

The Hon Gayle Tierney мр Minister for Skills and TAFE Minister for Water



Tuesday, 27 May 2025

MORE PROJECTS TO PROTECT OUR WATERWAYS

The Allan Labor Government is improving the health of Victoria's iconic urban rivers and creeks and creating more habitats for the native wildlife that live around them.

Minister for Water Gayle Tierney announced the 10 grant recipients that will share in \$2 million investment from the Green Links Grants Program – that will result in over 1,800 native plants flourishing in populated urban areas, providing more green spaces for the communities to enjoy.

This round will improve 70 hectares of land to improve the habitats for threatened native wildlife including the powerful owl and growling grass frog across our cities and towns.

The Minister was joined by the Friends of Kororoit Creek at Kororoit Creek in Sunshine today – one of the recipients that received a \$23,000 grant towards the Slice of Haven in Suburbia project to help transform its streamside reserves using tubestock and native seeds.

Other successful projects include \$350,000 to transform a section of Barongarook Creek through Colac into a thriving natural asset and almost \$300,000 to weed and plant 6,000 seedlings across 17.5 hectares of woodland alongside Darebin Creek, which will be incorporated into the future Bunjil Nganga (Quarry Hills) Parkland.

Waterways and parklands play an important role in supporting community wellbeing by providing safe, natural places for people to enjoy, and many of these projects will encourage communities to volunteer and support local projects to improve habitat and water quality, such as tree planting.

The funding builds on more than \$6 million provided to 23 projects through the first round of the Green Links Grants in 2024, which has supported the revegetation of more than 200 hectares of land across the Yarra, Maribyrnong, Werribee, and Barwon River catchments.

For more information on the Green Links Grants Program visit <u>water.vic.gov.au.</u>

Quotes attributable to Minister for Water Gayle Tierney

"Our urban waterways are important to our communities' health and wellbeing, along with providing vital habitat for native wildlife."

"Green Links grants are empowering local communities to protect their local waterways and create greener open spaces in urban areas for more families to enjoy."

Quote attributable to Member for Laverton Sarah Connolly

"It is fantastic to support our dedicated community groups and volunteers, who help to ensure our waterways keep thriving."