



Greater Brixton Street Wetlands

The Greater Brixton Street Wetlands are arguably the most important environmental asset in the City of Gosnells. One of the most significant environmental areas in Perth, the Wetlands are on the Register of the National Estate and are protected by State and Federal legislation.

They contain 21% of the metropolitan region's biodiversity, including a great number of Declared Rare Flora and Threatened Ecological Communities. At some 180 hectares, typically spanning 4x0.5 km, the Wetlands provide important wildlife habitat and a crucial environmental corridor between the Darling Scarp and the Canning River.

The Wetlands' incredible vegetation diversity has evolved through millennia.

Alternating climatic periods have developed a complex soil structure beneath the Wetlands. Bands of rich alluvial soil from erosion of the Darling Scarp alternate with wind-blown sand from the coast, creating a layered soil structure that is responsible for vegetation richness and intricate surface and ground water interactions. Accordingly, distinct bands of different vegetation types are evident in the landscape.

The Claypan Wetlands have shallow surface water in winter, but for a large part of the year are dry. During winter and spring, the Wetlands come alive with flowering plants supporting a rich fauna. Closer inspection of the Wetlands reveals a richness and beauty that underscores the region's classification as a "Biodiversity Hotspot".

An abundance of food and other resources made the Wetlands an important seasonal focus of Aboriginal life over the ages. Since European settlement, the fertile soils at the foot of the Darling Scarp in the Perth region have been extensively cleared for agriculture, and now the Greater Brixton Street Wetlands represent one of the few remaining natural areas on this soil and wetland type.

There is significant scientific interest in the area, however the Wetlands are threatened by environmental weeds, cats and dogs, off road vehicles and a lack of appreciation of their value. Rehabilitation works by the Friends of Brixton Street Wetlands aim to restore the area to its former glory.

Walktrails through the Wetlands can be accessed from Alton Street, where an information display provides an opportunity to learn more about this unique treasure.

Scan the QR code for more information.



www.gosnells.wa.gov.au

