EAST COASTAL SOILS SPECIES LIST

Start of flowering time: **Spring** **Summer** **Autumn** **Winter** **All Year**

Common Name	Botanical Name	Height (m)	Flower Colour	Flower Time	Other Info
TREES (Up to 15m)					
Fraser's Sheoak	*Allocasuarina fraseriana*	15	brown	May-Oct	
Candle Banksia	*Banksia attenuata*	5-8	yellow	Sep-Oct	
Bull Banksia	*Banksia grandis*	10	yellow	Sep-Dec	
Holly-leaf Banksia	*Banksia ilicifolia*	10	pink & cream	Mar-Jan	
Firewood Banksia	°*Banksia menziesii*	10	pink & red	Feb-Aug	
Red Flowering Gum	*Corymbia ficifolia*	8	red	Dec-May	WA
Salmon White Gum	*Eucalyptus lane-poolei*	12-15	creamy white	Jan-Sep	
Tallerack	*Eucalyptus x tetragona*	8	white, cream	Sep-Mar	WA
Coral Gum	*Eucalyptus torquata*	4-11	pink, red	Aug-Dec	WA
Coastal Blackbutt	*Eucalyptus todtiana*	9-16	creamy white	Feb	
Albizia	*Paraserianthes lophantha*	10	greenish yellow	Aug-Sep	
SHRUBS (3 to 5m)					
Summer-scented Wattle	*Acacia rostellifera*	2-5	yellow	Aug-Oct	WA
Common Woollybush	*Adenanthos cygnorum*	2-4	red	Sep-Feb	
Swamp Cypress	*Callitris pyramidalis*	3	brown	Aug-Nov	
Narrow-leaved Gastrolobium	*Gastrolobium ebracteolatum*	4	red, yellow	Sep-Jan	
Pink Spike Hakea	*Hakea francisiana*	5	pink, red	Aug-Oct	WA
Harsh Hakea	*Hakea prostrata*	3	white	Aug-Nov	
Western Tea Myrtle	°*Melaleuca nesophila*	2.5	pink, purple	Sep-Jan	WA
SHRUBS (1 to 3m)					
	Acacia dentifera	3	golden	Aug-Nov	
Prickly Moses	*Acacia pulchella*	1.5	yellow	Jun-Oct	
Basket Flower	*Adenanthos obovatus*	2	scarlet, orange	Aug-Nov	
Prickly Dryandra	*Banksia armata*	1.5	yellow	Jun-Nov	
Sandplains Brush Myrtle	*Beaufortia squarrosa*	2	red	Jan-Apr	
One-sided Bottlebrush	°*Calothamnus quadrifidus*	1-2	red	Aug-Dec	
Silky-leaved Blood Flower	*Calothamnus sanguineus*	1.5	blood red	Mar-Oct	
	Calothamnus villosus	0.3-1.5	red	all year	
Lemon Scented Myrtle	*Darwinia citriodora*	1.5	yellow, red	Jul-Dec	
	°*Grevillea obtusifolia*	0.5-2	red	Sep-Oct	
Honey Bush	*Hakea lissocarpha*	3	white-yellow, pink	Jun-Sep	
Candle Hakea	*Hakea ruscifolia*	3	white	Dec-Mar	
Coast Honey-myrtle	*Melaleuca systena*	1	cream	Sep-Dec	
Graceful Honey-myrtle	*Melaleuca radula*	2.5	pink, mauve	Sep-Nov	
Broom Honey-myrtle	*Melaleuca uncinata*	3	pale yellow	Jul-Dec	WA
Grass Tree	*Xanthorrhoea preissii*	3	white	Nov-Jan	
SHRUBS (less than 1m)					
Dune Moses	*Acacia lasiocarpa*	0.5-1	yellow	Jun-Aug	
Narrow-winged Wattle	*Acacia stenoptera*	0.3-1	cream-yellow	May-Sep	
Grass Wattle	*Acacia willdenowiana*	0.5	yellow	Jun-Oct	
Prostrate Woollybush	°*Adenanthos meisneri*	1	red-purple	all year	WA
