

the Salisbury Wetlands

Constructed wetlands provide the City of Salisbury with a way to manage and improve our water quality. Over the years the wetlands (now more than 50 of all shapes and sizes) have become established natural environments. You'll be amazed by the plants and animals you can find in the City's wet, wild places.



Top As the sun sets, Salisbury's wetlands are filled with the calls and stirrings of countless native creatures.
Photo: Luke Simon

Above The Ibis is one of many bird species that are seen making seasonal visits to our wetlands.

Of the many wetland plants, the most readily noticed are the emergent plants, such as Common Reed that, in growing, emerge from the water to stand above the surface. A range of terrestrial (land-dwelling) plants that appreciate damp conditions can also be seen on the banks and islands of the wetlands. Other plant types include microscopic aquatic plankton, and forests of submerged aquatic plants.

Large numbers of birds visit the wetlands to feed and to breed. Dozens of native bird species are known to nest in the wetlands, including Australian Shoveler and Nankeen Kestrel.

Lizards, snakes, frogs and fish are commonly heard (and sometimes seen) around the wetlands.

Keep an eye out for other animals including:

- small mammals, such as Native Water Rats and Ring-tailed Possums
- aquatic fauna, such as Yabbies and tiny Damselflies.

Of course, you'll also find people in constructed wetlands, engaged in all kinds of recreational and educational activities.



These range from school students learning more about our wetlands and how to monitor water quality, to field trips by bird-watching groups and tertiary students, picnicking locals and visitors, and research visits by professional scientists, engineers and water experts.

As you walk around the wetlands of the City of Salisbury, make sure you pause to take in the sights, sounds and smells of nature in these thriving, purpose-built environments.

Remember that even though the wetlands are constructed, they are still important habitats for flora and fauna and as such should be respected by its users. 'Take only photographs, Leave only footprints.'

Learn more

For more information on related topics, see the other fact sheets in the Wetlands series. You may also like to visit the following websites for more information:

Australian frogs
www.frogsaustralia.net.au
www.frogs.org.au

Australian fish
www.sanfa.org.au

Australian birds
www.birdsaustralia.com.au
www.abc.net.au/science/birds

Australian mammals
www.australianmuseum.net.au/mammals

Wetlands research
www.wetlandcare.com.au



Top Volunteers play a vital role in maintaining and monitoring the health of our wetlands.
Photo: AMLRNM Board

Above The Spotted Grass Frog is resident in all of Salisbury's wetlands.
Photo: Luke Simon

Contact the Watershed
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Salisbury, Sustaining Our Environment

