

Preferred Plant Species List

The following plant species list has been adapted from 'Indigenous Planting Guide for Urban Coastal Areas within the Surf Coast Shire', 'Indigenous Planting Guide for Rural Areas within the Surf Coast Shire' and 'Landscaping your Surf Coast Garden for Bushfire'.

These resources and many more can be found online [here](#). Information regarding what not to plant and weeds of the Surf Coast Shire can be found online [here](#).

This list is to be read in conjunction with 'Surf Coast Shire Residential Nature Strip Guidelines' (adopted February 2023) for further information and restrictions regarding planting on residential nature strips. Mature heights of any selected plants are to be below 0.5m. As much of the Surf Coast Shire is within a Bushfire Management Overlay species selection should preference fire retardant or low flammability plants. It is preferred that predominantly indigenous plants are used however suitable alternative Australian natives and cultivars have been provided. Species lists have been separated into precincts including Torquay, Jan Juc and Bellbrae and the Hinterland (Winchelsea, Moriac and district). As Anglesea, Aireys Inlet, and Lorne districts are covered by a BMO plant lists have not been included – grassed nature strips with street trees are the approved treatments.

TORQUAY, JAN JUC AND BELLBRAE

Indigenous Plants



BOTANICAL NAME: *Acrotriche serrulata*

COMMON NAME: Honey pots

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Moist well drained soil tolerating dry periods.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.1-0.3m/0.5-1m

COMMENTS: Slow growing, dense ground covering shrub. Translucent tubular flowers May-Oct with a honey fragrance.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Astroloma humifusum*

COMMON NAME: Cranberry Heath

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Well drained soil tolerating dry periods once established.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.1-0.5m/1-1.5m

COMMENTS: Dense spreading mat like plant with attractive small bright red tubular flowers most of the year. Excellent for rockeries, embankments, under shrubs or in hanging baskets.

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TORQUAY, JAN JUC AND BELLBRAE

Indigenous Plants



BOTANICAL NAME: *Atriplex semibaccata*
COMMON NAME: Creeping/Berry Saltbush
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Well drained soil, salt tolerant.
HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.1-0.3m/1-3m
COMMENTS: Spreading prostrate shrub with grey-green leaves.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Bossiaea prostrata*
COMMON NAME: Creeping Bossiaea
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Well drained soil. Suitable in sun or shade.
HEIGHT/SPREAD: Prostrate/0.5-1.5m
COMMENTS: Prostrate, lightly spreading, showy pea flowers in Spring.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Carpobrotus rossii*
COMMON NAME: Karkalla
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Sandy soil. Full sun required for flowers.
HEIGHT/SPREAD: Prostrate/2-3m
COMMENTS: Prostrate succulent perennial herb with thick fleshy leaves and pale purple to pink flowers on short stalks. Good soil binding plant. Flowers most of the year.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Chrysocephalum apiculatum*
COMMON NAME: Common Everlasting
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Widespread and variable in a variety of habitats.
HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.3m/1-2m
COMMENTS: Perennial of the daisy family. Silvery foliage and golden flower heads which occur most of the year. Excellent rockery plant.

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BOTANICAL NAME: *Dichondra repens*
COMMON NAME: Kidney Weed
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Moist well drained soil. Shade.
HEIGHT/SPREAD: Prostrate, creeping.
COMMENTS: Matting, prostrate herb. Lawn substitute. Kidney shaped leaves with tiny cream flowers Sept-Dec.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Dianella brevicaulis*
COMMON NAME: Coast Flax-lily
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Full sun to semi shade. Loam, sandy, well drained soils.
HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.5m/0.5m
COMMENTS: Tufting perennial with arching long strap-like leaves. Blue flowers on stems in summer are concealed in the foliage. No pruning required.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Einadia nutans*
COMMON NAME: Nodding Saltbush
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Tolerates dry soil.
HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.3m/1.2m
COMMENTS: Fire retardant. Useful groundcover for banks and rockeries.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Kennedia prostrata*
COMMON NAME: Running Postman
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Well drained soil.
HEIGHT/SPREAD: Prostrate/1-2.5m
COMMENTS: Fast growing prostrate with very showy red pea flowers most of the year.

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Indigenous Plants



BOTANICAL NAME: *Lomandra filiformis*

COMMON NAME: Wattle Mat-rush

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Moist, well drained clays or sands tolerating dry shady conditions once established.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.15-0.3m/0.15-0.2m

COMMENTS: Hardy perennial forming rush-like tufts.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Microlaena stipoides*

COMMON NAME: Weeping Grass

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Moist well drained soil.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.3m/0.6m

COMMENTS: Native grass with delicate arching form. Good for a lawn substitute in shady areas.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Patersonia occidentalis*

COMMON NAME: Long Purple-flag

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Tolerates inundation in winter and drying out in summer.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.2-0.4m/0.3-0.6m

COMMENTS: Attractive plant suitable for bog gardens or pond edges but also tolerant of dry positions in late spring/summer.

