



## Nature in Cities

### Adelaide

**People and nature thriving in restored, reconnected and resilient urban habitats.**

Nature in Cities is Greening Australia's national initiative to enhance nature and its benefits to people in Australia's cities and suburbs. We envision a biodiverse, climate resilient network of gardens, parks, schools and waterways where communities connect with nature and engage in its restoration.

## What is the problem with our cities?

Australia's cities are expanding at an unprecedented rate, leading to the loss of over 1.5 million hectares of natural green space. The loss of habitat in urban landscapes has significant consequences for biodiversity, since 30% of Australia's threatened species occur in and around Australia's cities.

Our cities are getting hotter and people are less active and connected with nature – which is negatively impacting on our physical, mental and social health.

## Loss of nature in Adelaide

Like most Australian cities, Adelaide suffers from low tree canopy cover and high urban heat. Adelaide's built-up areas can be around 4°C warmer in summer than areas with more tree canopy, which will only worsen in our changing climate.

The traditional natural connections from the Adelaide Hills to the coast through woodlands along creeklines have also been broken.

While the Karrawirra Parri/River Torrens has been largely restored through local council action, community volunteers are still needed to expand and maintain these restoration efforts. The Sturt River has become a fenced concrete channel, and the Onkaparinga River has lost large parts of its natural surrounding vegetation.

The result of this loss of nature is that Adelaide is becoming less liveable.

## What is our solution?

Through Greening Australia's Nature in Cities program, we will partner with government, academics, community groups, and Traditional Owners to establish biodiverse, climate resilient networks of gardens, parks, schools and waterways where people and nature thrive.

## We will achieve this through three flagship projects:



### Cooling the Schools

The Cooling the Schools program provides tree canopy cover and native habitat on school grounds and local parks to reduce urban heat, support native pollinators, and create healthier places for children to learn and explore.

The goals of Cooling the Schools are to:

- Reduce urban heat
- Increase biodiversity and climate resiliency
- Create cool outdoor spaces for learning and exploration
- Engage students and families in restoring healthy habitats.



### Biodiverse Corridors

The Biodiverse Corridors program applies leading science and practical solutions to restore critical networks of climate resilient habitat in cities across Australia.

The goals of Biodiverse Corridors are to:

- Grow a connected network of high-quality urban habitat
- Establish cool, biodiverse and resilient refuges for people and wildlife
- Deliver health and wellbeing benefits to communities through nature-based solutions



### Resilient Urban Rivers

The Resilient Urban Rivers project delivers integrated environmental improvements to major urban waterways at a metro-wide scale.

The goals of Resilient Urban Rivers are:








- **Rewilding** — Restoring waterway function and improving habitat and water quality
- **Resilience** — Using climate adjusted seed, species and restoration techniques
- **Connecting people to nature** — Engaging people in hands-on experiences in nature close to the heart of our cities.

## Demonstrating our impact

We will demonstrate the impacts of these programs through two measurement frameworks:

- **Social impact framework** — demonstrates changes in community health, wellbeing, attitudes and behaviours as a result of being involved in improving green infrastructure.
- **Biophysical monitoring framework** — measures our impact on the extent, condition and connectivity of biodiverse habitats across Adelaide.

## GREENING AUSTRALIA'S 2030 TARGETS FOR NATURE IN CITIES:

	ADELAIDE	NATIONAL
 Hectares of urban wildlife habitat reinstated	480	3,250
 Native plants established across Australian cities	975,000	6,500,000
 Focal fauna species secured in our cities	2	16
 Hectares of urban wetlands and riverbanks restored	60	400
 Active partnerships with Traditional Custodians	2	16
 People taking conservation action	285,000	1,900,000
 Schools involved	400	4,000