Couch Honeypot	*Banksia dallanneyi*	0.5	gold	May-Oct	
Purple Beaufortia	*Beaufortia purpurea*	1	red-purple	Oct-Jan	
Aniseed Boronia	*Boronia crenulata*	1	pale red	Aug-Oct	
Common Brown Pea	*Bossiaea eriocarpa*	0.6	brown & yellow	Jul-Oct	
Dwarf Cypress	*Callitris acuminata*	0.8	brown	Oct-Dec	
Yellow-eyed Flame-pea	*Chorizema dicksonii*	1	orange-red & yellow	Aug-Oct	
Common Dampiera	*Dampiera linearis*	0.5	indigo	Jul-Nov	
Tarbush	°*Eremophila glabra*	0.5-1	orange	Mar-Dec	
	Gastrolobium praemorsum	0.6	red	Aug-Nov	
Hairy Yellow Pea	*Gompholobium tomentosum*	0.3-1	yellow	Aug-Dec	
Fuchsia Grevillea	*Grevillea bipinnatifida*	0.3-1	dull red-orange red	Mar-Nov	
Spider-net Grevillea	°*Grevillea thelmanniana*	0.4-1	red	May-Sep	
Wilson's Grevillea	*Grevillea wilsonsii*	0.5-1	bright red	May-Nov	
Myrtle Hakea	*Hakea myrtoides*	1	dark pink	Jul-Aug	
Devil's Pins	*Hovea pungens*	1	purple	Jun-Nov	
White Myrtle	*Hypocalymma angustifolium*	1	pink-white	Jul-Oct	
Swan River Myrtle	*Hypocalymma robustum*	1	pale-deep pink	Jul-Oct	
Rose Conebrush	*Isopogon dubius*	1	pink	Jul-Oct	
Waldjumi	*Jacksonia sericea*	0.6	orange	Dec-Feb	
Rough Honey-myrtle	*Melaleuca parviceps*	0.6	pink-purple	Sep-Dec	
	Melaleuca trichophylla	0.7	pink-purple	Nov-Jan	
Pepper-and-salt	*Philotheca spicata*	0.6	lilac	Jun-Oct	
False Boronia	*Phyllanthus calycinus*	1	white-cream, pink	Jun-Jan	
Rose Banjine	*Pimelea rosea*	1	pale-deep pink	Aug-Nov	
	Scaevola calliptera	0.4	blue	Sep-Jan	
	Sphaerolobium medium	0.6	yellow-orange-red	Aug-Nov	
Bushy Featherflower	*Verticordia densiflora*	1	pink, white	Nov-Jan	
Plumed Featherflower	*Verticordia plumosa*	1	pink, white	Sep-Dec	
PERENNIAL HERBS					
Catspaw	*Anigozanthos humilis*	0.5	orange	Aug-Oct	
Kangaroo Paw	*Anigozanthos manglesii*	1	red & green	Sep-Nov	
Spiny Cottonheads	*Conostylis aculeata*	0.3	yellow	Sep-Nov	
Grey Cottonheads	*Conostylis candicans*	0.5	yellow	Aug-Sep	
Blueberry Lily	*Dianella revoluta*	1	purple	Sep-Jan	
Foxtail Mulga Grass	*Neurachne alopecuroidea*	0.5		Aug-Nov	
Morning Iris	*Orthrosanthus laxus*	0.4-0.6	blue	Aug-Oct	
Purple Flag	*Patersonia occidentalis*	0.5	purple	Sep-Oct	
Many Flowered Fringed Lily	*Thysanotus multiflorus*	0.5	purple	Sep-Nov	
CLIMBERS & GROUNDCOVERS					
Australian Bluebell	*Billardiera heterophylla*	climber	blue	Oct-Feb	
Native Wisteria	°*Hardenbergia comptoniana*	climber	purple	Jun-Sep	
Snakebush	°*Hemiandra pungens*	low	mauve	all year	
Coral Vine	*Kennedia coccinea*	climber	red/yellow	Jul-Nov	
Running Postman	*Kennedia prostrata*	low	red	Aug-Nov	

