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Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions

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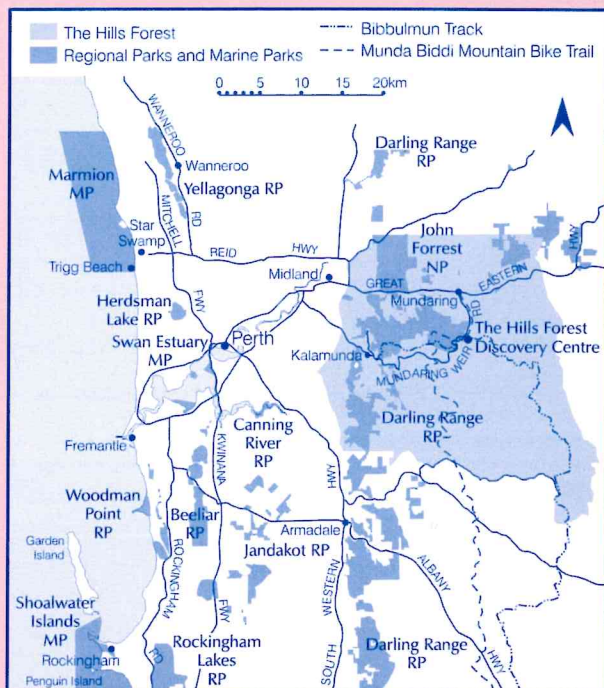
## Perth's regional parks

Perth's open space system includes land reserved in eight regional parks, from Joondalup in the north to Rockingham in the south and east to the Darling Range (see map below). Across these varied locations is a wide variety of geological features, vegetation types, areas of interest and social settings.

CALM has been responsible for coordinating the protection and enhancement of the parks' conservation, recreation and landscape values since 1997. These urban parks are used daily for sport, leisure activities, social gatherings and nature study, while the natural environments they contain have important biodiversity conservation values.

Nearer to Nature's seasonal program is a perfect opportunity for the community to become familiar with Perth's regional parks by taking part in activities close to where they live, or discovering parks further from home.

Management plans are being prepared for each of the parks and will be implemented in partnership with community groups and local government. For additional information on regional parks please call (08) 9431 6500.



## What is Nearer to Nature?

The Department of Conservation and Land Management's (CALM's) Nearer to Nature program provides opportunities for locals and visitors to participate in unique, engaging guided activities at a range of natural environments in and around Perth. *Above all else, it's about having fun and discovering Perth's marvellous outdoors!*

### Join the Nearer to Nature Discovery Club

Join the growing membership of our Nearer to Nature Discovery Club. Membership costs \$15 per year for your *entire family*, or only \$10 for your first year if you join when you book an activity. Discovery Club benefits include:

- up to 15 per cent discount on most activities,
- exclusive camping experiences and activities,
- brochure mail-out service, and
- a quarterly newsletter.

### Group bookings

Nearer to Nature can provide nature-based activities for your community group, family party, social club, work function or any other gathering. You might like to go exploring, develop knowledge, refresh minds, improve skills, encourage teamwork or simply enjoy yourselves. *We can do it all!* Call our programs coordinator for more information.

### Camping at The Hills Forest Discovery Centre

- For small or large groups (up to 35 people).
- Toilets and hot showers.
- Undercover kitchen with fridge, power points and electric BBQs.
- Outdoor picnic tables and chairs.
- All facilities have universal access.

\$8.80 per adult, \$6.60 per child (under 16), \$165 for the whole campground, per night. Bookings are essential.

### Volunteering

Become part of the Nearer to Nature team! If you have a little spare time and enjoy the outdoors, there is a wide range of opportunities in assisting Nearer to Nature coordinate programs at venues all over the Perth metropolitan area. Interested? Phone our programs officer for further information.

