



2020-21 SNAPSHOT



Creating a web of green spaces across Melbourne's south-east

Living Links is an urban nature project working to create a web of high quality, interconnected green spaces across Melbourne's south-eastern suburbs.

By improving the connections between the many parks, reserves, open spaces, coasts, beaches, pathways, rivers, creeks and wetlands, we aim to make this area a world-class urban ecosystem. This will improve habitat for wildlife, as well as making it easier for people to experience the many benefits of connecting with nature as part of their daily lives.

Living Links is a collaboration between 18 organisations (councils, government agencies and community/interest groups) all working together towards our shared vision.

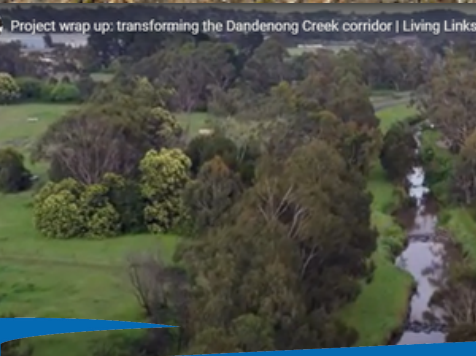


Key activities in 2020-21

A key focus for 2020-21 was the completion of the Transforming the Dandenong Creek Corridor project. This project aims to improve environmental values at 38 priority sites along the Dandenong Creek corridor, while engaging local communities to better understand and appreciate the natural values of this important biolink.

Highlights include:

- Six community engagement events attracted 1,268 people.
- Trust for Nature worked with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Corporation to deliver an online forum about Cultural Burning in Urban Areas that featured Uncle Dave Wandin and other guest speakers.
- Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation created the first Message Tree by the Bunurong people in over 185 years along the Dandenong Creek.
- Three videos were produced in the project's final year, including a final wrap-up video which summarising the outstanding achievements of the last four years.



Living Links 2020-21 Achievements



4.8 hectares

of native vegetation
managed or established

190,000+ native plants

planted to improve habitat
and strengthen corridors



280+ kilometres

of riparian vegetation
enhanced along waterways

24.8 kilometres

of recreational trails
established or improved



1400+ hours

of volunteer time spent
caring for the environment

Major project: Transforming the Dandenong Creek

- This project is now complete with all planned project outputs delivered
- On-ground works were completed at all 38 priority sites along 22 kilometres of the Dandenong Creek.
- During 2020-21, six community events and activities were held as part of the project, attracting 1268 participants.
- Two meetings of the Living Links Coordination Committee were held to oversee the project's delivery
- Three online publications were produced including a wrap up video

Looking forward

For the first six-months of 2020-21, Living Links will continue to be hosted by the PPWCMA. From January 2022, Living Links will be hosted by Melbourne Water following the integration of the PPWCMA into Melbourne Water

A new project concept to establish an urban forest across the Dandenong catchment has been developed. The Living Links Urban Forest aims to enhance integrated water management, biodiversity protection, climate change mitigation, urban cooling and shading, and enhance human health and wellbeing. It is hoped that funding will be secured in 2021-22.



More information on Living Links:

Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority

Phone: 03 8781 7900

Email: enquiries@ppwcma.vic.gov.au

www.livinglinks.com.au



Environment,
Land, Water
and Planning