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BOTANICAL NAME: *Platylobium obtusangulum*

COMMON NAME: Common Flat- pea

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Prefers drier and well-drained soil.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.3-0.5m/1m

COMMENTS: Triangular leaves and small attractive yellow and red pea flowers in spring.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Tetragonia implexicoma*

COMMON NAME: Bower Spinach

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Well drained sandy soil. Tolerates dry soil with shade.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.3/2m

COMMENTS: Succulent plant suitable for sandy soils/dunes.

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Indigenous Plants



BOTANICAL NAME: Themeda triandra

COMMON NAME: Kangaroo Grass

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Adaptable to most soils which do not remain wet.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.4-0.9m/0.7m

COMMENTS: Perennial tussock with attractive green/purple foliage and drooping "paw" like flower heads.



BOTANICAL NAME: Threlkeldia diffusa

COMMON NAME: Coast Bonefruit

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Moist saline soil.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: Prostrate-0.3m/1m

COMMENTS: Spreading succulent perennial herb. Matting plant for coastal conditions.

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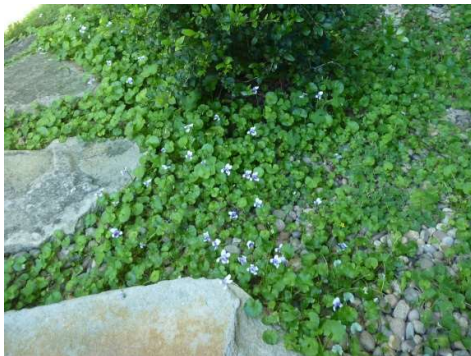
BOTANICAL NAME: *Rytidosperma geniculatum*

COMMON NAME: Kneec Wallaby-grass

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Requires full sun or semi shaded positions with well drained soil.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.4m/0.4m

COMMENTS: Excellent contrast plant in landscaping.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Viola hederacea*

COMMON NAME: Ivy-leaf Violet

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Moist to wet soil.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: Prostrate, creeping.

COMMENTS: Fast growing herb which creates a dense mat with small white flowers most of the year.

HINTERLAND (WINCHELSEA, MORIAC AND DISTRICT)

Indigenous plants



BOTANICAL NAME: *Calocephalus citreus*

COMMON NAME: Lemon Beauty-heads

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Perennial. Well-drained sites.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.5m/0.5m

COMMENTS: Hardy, drought-resistant plant and salt-tolerant.

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HINTERLAND (WINCHELSEA, MORIAC AND DISTRICT)

Indigenous plants



BOTANICAL NAME: *Calocephalus lacteus*

COMMON NAME: Milky Beauty-heads

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Full sun, well drained soil.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.3m/0.3m

COMMENTS: A native spreading perennial with small silver-grey leaves to 10cm in length. Cream flowers from September to February.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Chrysocephalum apiculatum*

COMMON NAME: Common Everlasting

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Widespread and variable in a variety of habitats.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.3m/1-2m

COMMENTS: Perennial of the daisy family. Silvery foliage and golden flower heads which occur most of the year. Excellent rockery plant.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Einadia nutans*

COMMON NAME: Nodding Saltbush

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Tolerates dry soil.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.3m/1.2m

COMMENTS: Fire retardant. Useful groundcover for banks and rockeries.

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HINTERLAND (WINCHELSEA, MORIAC AND DISTRICT)

Indigenous plants



BOTANICAL NAME : *Gonocarpus tetragynus*

COMMON NAME: Common Raspwort

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Moist to dry well drained soils.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.1-0.3m/0.2-0.4m

COMMENTS: Low bushy herb producing tiny pink flowers Dec-Feb.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Lomandra filiformis*

COMMON NAME: Wattle Mat-rush

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Moist, well drained clays or sands tolerating dry shady conditions once established.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.15-0.3m/0.15-0.2m

COMMENTS: Hardy perennial forming rush-like tufts.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Microlaena stipoides*

COMMON NAME: Weeping Grass

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Moist well drained soil.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.3m/0.6m

COMMENTS: Native grass with delicate arching form. Good for a lawn substitute in shady areas.

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HINTERLAND (WINCHELSEA, MORIAC AND DISTRICT)

Indigenous plants



BOTANICAL NAME: *Poa tenera*

COMMON NAME: Slender Tussock-grass

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Requires moist, well drained soils.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.2m/0.2m

COMMENTS: Bright green, soft trailing stoloniferous grass from damp forest.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Rytidosperma caespitosum*

COMMON NAME: Common Wallaby-grass

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Moist well drained soils of open forests and woodlands. Frost tolerant. Full sun, semi shade.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.4m/0.4m

COMMENTS: Understorey planting. May be used as a lawn alternative as it can cope with mowing.