### Contact us:

Nearer to Nature  
The Hills Forest Discovery Centre  
Mundaring Weir Road  
MUNDARING WA 6073  
Phone: (08) 9295 2244  
Fax: (08) 9295 3247  
Email: [n2n@calm.wa.gov.au](mailto:n2n@calm.wa.gov.au)  
Web: [www.naturebase.net/nearertonature](http://www.naturebase.net/nearertonature)

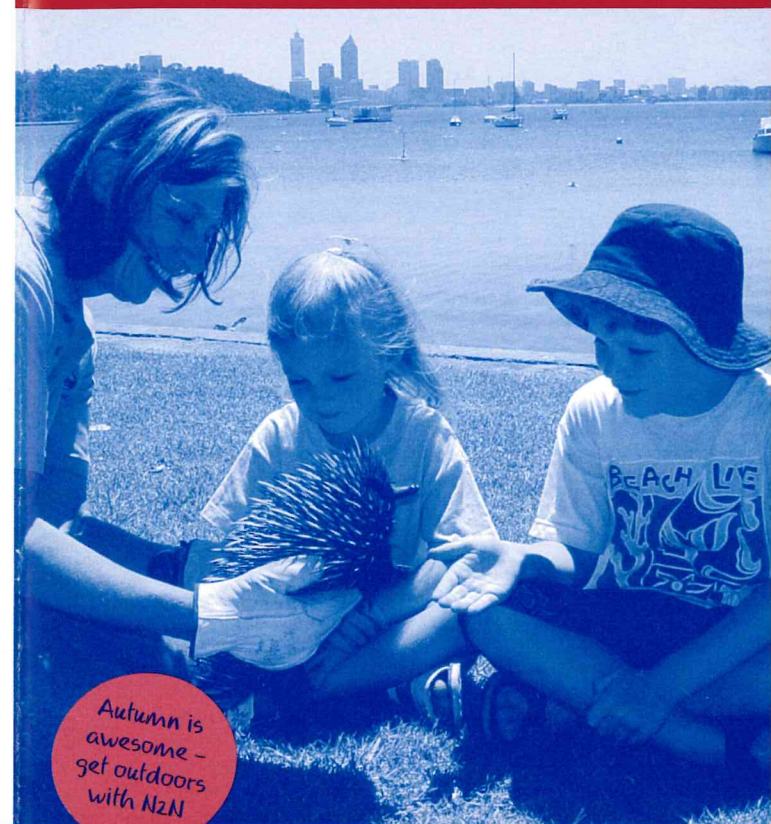


Nearer to Nature



Nearer to Nature

Autumn 2005



Autumn is awesome - get outdoors with N2N

Discover Perth's nature...  
26 March—7 May

[www.naturebase.net/nearertonature](http://www.naturebase.net/nearertonature)



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# At a Glance

## The Hills Forest Discovery Centre

Activities at this venue begin at The Hills Forest Discovery Centre, Allen Road (off Mundaring Weir Road), Mundaring.



Day	Date	No	Activity	Time
Sat	26 Mar	1	Easter Bilby Family Day	10am-12 noon or 1pm-3pm
Sat	2 Apr	7	Meet the Marsupials	11am-12noon
Sun	3 Apr	2	Munda Biddi Magic for Women	10am-1pm
Wed	13 Apr	15	Forest Fairies and Gumnut Gnomes	10am-12 noon
Tues	19 Apr	15	Forest Fairies and Gumnut Gnomes	10am-12 noon
Sat	30 Apr	2	Munda Biddi Magic for Women	1pm-4pm

## John Forrest National Park

Activities at this venue begin at the Margaret Forrest Centre in John Forrest National Park. Look for the Nearer to Nature signs near the Rangers' office. To enter the park, turn into Park Road (off Great Eastern Highway, opposite Hardey Road), Hovea.

Day	Date	No	Activity	Time
Tues	12 Apr	16	Amazing Arachnids	6pm-8pm
Sun	17 Apr	3	Eagles View Walk	9am-4pm
Thu	21 Apr	13	Old Man Emu	10am-12noon
Sat	30 Apr	6	Nightshift	7.30pm-9.30pm

\* Activity charges at this venue include entry fee into John Forrest National Park. Any people accompanying Nearer to Nature activity participants will be required to pay a \$1 national park entry fee.

