

# Casuarina Reserve

At Casuarina Reserve, a careful balance between nature and recreation has been created. A small bushland area has been regenerated not only for wildlife habitat but to display indigenous species which are suitable to plant in local home gardens.

With a grassy area, playground and picnic tables, this reserve is a popular place of recreation.

## History

In 1991, only 50 indigenous plants species were recorded in the reserve as environmental weeds had overgrown the bushland area. During the next eight years, a small group of local residents, Friends of Casuarina Reserve, revegetated the area with indigenous plants.

For such a small reserve, Casuarina Reserve now supports a surprising diversity of over 130 indigenous species. You will find many examples of plants you can use in your own garden.

## Things to see

### Indigenous plants

There is a canopy of Narrow-leaf Peppermint, with an occasional Swamp Gum. Tea-trees, wattles, native grasses

and lilies are abundant. There are several species which are rare in the region, such as Branching Bluebell, and other species which are locally rare, such as Cranberry Heath and Small-flower Mat-rush.

### Native animals

Wildlife is slowly returning to the area as their habitat is regenerated. Ringtail Possums are present in small numbers. Frogs and skinks find shelter amongst the ground litter, feeding on ground-dwelling insects. Snakes are present in the reserve so please keep to the tracks



It is important to protect the indigenous bushland at Casuarina Reserve to provide a safe habitat for native animals in an urban area.

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Many birds visit the reserve to collect nectar and insects. In particular, honeyeaters such as the Eastern Spinebill and the New Holland Honeyeater are attracted to the nectar-bearing flowers of the Common Correa and the Common Appleberry. The flowers of eucalypts, wattles, tea-trees and peas attract a wide range of insects for insect-eating birds. A small family of Superb Fairy-wrens appear to live permanently in the reserve. There are also many species of butterflies and moths evident in spring.





### FACT BOX

**Location:** Frankston South

**Melway Ref:** 102 F10

**Area:** 2 ha

**Special features:** Reserve with bushland and recreation area

**Best flowering time:** Late winter to early spring

**Birds:** 20 + species

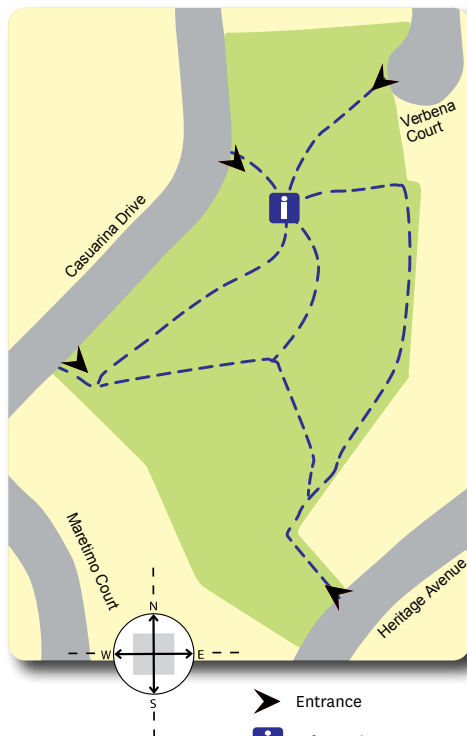
**Walking tracks:** 1 km

**Walking times:** ¼ hour

**Pets:** Not permitted

**Managed by:** Frankston City Council

**Information:** ☎ 1300 322 322



➤ Entrance

**i** Information

— Walking Trail

### Things to do

There are walking tracks which loop through the bushland area. Picnic tables, a playground and a large, grassed shaded area make it an attractive place to relax and enjoy nature.



It is a Land for Wildlife property, a voluntary scheme managed by the Department of Environment Land, Water and Planning, to encourage and assist the provision of habitats for wildlife.