KEY

° Comes in different forms (ie a shrub might have a groundcover form or different flower colours)

- Star Performer (hardy or long flowering) - Butterfly attracting - Bird attracting

WA - Western Australian plant not a local plant

east coastal

Grow Local Plants

save water, money
& bring life back to your garden

One-sided Bottlebrush
Calothamnus quadrifidus
pictured left

EAST COASTAL PLAIN

Located at the base of the Darling Scarp, and along the Swan and Canning Rivers, East Coastal Plain soils include variable sandy, loamy and clayey soils which are often seasonally wet. They tend to be moderately acid to neutral.

SERCUL
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ALGAE BUSTER PHOSPHORUS AWARENESS PROJECT

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Fertilise wise

Find out how to Fertilise Wise on East Coastal soils at:
www.sercul.org.au/our-projects/fertilise-wise

This brochure was prepared by Melinda McAndrews
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WHAT ARE LOCAL PLANTS?

Local plants are species that would naturally occur in your neighbourhood and are therefore adapted to the local climate and soil.

GROW LOCAL PLANTS

There are a huge range of local WA plants that can be used to create many contemporary garden styles such as cottage, formal, Mediterranean and bushland. Be creative with local plants and use them in hanging baskets and containers, as hedges and as topiary.

GARDEN DESIGN TIPS

- Plan your garden design on graph paper.
- Think about areas of usage (eg eating areas, play areas) and incorporate these into your garden design.
- Keep in mind views from the house (eg retain good views and use plants to hide eyesores).
- Plant trees at least 3m from fences and walls so their growth isn't hampered and they don't become a nuisance.
- Make sure you prepare the site and remove all weeds prior to mulching or planting.
- You can use local plants in your whole garden, in a garden bed or mixed in with exotics.
- Group plants with similar water and fertiliser requirements together, especially if mixing local plants with exotics.
- Keep in mind the growing requirements of plants (eg don't plant a sun loving plant in the shade of a larger shrub).
- Be aware that there are different forms of plants you can use in your garden (eg dwarf forms of trees and groundcover forms of many shrubs).
- Select plants that flower in each season to provide colour in your garden all year round.
- Use a diverse range of plants but repeat themes of plants and place them in groups of uneven numbers for greater impact.
- Vary the height layers in your garden to add interest and habitat. (eg tree canopy, shrubs, groundcovers).
- Think of your garden like a room in your house and plant in stages. Lay the carpet (groundcovers) in first, then place the furniture (theme shrubs and trees) and then dress the room with the smaller flowering shrubs and feature plants.
- Continually review your design and keep complementing your garden with new plants. Think of your garden as progressive and ever changing to be built upon over time.

PLANT SELECTION & WHEN TO PLANT

- Buy plants local to your area or suited to your soil type (see list).
- Buy small plants in bigger pots as they aren't root bound and better establish in the garden. You can buy some larger feature plants for a more instant effect.
- Always read the labels to check the size of the plant when mature to be sure that you are getting the desired plant form.
- Coastal plants will grow inland, but inland plants don't grow well on the coast.
- Don't choose plants that are environmental weeds.
- Plant in late April or May after the first good autumn rains, as plants have more time to establish before summer.

WA PLANT NURSERIES

Different nurseries have varying ranges of WA plants so you might need to shop around. If you really want a particular selection of plants, then it is a good idea to order ahead in about September so the plants can be grown ready for planting in autumn. Some specialist local nurseries are:

APACE Nursery:	1 Johanna St, NORTH FREMANTLE
Carramar Coastal Nursery:	1834 Mandurah Rd, PORT KENNEDY
Trillion Trees:	Cnr Amherst Way/Stirling Cr, HAZELMERE
Native Plants WA:	Rockingham Golf Club, Elanora Dr, COOLOONGUP
Muchea Tree Farm:	Lot 214 Archibald St, MUCHEA
Australian Native Nursery:	141 King Rd, OAKFORD
Zanthorrea Nursery:	155 Watsonia Rd, MAIDA VALE
Northern Suburbs Branch, Wildflower Society of WA:	Cnr of Hepburn Ave & Evandale Rd, MARANGAROO
Grasstrees Australia:	35 Septimus View, MIDDLE SWAN
Replants:	96 Wray Ave, FREMANTLE

WATERING

WA plants are adapted to our dry climate and low rainfall - they are used to a bit of stress and in fact need this to perform their best. Overwatering leads to shorter lived plants with excessive growth and less prolific flowering. An excess of water leads to leaching of nutrients from sandy soils and encourages diseases that can lead to fatal root rot.

Remember the aim is to encourage plants to grow strong root systems, which makes them more water efficient and drought tolerant. To keep your garden looking its best, it may be desirable to give some plants a supplementary watering over summer.

When to water (always follow water restrictions)

For new plants water:
- Once or twice a week in the first few weeks after planting.
- Once or twice a week in the summer period for the first 1-2 years until plants are established (generally from about November to May until the first good rain occurs).

For established plants water:
- When there is a heat wave
- When the soil under the surface is dry
- When signs of stress are apparent (eg wilting, dull foliage colour, leaf shrinkage)

In general the watering regime for mature plants varies with the soil type, origin of the plant, season and natural rainfall.