## Mundaring National Park

Activities at this venue begin at the South Ledge picnic area, located off Mundaring Weir Road, 1.5 kilometres south of Mundaring Weir. Look for the Golden View and Nearer to Nature signs on Mundaring Weir Road.

Day	Date	No	Activity	Time
Sun	10 Apr	10	Explore New National Parks	1pm-3pm
Sun	24 Apr	4	Moonlight Meandering	5pm-9pm

## Canning National Park

Activities at this venue begin at the Lesley Nature Trail car park, 20kms east of Kelmscott on Brookton Highway. Look for the Nearer to Nature signs.

Day	Date	No	Activity	Time
Sun	24 Apr	10	Explore New National Parks	1pm-3pm

## Helena Valley National Park

Activities at this venue begin at The Mount Dale picnic area at the end of Dale Road, in Helena Valley National Park. Look for the Nearer to Nature signs.

Day	Date	No	Activity	Time
Sun	17 Apr	10	Explore New National Parks	1pm-3pm

## Pickering Brook National Park

Activity 10 begins at the end of Masonmill Rd, Canning Mills. Look for the Nearer to Nature signs. The location for activity 5 will be provided when booking.

Day	Date	No	Activity	Time
Sun	3 Apr	5	From the Ashes	1pm-3pm
Sun	1 May	10	Explore New National Parks	1pm-3pm

## Yanchep National Park

Activities at this venue begin at McNess House Visitor Centre, Yanchep National Park. Yanchep National Park is located along Wanneroo Road, about 25 kilometres north of Wanneroo.



Day	Date	No	Activity	Time
Mon	11 Apr	14	Polywogs in Pools	10am-12noon
Wed	13 Apr	9	Adventure Caving	10am-12noon
Thu	21 Apr	14	Polywogs in Pools	10am-12noon
Fri	22 Apr	9	Adventure Caving	10am-12noon
Fri	22 Apr	6	Nightshift	7.30pm-9.30pm
Sun	1 May	5	From the Ashes	1pm-3pm

\* Activity charges at this venue include entry fee into Yanchep National Park. Any people accompanying Nearer to Nature activity participants will be required to pay a \$1 national park entry fee.

## Matilda Bay Reserve

Activities at this location begin at the Matilda Bay Tea Rooms, Hackett Drive, Crawley.

Day	Date	No	Activity	Time
Tue	12 Apr	8	Rapt in Raptors	10am-11am
Fri	15 Apr	17	Creature Feature on the Bay	10am-12noon
Mon	18 Apr	17	Creature Feature on the Bay	10am-12noon
Fri	22 Apr	8	Rapt in Raptors	1pm-2pm
Thu	28 Apr	17	Creature Feature on the Bay	10am-12noon

## Beeliar Regional Park

Activities at this location begin at the southern entrance to Thomsons Lake Nature Reserve on Russell Road, between Pearse and Hammond Roads, Beeliar. Look for the Nearer to Nature signs.



Day	Date	No	Activity	Time
Sat	7 May	11	Thomsons Lake Twilights	5pm-7pm

## Canning River Regional Park

Activities at this location begin on the grass bank along Riverton Dve East, Riverton (on the western bank of the Canning river), between Riverton Bridge and Shelley Bridge. Look for the Nearer to Nature signs.



Day	Date	No	Activity	Time
Tues	19 Apr	18	Canning Canoeing for Kids	9am-12noon

## Yellagonga Regional Park

Activities at this location begin at Neil Hawkins Park, Boas Avenue, Joondalup. Look for the Nearer to Nature signs.



Day	Date	No	Activity	Time
Thu	14 Apr	12	Maji-bibool Owt	10am-11am
Mon	18 Apr	12	Maji-bibool Owt	10am-11am

## Star Swamp

Activities at this venue begin at Henderson Environmental Centre, at the end of Groat Street (off North Beach Road), North Beach.

