These two species are small shrubs to ground covers but will not be included in the species list for the Central zones. The Seaberry Saltbush and Bower Spinach exist within the Central zones and due to their “weedy” nature are smothering existing trees. Recommendation from Inspecting Arborist (Woodland Trees) and a local Horticulturist (J.Hurse) are to remove these species from future planting list for the area. Minimising these species will allow ease of future tree inspections and reduce smothering to increase seedlings survival.

Existing trees in the central and remaining open space zones are aged between semi mature to senescent (end of life) (Table 2). To ensure a healthy woodland and strong tree canopy, plantings of trees should be staggered over the coming years to allow for a good range of age distribution.

Addition of exotic species will be considered in circumstances when replacement of existing specimens is required or introduction of another specimen species if space and species is determined appropriate.

In 2024 planting of understorey species and some tree species (green cells- Table 1) followed by more tree planting in 2025. This should assist in providing a good range of age distribution and extensive tree canopy.

All plants will be purchased from Queenscliff Indigenous Nursery, which are grown from local provenance seed.

As of September 2022, aerial imagery baseline canopy cover is 30% of the 0.48 hectares of revegetation zones at Victoria Park. Coastal Moonah Woodland is defined as a low open forest (DSE 2003) with estimates of 30-70% canopy cover (ANBG 2015).

Creating a broad representation of a Moonah woodland over the coming years with new plantings should exceed estimated canopy cover for a low open forest. An approximate prediction is canopy cover reaching 109% within the next 10 years (Table 3). No reduction to canopy cover has been calculated but could occur due to the mature and senescent existing trees.

Maps 2,3, and 4 present a simplified planting plan for trees and understorey (Shrubs, Herbs, Groundcovers and Grasses) for the central revegetation zones.

Appropriate level of service for a park will be undertaken for the revegetation area in conjunction with the maintenance of the caravan park.

Table 1- Species and number of plants

Form	Common Name	Scientific Name	EVC % Cover	FVP (Current Plantings May 2023)	Totals	Central Zones	Totals
Trees	Moonah	<i>Melaleuca lanceolata ssp. lanceolata</i>	30	90	314	7	29
	Coast Beard heath	<i>Leucopogon parvilorus</i>		79		4	
	Coast Wirilda	<i>Acacia retinodes var. uncifolia</i>		80		7	
	Lightwood Wattle	<i>Acacia implexa</i>		35		4	
	Sweet Bursaria	<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>		30		7	
Shrubs	Rare/Coast Bitter Bush	<i>Adrian quadripartita</i>	up to 15%	0	85	15	95
	Thyme rice-flower	<i>Pimelea serphyllifolia sub sp. Serphyllifolia</i>		0		15	
	Seaberry Saltbush	<i>Rhagodia candolleana</i>		0		0	
	Coast Pomaderris	<i>Pomaderris paniculosa</i>		30		37	
	Hop Goodenia	<i>Goodenia ovata</i>		20		15	
	White Correa	<i>Correa alba</i>		35		15	
Herbs & Groundcovers	Karkalla	<i>Carpobrotus rossii</i>	5%	0	0	7	37
	Kidney weed	<i>Dichondra repens</i>		0		7	
	Variable/Dune Groundsel	<i>Senecio pinnatifolius</i>		0		7	
	Coast Swainson-pea	<i>Swainsona lessertiifolia</i>		0		7	
	Bower Spinach	<i>Tetragonia implexicoma</i>		0		0	
	Coast Bonefruit	<i>Threlkeldia diffusa</i>		0		7	
Grasses/Tufts	Wallaby-grass	<i>Austrodanthonia sp.</i>	5-20%	0	97	7	44
	Spear-grass	<i>Austrostipa flavescens</i>		40		7	
	Coast Flax-Lily	<i>Dianella brevicaulis</i>		40		7	
	Knobby Club-rush	<i>Isolepis nodosa</i>		0		7	
	Coast Sword-sedge	<i>Lepidosperma gladiatum</i>		0		7	
	Trailing Coast Poa	<i>Poa poiiformis var. ramifer</i>		0		7	
<i>Species in red- not included</i>							
Note: If species are not available, increased numbers of other species in form type will be increased.							

Table 2-Age Distribution- Central Revegetation Zones and Open Spaces

Arborist Tree Number	Common Name	Species	Age
56	Moonah	<i>Melaleuca lanceolata</i>	Senescent
57	Tuart	<i>Eucalyptus gomphocephala</i>	Mature
58	Dropping Sheoak	<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>	Mature
59	Stone Pine	<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Mature
72	Moonah	<i>Melaleuca lanceolata</i>	Senescent
73	Moonah	<i>Melaleuca lanceolata</i>	Senescent
74	Moonah	<i>Melaleuca lanceolata</i>	Senescent
47	Moonah	<i>Melaleuca lanceolata</i>	Senescent
48	Moonah	<i>Melaleuca lanceolata</i>	Senescent
49	Moonah	<i>Melaleuca lanceolata</i>	Senescent
51	Dropping Sheoak	<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>	Mature
77	Moonah	<i>Melaleuca lanceolata</i>	Senescent
78	Moonah	<i>Melaleuca lanceolata</i>	Semi Mature

Table 3-Estimated canopy cover (5-10yrs)

Victoria Park	Park area (m ²)	canopy coverage (m ²)	% under canopy	Increase
Total Park area	18069	4928	27%	
Revegetation Zone	6676	2529	38%	
Revegetation Zone 5-10yrs	6676	7269	109%	71%

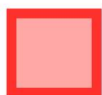
Estimate canopy cover				
Species	Average Canopy diameter	Covert m ²	No. of plants	canopy m ² 5-10yrs
Moonah	4	13	90	1131
Coast Wirilda	6	28	80	2262
Lightwood Wattle	7	38	35	1347
			TOTAL	4740

*Revegetation Zone includes Red, Blue and Green areas in Map 1

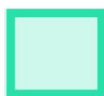
Central Revegetation Zones



Legend



Friends of Victoria Park Planting zone



Central Revegetation Zones



Central Revegetation Zone 1



Legend



Tree Species



Understorey Species- Shrubs, Herbs,
Groundcovers and Grass



Central Revegetation Zone 2



Legend



Tree Species



Understorey Species- Shrubs, Herbs,
Groundcovers and Grass



GANTT CHART Victoria Park Planting 2022-2023

TASKS	SUMMER			AUTUMN			WINTER			SPRING		
	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV
2022												
INSTALL FENCE												
MAINTENANCE												
PLANTING												
2023												
WEED CONTROL												
MULCH												
MAINTENANCE												

GANTT CHART Victoria Park Planting 2024-2025

TASKS	SUMMER			AUTUMN			WINTER			SPRING		
	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV
2024												
TREE & UNDERSTOREY PLANTING												
MAINTENANCE												
2025												
TREE PLANTING												
WEED CONTROL												
MAINTENANCE												

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