What irrigation to use

WA plants like the soil surface to remain dry and many are sensitive to overhead watering (eg sprinklers, misters). Thus the best irrigation to use is adjustable dripper/trickle systems or subsurface irrigation.

Watering tips

- Watering in the morning is preferable as moisture sitting on plant leaves and stems overnight can cause plant diseases.
- Avoid watering only the soil surface layer as this encourages shallow roots making plants more susceptible to drying out and blowing over. Longer deeper watering encourages the growth of deeper, more stable roots.
- If water repellence occurs, apply a wetting agent.
- Use a dripper with a high flow rate for water demanding plants eg *Boronia*.

PRUNING

To keep WA plants looking their best, it is necessary to do some pruning to help keep the plant in shape and promote flowering.

When to prune

In general prune after flowering has finished in late spring or early summer. Avoid pruning in winter or mid summer, as this may cause plants to die back extensively. It is better to prune young plants lightly and regularly. Older plants can be rejuvenated by more extensive pruning after flowering.

How to prune

There are two main types of plant flowering habits each requiring different pruning methods:

1. Plants that flower on the end of each season's growth – trim off the flowering stems from behind the seed capsules after the plant has finished flowering. Regular pruning prevents these plants from becoming straggly. Eg *Callistemon* (Bottlebrush), *Pimelea*.
2. Plants that flower on old wood – remove the oldest wood from the centre of the plant, letting the younger wood remain. Eg some species of *Melaleuca*.

Tips for pruning

- Cut off the whole branch cleanly at the join leaving no protruding stump.
- Remove low branches to make weeding easier.
- Use chopped up prunings as mulch.
- Only prune the softer wooded plants (eg large wattles) lightly as they aren't as hardy as the woodier plants and tend to die back extensively.
- *Eucalypts*, *Callistemons* and *Melaleucas* respond well to pruning and can tolerate a hard prune.
- Cut back Kangaroo Paws to the ground after flowering each year. It helps prevent black ink disease and promotes better growth.

MULCH

Good mulch consists of a mixture of different sized materials such as leaves, twigs and bark, lets water easily penetrate through to the soil and prevents evaporation. The mulch materials shouldn't absorb too much water, otherwise they make less available to the plants.

The best mulch

- Groundcovers and natural leaf litter formed by the plants in your garden.
- Street tree loppings – may contain some weeds but they are easily seen and removed.
- Inert materials (eg gravel, crushed brick) are particularly good in windy areas as they don't blow around.

When to mulch

Organic mulches need renewing seasonally as they break down over time, but are best applied at the start of warmer weather in spring and early summer.

How much mulch

Apply mulch about 5cm thick, creating a bowl shape around the plant to aid water retention.

What to avoid:

- Avoid layering mulch too thickly as this can impede water infiltration and reduce plant survival.
- Avoid mulching too close to the stem of the plant as the constant humidity encourages plant diseases and WA plants prefer the surrounding soil surface to be dry.
- Avoid using sawdust and raw wood products (eg wood chips) as they can interfere with iron uptake, draw nitrogen out of the soil and cause the soil to become water repellent. Always compost woody mulches for at least 6 months before use.
- Avoid using mulch from soft leaved plants like many exotic species, as it decays too fast and releases too many nutrients for WA plants.
- Avoid some packaged mulches as they contain high levels of nitrogen and phosphorus which isn't suitable for WA plants.

FERTILISERS

As WA plants are adapted to soils that are low in nutrients they usually don't require fertiliser. In a garden situation you can apply a little fertiliser to keep plants looking perfect, but be cautious as some species are sensitive to fertilisers, particularly phosphorus. Sufficient phosphorus is naturally present in the soil.

When to apply

Apply fertiliser when planting by mixing into the soil at the bottom of the hole. Subsequent fertilising should be done on the surrounding root zone only when nutrient deficiency is apparent and only when plants are actively growing in spring.

What fertiliser to use

(Note: always follow the manufacturer instructions on dosage and application)

- Slow release fertilisers for native plants.
- Low or no phosphorus and low nitrogen fertilisers.
- Fish emulsion or seaweed fertiliser to boost plants immunity to disease.

What not to fertilise

- Some plants are highly sensitive to fertilisers, particularly fertilisers that contain phosphorus. Eg: *Banksias*, *Grevilleas*, *Hakeas* (Proteaceae family).
- Don't overfertilise Everlastings as they get too tall and weak and lie down when flowering.

REFERENCES

For more information refer to

A New Image for WA Plants - George Lullfitz,
Grow With Us - Wildflower Society of WA,
Growing Locals - Robert Powell.