Day	Date	No	Activity	Time
Sun	3 Apr	8	Rapt in Raptors	2pm-3pm
Mon	11 Apr	13	Old Man Emu	10am-12noon
Wed	20 Apr	16	Amazing Arachnids	6pm-8pm
Sun	1 May	7	Meet the Marsupials	2pm-3pm


# Healthy Parks, Healthy People

We all know how much better we feel in body and mind after exploring one of the many parks in and around Perth. The tranquillity and beauty of natural areas reduces stress and uplifts the spirit, and the landscapes offer opportunities for taking part in healthy physical activity. Healthy Parks, Healthy People is a Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) initiative that recognises the important role natural areas play in the health of the community. For more information on Healthy Parks, Healthy People, please send an email to [hphp@calm.wa.gov.au](mailto:hphp@calm.wa.gov.au) or call (08) 9431 6500.

## 1 Easter Bilby Family Day

Saturday 26 March – 10am to 12noon or 1pm to 3pm

Make it an all Aussie Easter with this fun-filled family day at The Hills Forest Discovery Centre. Spend a wonderful two hours making bilby masks, egg collecting baskets, bilby puppets, and come face to face with the stars of the day, real Aussie bilbies! Of course, there's the old favourite, the Easter egg hunt, yum! Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy in the Hills Forest. Bookings are essential.

Cost: \$9 per child (under 14) or \$7.50 DC, adults free!  
Time: 2 hours 



## 6 Nightshift

Bring a torch and spotlight some of the mysteries of the forest. This activity will tune you in to the forest's nightlife and bring you face to face with our native fauna.

Cost: \$15 pp or \$13 DC Time: 2 hours  
Age: 9 years + Locations: YNP JFNP 

## 7 Meet the Marsupials

Australia's marsupials are unique in the world of animals. Meet native animals and discover the features that make them perfectly suited to life on this continent. Understanding how our animals have evolved over millions of years will help you realise how special they are.

Cost: \$10 pp or \$8.50 DC Time: 1 hour  
Age: 6 years + Locations: HFDC SS  

## 8 Rapt in Raptors

They're sleek, strong and have infrared vision! Raptor specialists will explain how these majestic animals have evolved to be such marvellous hunters. Perhaps you'll be brave enough to have one perch on your arm!

Cost: \$10 pp or \$8.50 DC Time: 1 hour  
Age: 9 years + Locations: SS MBR  

## 9 Adventure Caving

Come and explore the subterranean world of troglodytes and stalactites in Yanchep National Park. Pop on a caving helmet and descend with a guide into the park's limestone caves. This activity includes helmet and torch hire. Participants must wear closed in shoes and old clothes are recommended, as you will get dirty!

Cost: \$25 pp or \$21.50 DC Time: 2 hours  
Age: 12 years + Locations: YNP  

## 10 Explore New National Parks

Did you know that 29 new National Parks have been created in Western Australia and five of these are in the Perth Hills area? Come and explore these parks in a series of walks that will outline their features and the best places to visit for a new national park experience.

Cost: \$9 pp or \$7.50 DC Time: 2 hours  
Age: 9 years + Location: MNP CNP HVNP PBNP

## 11 Thomsons Lake Twilights

Discover the beauty of the Thomsons Lake Nature Reserve on a twilight walk and animal encounter. Spend time spotting local wildlife during a guided walk before coming face to face with reptiles that inhabit the area with a qualified reptile handler.

Cost: \$12 pp or \$10 DC Time: 2 hours  
Age: 12 years + Locations: BRP  

## 16 Amazing Arachnids

Hey kids, have you ever seen a Trampoline, a Curl Leaf or a Curtain Weaver? These are some of the spiders that you may discover in this fantastic journey into the world of the arachnids. Learn about their lifecycles, the way they spin their webs and other amazing facts about these intriguing creatures.

