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# A guide to the Perth hills



## Rich heritage awaits those who head for the hills

The national parks, regional parks and State forests of the hills area east of Perth draw hundreds of thousands of visitors every year.

People head for the hills to enjoy many tourism and recreation activities such as picnics, bushwalking, mountain biking, horse riding, canoeing and whitewater rafting.

These experiences are set against a serene backdrop of forests, deep river valleys, granite outcrops, waterfalls and a wonderfully diverse range of native flora and fauna – all on the spectacular Darling Scarp and Darling Range.

The State Government created five new national parks in the Perth hills area in 2004, part of an initiative to add more than 500,000 hectares to Western Australia's conservation estate. The new parks in the Perth hills have been created under still to be formalised names:

- Wandoo National Park;
- Helena National Park;

- Pickering Brook National Park;
- Mundaring National Park; and
- Canning National Park.

The parks add to an existing network of eight national parks in CALM's Perth Hills District, in which the land and its environmental assets are set aside for conservation and public recreation. No timber harvesting is allowed in the parks.

There are also four regional parks near Chidlow, Kalamunda, Kelmscott and Wungong. Regional parks – areas which have conservation, recreation and landscape values with regional significance – include a number of recreation sites managed by local governments. Added to this are thousands of hectares of State forest in the Perth hills that provide a variety of recreation activities.

Look inside to find out how you can enjoy this rich environmental heritage on Perth's doorstep or contact CALM.

## Where to find us...

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## Healthy Parks Healthy People



# Healthy parks, healthy people

## Going bush for good health

When was the last time you escaped the hustle and bustle of modern city life for a relaxing visit to one of the magnificent national parks on Perth's doorstep?

If you do it often, the chances are your health will benefit. There's a growing body of evidence worldwide that establishes a strong positive link between people visiting parks and their physical and mental health. In turn, healthy individuals contribute to a healthy community.

There's something for everyone in the Perth hills. Relax under a shady tree in one of the many well-equipped recreation sites, tackle the network of

tracks and trails spanning the national parks and forests, or take a closer look at nature through a broad range of educational activities offered by CALM.

Those with a special interest can even volunteer to help look after our natural bush and all that lives there. How healthy is that?

Of course, national parks also have a positive impact on all of us by improving air quality, reducing erosion, delivering clean drinking water and contributing to clean waterways.

So, wherever you look, national parks are about good health. Make your next break a healthy one and head for the bush!



**Above and right** The new Perth Hills National Parks Centre makes its transition from being a staff home to a refurbished facility at Mundaring.

## Perth Hills National Parks Centre

Perth's hills area has 10 national parks that are a natural playground of waterfalls, shady picnic areas, panoramic lookouts, campgrounds, cycle trails and scenic walks of every length and difficulty.

With so many locations and things to do, how can you get information on the best places to visit with your family and friends?

The new Perth Hills National Parks Centre is the answer. Open seven days a week from May 2006, the centre is only 40 minutes from Perth and has information on all of the national parks in the Perth Hills area.

Located at the 'hub' of the Perth Hills near Mundaring Weir, there are plenty of other things to do at the National Parks Centre. Terrific interpretive displays inside the visitors' building will give you an insight into the beauty and biodiversity of a jarrah forest.

You can experience the forest by walking one of the several walk trails available. The world famous Bibbulmun Track passes right through the middle of the Perth Hills National Parks Centre and cyclists can also get easy access to the Munda Biddi Trail.

If you need a map, forgot your hat or water bottle or need to buy someone a unique present, the shop has a variety of products. You can buy a coffee or cold drink to enjoy while you peruse the displays or relax in the natural surrounds.

Don't rush off after having a quick look around, as there are other interesting attractions. Experience beautiful evenings in the forest by staying at one of the centre's two campgrounds or the Djaril-Mari YHA, catch a movie at the Kookaburra Outdoor Cinema from November to April or have something to eat and drink at the historic Mundaring Weir Hotel or Lavender Path tearooms.

The Perth Hills National Parks Centre is located on Allen Rd (off Mundaring Weir Rd), 7 km south of Mundaring. Follow the signs from Mundaring or Kalamunda.

Further information is available from [www.naturebase.net](http://www.naturebase.net), or call CALM's helpful staff on 9295 2244.



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Published by the Department of Conservation and Land Management February 2006

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





## Rich flora display makes hills a biodiversity hotspot

The bush of the Darling Range comes alive in a sea of colour as a multitude of native shrubs and trees burst into flower from late winter to early spring.

This is a great time to use the network of bush tracks and trails to get up close to the flowering plants.

In all, there are believed to be between 1700 and 2000 native species growing in the hills. Between 40 and 50 of these are endemic to the area (they don't grow anywhere else).

You might see Darling Range ghost gums growing five to 10 m tall from the cracks of the granite outcrops, the beautiful granite pixie mop shrub (*Petrophile biloba*) with heads of pink flowers in late spring or the candle cranberry shrub (*Astroloma foliosum*) with bursts of red, black and green flowers in late winter.

Those wanting tall timber can head to Lane Poole Reserve where the wetter climate sees taller jarrah and blackbutt trees proliferate. