



Media Release

22 March 2018

Cockatoo Food Garden on track for Atwell park

A 'Cockatoo Food Garden' featuring some of the favourite foods of the endangered Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus latirostris*) will be established at Goodwill Park in Atwell, from this May.

The garden is designed to complement the 'Native Bird Oasis' project at Bibra Lake, to help support and protect the Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo and other native birdlife by providing feed and habitat.

The Cockatoo Food Garden is being created by the City of Cockburn Environmental Services Team, which is spending \$15,000 to replace 300sqm area of couch grass with mulched garden beds planted out with more than 300 native seedlings.

These seedlings will form a middle and understory of Banksia, Hakea and Callistemon varieties beneath a canopy of Marri and larger Banksia trees.

In June and July, after the winter rains have set in, several mature Macadamia, Pecan and Tipuana trees will be planted around the new mulched garden bed. The park already supports several mature pine trees that the cockatoos feed on.

City of Cockburn Environmental Officer Adam Harris said the selected banksia and hakea species were some of the cockatoos' favourite food plants that also attracted honeyeaters and other birdlife.

"The mature trees surrounding the garden are appropriate exotic species which the cockatoos have learnt to feed on due to the continued clearing of their Banksia Eucalypt Woodland which is now classified as a Threatened Ecological Community," Mr Harris said.

"Environmental Services will also apply for Council funds in the 2018-19 financial year to install informative signage at the park, a bird perch and water feature to complete the project."

The project will help inform local residents of the plight of the cockatoos.

Media Release

“It is hoped the Cockatoo Garden will inspire and encourage local residents and others to plant these species in their own suburban gardens to provide further habitat and help protect the beautiful endangered Carnaby,” Mr Harris said.

The simultaneous ‘Oasis’ is a joint project between the City of Cockburn and BirdLife Western Australia which have gathered \$35,000 in grants after qualifying for \$10,000 from Impact 100 WA and \$25,000 from the Western Australian Government’s State Natural Resource Management Program.

An 8000sqm area of degraded banksia woodland on the eastern side of Bibra Lake will be revegetated starting this winter using local native species including those favoured by Carnaby’s and Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoos.



Caption - A flock of Carnaby's Black-Cockatoos feasting on macadamia nuts in the suburbs.
Picture: City of Cockburn/Christine Groom UWA.



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COCKATOO CUISINE

Here's a list of native species we're planting in the Atwell Cockatoo Food Garden –

Understorey:

Couch honeypot, *Banksia dallanneyi*

Middlestorey:

Honey bush, *Hakea lissocarpa*

Candle hakea, *Hakea ruscifolia*

Eremophila glabra

Callistemon phoenicius

Hakea prostrata

Hakea varia

Canopy:

Marri, *Corymbia calophylla*

Candle banksia, *Banksia attenuate*

Firewood banksia, *Banksia menzeisii*

Bull banksia, *Banksia grandis*



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