Peppermint Tree

Scientific name: *Agonis flexuosa*

Aboriginal name: Wonnil (Noongar)

About ...

Also called the ‘Willow Myrtle’, this species is native to the south-west of Western Australia.

This species is highly adaptable to a range of climates and soils. Because of this, it is often planted along verges and in parkland areas. It is a common street tree in many Perth suburbs including Peppermint Grove which is named after the tree.

Its flowers look similar to the native tea tree.

Peppermint Trees are named after the peppermint odour of the leaves when crushed.

Mature trees provide hollows that are used by birds and possums for nesting.

Aboriginal Uses

- Leaves were used for smoking and healing
- Oil used to rub on cuts and sores

Family

**MYRTACEAE**

Climate

Temperate

Habitat

Coastal and bushland areas close to the coast and lower Swan Estuary in sandy/limestone soils

Form

Tree

- Fibrous, rough grey bark
- Large, gnarled trunk
- Height: 10 – 15 m
- Width: 6 m

Foliage

- Weeping foliage
- Mid-to-bright green
- Long, slender leaves
- Evergreen

Flower

Kambarang to Bunuru (Spring and Summer)

- Sprays of several small white flowers
- Width: 1 cm
- Flowers have five petals
- Insect attracting

Developed by **SERCUL** for use with the **Bush Tucker Education Program**.

Caution: Do not prepare bush tucker food without having been shown by Indigenous or experienced persons. Some bush tucker if eaten in large quantities or not prepared correctly can cause illness.