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HINTERLAND (WINCHELSEA, MORIAC AND DISTRICT)

Indigenous plants



BOTANICAL NAME: *Rytidosperma geniculatum*

COMMON NAME: Knead Wallaby-grass

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Light moist to dryish soils in open forests and woodlands. Full sun, semi shade.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.3m/0.3m

COMMENTS: Provides a grassy understorey in lightly wooded areas. May be useful as a lawn grass.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Rytidosperma setaceum*

COMMON NAME: Bristly Wallaby-grass

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Dry to moist well drained soils in a range of habitats. Full sun, semi shade.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.3m/0.4m

COMMENTS: Grow with other grasses in rough lawns or under planting trees and shrubs.

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HINTERLAND (WINCHELSEA, MORIAC AND DISTRICT)

Indigenous plants



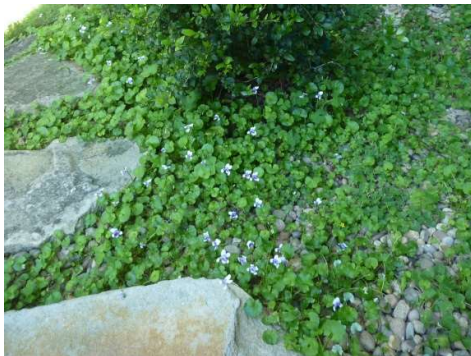
BOTANICAL NAME: Themeda triandra

COMMON NAME: Kangaroo Grass

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Adaptable to most soils which do not remain wet.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.4-0.9m/0.7m

COMMENTS: Perennial tussock with attractive green/purple foliage and drooping "paw" like flower heads.



BOTANICAL NAME: Viola hederacea

COMMON NAME: Ivy-leaf Violet

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Moist to wet soil.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: Prostrate, creeping.

COMMENTS: Fast growing herb which creates a dense mat with small white flowers most of the year.

Preferred Plant Species List

SHIRE WIDE (AREAS NOT COVERED BY A BMO)

Suitable Australian Native / Cultivar Plants



BOTANICAL NAME: 'Birthday Candles'

COMMON NAME: Banksia Birthday Candles

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Dry, well drained soils. Tolerates light frost.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.4-0.5/0.5-1m

COMMENTS: Good feature plant attracting bees and other insects.



BOTANICAL NAME: Brachyscome multifida

COMMON NAME: Cut-leaf Daisy

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Moist clay soils.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.1-0.4m/0.2-1m

COMMENTS: Fast growing low spreading perennial. Profuse lilac-blue or mauve flowers. Useful soil binder.



BOTANICAL NAME: Eremophila glabra prostrate

COMMON NAME: Blue Horizon or Kalbarri Carpet

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Full sun to light shade. Prefers free draining soil, but can handle heavier soils in dryer climates. Tolerates drought

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.25m/1m

COMMENTS: Ground cover for mass plantings and gardens, or as a low border.



BOTANICAL NAME: Microseris lanceolata

COMMON NAME: Yam Daisy

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Well drained soils.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.4m/0.15-0.25m

COMMENTS: Herb with single bright yellow daisy flowerhead on stalk July-Nov.

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SHIRE WIDE (AREAS NOT COVERED BY A BMO)

Suitable Australian Native / Cultivar Plants



BOTANICAL NAME: *Rhagodia spinescens*

COMMON NAME: Aussie Flat Bush

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Full sun to light shade. Suits most soil types, including heavy soils. It is highly drought tolerant, adapted to low or higher rainfall areas. Copes with frost down to -5° celcius.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.3-0.5m/1m

COMMENTS: It is ideal for roadsides, slopes, commercial and residential landscapes



BOTANICAL NAME: *Correa alba prostrata*

COMMON NAME: Prostrate White Correa

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Drought tolerant and likes a sunny to part shade position in the garden

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.3m/1.2m

COMMENTS: A very hardy silver, round leafed groundcover, low shrub that looks great planted on mass and performs well in coastal areas.



BOTANICAL NAME: *Dianella caerulea* 'Little Jess'

COMMON NAME: Dianella Little Jess

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Full sun and moderate to heavy shade. Tolerates drought, humidity and frost. Little Jess™ Dianella suits a wide variety of soils. Avoid very poor soils.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.4m/0.4m

COMMENTS: Specimen and mass plantings for commercial and residential use.

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SHIRE WIDE (AREAS NOT COVERED BY A BMO)

Suitable Australian Native / Cultivar Plants



BOTANICAL NAME: Callistemon hybrid 'Calkwr'

COMMON NAME: Red Rover

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Full sun to part shade. Tolerates frost and drought. Most soil types; in humid climates like Brisbane, avoid heavy soils.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 1.5m/0.3-0.4m

COMMENTS: A stunning ground cover Callistemon with red new growth. Low growing habit and a large rounded leaf.



BOTANICAL NAME: Scaevola humilis

COMMON NAME: Purple fusion

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Sun to light shade. Suits most soil types. Tolerates cold and drought.

HEIGHT/SPREAD: 0.2m/1.5m

COMMENTS: Flat form drought tolerant, making it a great choice for landscapes.