COMMUNITY GREENING
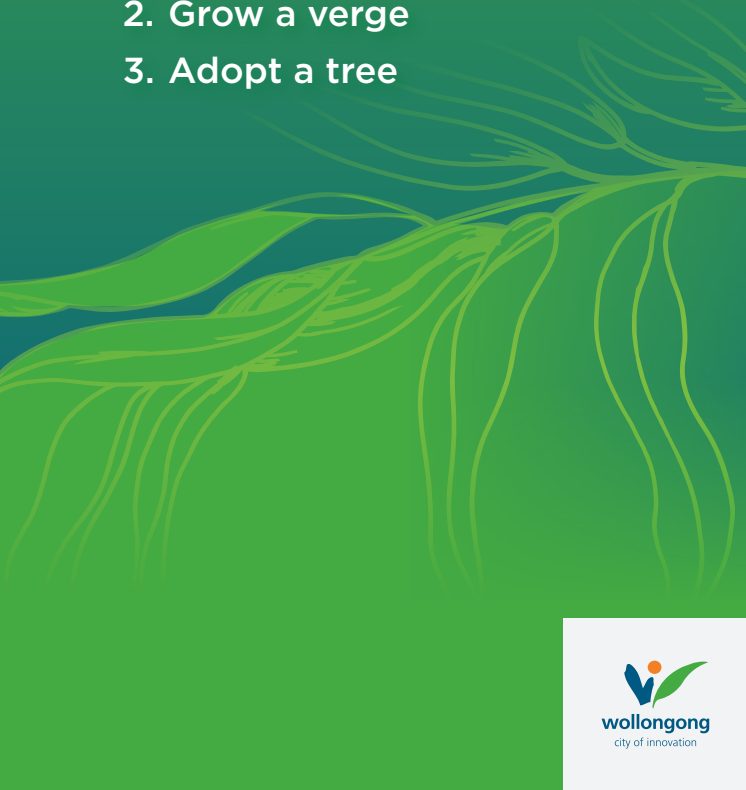
Join us in greening your suburb

It's as easy as 1,2,3!

1. Green your home
2. Grow a verge
3. Adopt a tree

wollongong
city of innovation

1. Green your home

Everyone has a role to play in creating a healthy environment and future.

While Council plants up streets and public spaces, we're calling on residents and businesses to help contribute to the rest of Wollongong's urban forest by greening their homes.

What you can do on your property?

✓ Grow herbs or small flowering plants in pots on balconies and courtyards

✓ Create an edible or habitat garden

✓ Add more plants to your spaces, including local Illawarra or Australian natives

✓ Do you have space to plant a tree with a large canopy?

✓ Can you add a vertical garden or even create a rooftop garden?

➡ **See over for where to get advice and assistance**

75% of land in Wollongong is private property. The remaining 25% comprises of our streets, parks, natural areas and other public spaces.

2. Grow a verge

The area in front of your home has more potential than you think!

Why not replace the grass on the verge in front of your house with plants to create a mixed produce, water-wise, native, low maintenance, coastal or sensory garden?

There are just a few simple rules to follow to make sure your garden is a success and safe for everyone.

➡ **Learn more and get inspired
wollongong.nsw.gov.au/verge-gardens**

Mow less, grow more and get to know your neighbours while beautifying your street.

3. Adopt a tree

We're planting more trees across Wollongong to help cool our streets.

You can ask us to plant trees (for free!) in front of your home. You'll even be able to choose from a selection of suitable trees, or we can recommend one for you.

All we ask in return is for you to give it a little water while it settles in and let us know if it needs a prune.

➡ **Request a free tree
wollongong.nsw.gov.au/request-a-tree**

Trees provide much needed shade from their canopy, help wildlife, and act as carbon banks – absorbing and storing carbon emissions from the air and releasing clean air.

Advice and assistance

Greenplan Nursery

Wollongong Botanic Garden's Greenplan Nursery holds regular sales of local Illawarra and Australian native plants at subsidised prices. On sale days staff can provide specialist advice on the best plants for your space.

wollongongbotanicgarden.com.au/plantsales

Grow Local Guides

We've created Grow Local guides to help you choose edible and native plants that suit our region. You'll also find real-life examples and tips on building and maintaining a successful garden.

Download a copy from our website, or pick up a printed booklet from Wollongong Botanic Garden's Administration Office or Greenplan Nursery.

wollongong.nsw.gov.au/grow-local

Growing Illawarra Natives

Find great information on many of the plants available from Greenplan Nursery, along with many other local Illawarra natives on this excellent community resource.

growingillawarranatives.org

Donations for schools and community groups

Every financial year, eligible schools and community centres in Wollongong can request up to 30 plants to be donated from the Botanic Garden's Greenplan Nursery.

wollongongbotanicgarden.com.au/plantsales

Volunteer

Individuals, community groups or corporates can learn new skills, meet new people and help our environment by joining a local group like Bushcare, Dunecare, Friends of Wollongong Botanic Garden, a community garden, Landcare or other environmental group.

wollongong.nsw.gov.au/volunteering

Get involved!

Did you know, suburbs of Wollongong have some of the lowest tree canopy cover in NSW?

We're adding more plants and trees across our city and caring for the ones we already have through our Urban Greening Program.

We want to increase average canopy cover from the current 17% up to our goal of 35–40%.

Why?

Because plants and trees cool our towns and cities, reduce pollution and attract investment. They also make us healthier, happier and more productive.

Community Greening is about the combined effort of our entire community in planting today for a better tomorrow.

So green your home, plant a tree, grow a verge or volunteer!

Get involved and learn more...

wollongong.nsw.gov.au/greening

or call us on (02) 4227 7111