Cost: \$10 per child or \$8.50 DC Time: 2 hours  
Age: 6 to 12 years Locations: JFNP SS  

## 17 Creature Feature on the Bay

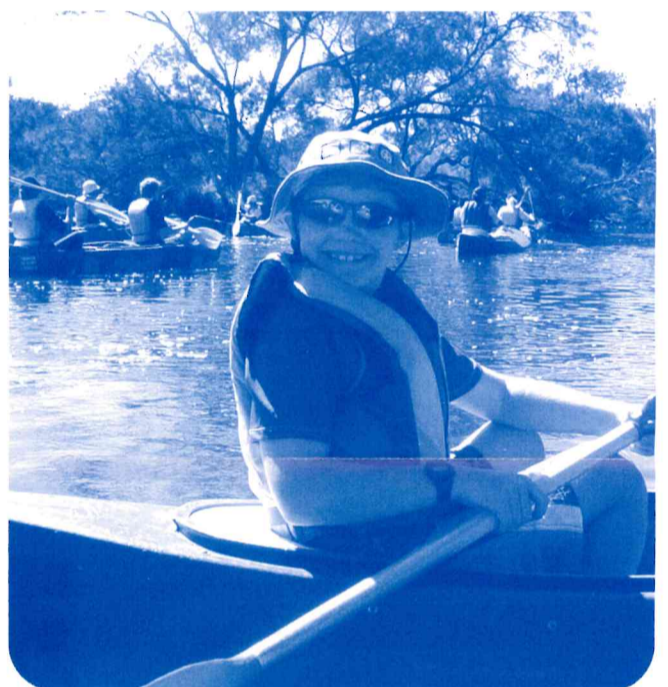
Hear stories of how our native animals survive in the harsh Australian bush. Hold a cuddly creature, and then get creative with a brush as you paint pictures of your favourite animals to take home. Parents can enjoy a special morning tea provided by The Matilda Bay Tea Rooms for an additional \$10 while watching their child's nature experience.

Cost: \$15 per child or \$13 DC Time: 2 hours  
Age: 3 to 9 years Locations: MBR  

## 18 Canning Canoeing for Kids

Explore Canning River Regional Park by canoe on this easy paddle into an urban wetland area. See what creatures you can find in the river with a scoop net, identify birds with binoculars and much more. Under the supervision of a qualified canoeing instructor, kids will have a great time on the river. Bring snacks and water. Parents, drop your kids off for this activity.

Cost: \$25 pp or \$21.50 DC Time: 3 hours  
Age: 10 to 15 years Locations: CRRP  



## Outdoors for Adults

### 2 Munda Biddi Magic for Women


Ladies, join a female guide from the Munda Biddi Trail Foundation on a relaxed cycle leaving from The Hills Forest Discovery Centre. Bring your own bike along and learn how to ride safely and with low environmental impact. Bring snacks and water in a daypack to take with you. Helmets essential and other protection gear recommended. This is a women-only activity.

Cost: \$18 pp or \$15 DC Time: 3 hours  
Age: 18 years + Location: HFDC  

The Munda Biddi Trail Foundation is running Ride Leader courses in April and May. If you are an experienced off-road cyclist and interested in leading trail rides, go to [www.mundabiddi.org.au](http://www.mundabiddi.org.au) for more information and registration.

### 3 Eagles View Walk

This 15km walk explores the less travelled areas of John Forrest National Park. As you walk, your guide will describe the flora and fauna of the park and answer all your questions. This all day walk is for people of a reasonable fitness level. Bring a daypack with snacks, lunch and at least two litres of water.

Cost: \$20 pp or \$17 DC Time: 7 hours  
Age: 18 years + Location: JFNP  

### 4 Moonlight Meandering

Experience a wondrous evening in the forest. Enjoy a guided walk through Mundaring National Park before you come face to face with native forest animals. Afterwards, take in the sunset and moonrise from the Golden View platform while savouring a gourmet hamper supper. All you need to provide are your walking shoes and drinks (water and sunset refreshments).

Cost: \$40 pp or \$35 DC Time: 4 hours  
Age: 18 years + Locations: MNP  

## Something for Everyone

### 5 From the Ashes

This summer saw large, deliberately lit fires threaten property and burn through national parks in Yanchep and the Perth Hills. Discover how nature is recovering from these events with a guided walk through affected areas. Speak to a CALM officer who was involved in fighting these fires and hear how CALM prepares for the summer fire season. There is the option of a 45 minute boat ride to explore Wagardu Lake after the Yanchep National Park activity (\$6.50 extra).

