



The Reserve

Damper Creek is at the uppermost reaches of the Gardiners Creek (*Kooyong Koot*) sub catchment area of the Yarra River (*Birrarung*) that eventually flows into Port Phillip Bay.

The creek flows through the reserve which is located between the northern end of Stephenson's Road and Park Rd and extends over High St Rd to Riversdale Golf Course (Mt Waverley).

Monash Council is the land manager of the Reserve and Melbourne Water manages the health of all waterways within Melbourne.

The Friends Group works closely with Melbourne Water and Monash Council to protect and restore the environmental values within the reserve.

The restoration of the creek and the environment around it has helped slow the flow of water to prevent downstream flooding, improved the quality of water by filtering litter and pollutants, extended habitat links for native animals, provided tree canopy for urban cooling, and provided a place for the community to enjoy nature.

Why is Damper Creek Conservation Reserve so special?

The Reserve provides:

- An important wildlife corridor and is home for many native birds and animals, such as Pobblebonk frogs, dragonflies, skinks, sugar gliders, small forest bats, tawny frogmouths, grey fantails, Eastern Spinebills, Pardalotes, Scrub Wrens, Crested & Bronzewing pigeons, Rainbow and Musk lorikeets
- Protection for significant remnant areas of grassy woodlands and swampy riparian vegetation which support diverse tree and flora species such as Yellow Box Eucalyptus, Mealy Stringybark, wattles, sweet busaria, wallaby grasses and orchids
- Green space to immerse yourself in nature, encounter wildlife and experience the seasonal changes in the environment.
- Relaxing walking trails for exercise and on lead dog walking
- A place to meet friends and neighbours
- Opportunities to learn about the environment and to become involved in nature based volunteering and community science

The Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve

The 11ha bushland area was saved from housing development and barrel draining in 1968 by strong community action and formation of the Damper Creek Conservation and Development Group.

The current Friends Group was established in 1993 when the Monash Council and Melbourne Water began the works to re-naturalise the creek.

The Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve are a community group and provide support to the Monash Council Bushcrew through voluntary labour, advocating for the reserve and applying for funding.

To date the Friends have successfully applied for and received over \$150,000 in grants for planting, community education and events, and other works.

In 2020 Monash Council recognised the important ecological values of Damper Creek and it was declared a conservation reserve.

The work to protect and enhance the conservation reserve and creek is ongoing and the Friends need your help / support from local residents and the community.

Immerse yourself in nature with the scent of eucalyptus and the sounds of birds and frogs

Image: Gang Gang Cockatoo



How you can help

- Read the entrance noticeboard information and look up the website to learn more about the history and unique values of the Reserve.
- Join the Friends group to receive monthly newsletters and updates about working bees and events. Membership - \$5 Individuals, \$10 Families or \$50 enduring membership. Visit the website or email the secretary for a membership form.
- Attend the monthly planting and weeding working bees (last Sunday of the month), Clean Up Australia Day and the annual community planting day.
- Come along to our quarterly meetings to hear guest speakers and to have a cuppa and meet other volunteers and neighbours.
- Register your **IGA Community Benefits Card** (at the Mt Waverley Store) to support the Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve Inc. Funds received go towards revegetation work.
- Become involved in Damper Creek community science by taking photos of the plants and animals you observe and record on the **iNaturalist** app or download the **FROGID** app to identify and record frog calls.
- Become a member of the Damper Creek water watch team that records monthly water quality data for the Melbourne Water **Water Watch** Program .
- Use the **Snap-Send-Solve** App to report any dumped rubbish, creek pollution, graffiti or damage within the reserve.
- Join Monash Council's **Gardens for Wildlife** Program and plant local native species to create a connected habitat corridor. Also remove identified weed species from your garden to avoid spread to the Reserve. (Refer to <https://www.monash.vic.gov.au/Waste-Sustainability/Living-Sustainably/Garden>)
- Carefully dispose of any rubbish and dog droppings, and ensure that oil or paint does not go down the storm water or street drains.
- Follow, contribute to and share the Friends Facebook Page.



Damper Creek Conservation Reserve



Friends of Damper Creek
Conservation Reserve Inc.

www.friendsofdampercreek.org.au



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www.facebook.com/friendsofdampercreek

Damper Creek Conservation Reserve is a biodiversity corridor located on Wurrundjeri land in the south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne. It is maintained and constantly improved by the City of Monash and the Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve.

The Friends are a voluntary environmental group which actively helps the Monash Council Bushcrew to replant, clean up, weed and care for the bushland.

Friends of Damper Creek Conservation Reserve Inc., Mt Waverley acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands on which we meet, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung People, and recognise their continuing connection to the land and waterways.

Matt Fregon MP
State Member for
Ashwood District
(Printing assistance)