Cost: \$12 pp or \$10 DC Time: 2 hours  
Age: 12 years + Locations: YNP PBNP 

### 12 Maji-bibool Owt

Nyoongar children are incredibly resourceful in creating bush toys and playing games using bush materials. In this activity, kids can create a personal memento of the Nyoongar bush experience by making a paperbark ball and learning how to play 'Maji-bibool' game.

Cost: \$9 per child or \$7.50 DC Time: 1 hour  
Age: 6 to 12 years Locations: YRP  

### 13 Old Man Emu

The emu is one of the most intriguing of Australia's native animals. The kids will love listening to fabulous stories about the emu and then creating their very own emu statue using natural materials.

Cost: \$12 per child or \$10 DC Time: 2 hours  
Age: 6 to 12 years Locations: JFNP SS

### 14 Polywogs in Pools

Come searching for nature's funky swamp dwellers. With scoop net and trays, you'll discover wetland invertebrates and learn about their incredible features before returning them safely to their watery homes. The information gathered will be registered with Ribbons of Blue to record local water quality.

Cost: \$9 per child or \$7.50 DC Time: 2 hours  
Age: 6 to 12 years Locations: YNP  

### 15 Forest Fairies and Gumnut Gnomes







A fairy or a gnome? The little ones will delight in dressing up, making fairy crafts and exploring the fairy trail in this classic introduction to the forest. Who will be able to find the forest fairies?

Cost: \$13.50 per child or \$11.50 DC Time: 2 hours  
Age: 3 to 6 years Locations: HFDC  

## Captivate the Kids (Adults Free)

## Legend

Locations:	HFDC	– The Hills Forest Discovery Centre, Mundaring
	JFNP	– John Forrest National Park, Hovea
	MNP	– Mundaring National Park (Proposed)
	CNP	– Canning National Park
	HVNP	– Helena Valley National Park
	PBNP	– Pickering Brook National Park
	YNP	– Yanchep National Park
	MBR	– Matilda Bay Reserve, Crawley
	BRP	– Beeliar Regional Park, Bibra Lake
	CRRP	– Canning River Regional Park
	YRP	– Yellagonga Regional Park
	SS	– Star Swamp, North Beach

Symbols:		Camera
		Torch
		Water
		Hat
		Wheelchair access
		Wellies

## Bookings and payment

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL 9295 2244

To book, call Nearer to Nature (Mon – Fri, 8.30am to 4.30pm). Payment is required at time of booking. All prices include GST. A parent or guardian must accompany all children (under 16), unless specified.

### Payment options:

Payment by phone: Visa, Bankcard and MasterCard  
Payment by mail: Cheques or money orders made out to Department of Conservation and Land Management. Mail address is printed on the back panel.

### Discounts:

- Nearer to Nature Discovery Club members – up to 15 per cent
  - Seniors Card Holders – 10 per cent
  - YHA Members – 10 per cent
- Only one discount can be applied.

### Cancellations:

If you cancel your booking more than two working days before the activity, we will gladly refund your payment or offer a credit voucher (valid for one year). Refunds cannot be made after this time. Once confirmed, your booking is transferable – so if you can't make it, send your friends and family! Please notify us of any changes in attendance.

If we must cancel an activity, we may reschedule or offer a Nearer to Nature credit voucher or payment refund.

### Tips to maximise your Nearer to Nature fun!

1. Don't forget to bring:
  - a bag for your litter;
  - drinking water and lunch or snacks if required; and
  - a sense of fun and adventure!
2. Wear clothing appropriate for your bush or beach activity. This includes:
  - weather protection gear – plan to protect yourself from the sun or rain;
  - comfortable and durable clothes; and
  - sturdy, enclosed footwear in the bush. Sandals are best for the beach.
3. Activities will begin on time – please arrive 10 minutes early for registration.
4. Please leave all pets at home.
5. Safety is our concern, but your responsibility. Have fun and stay safe.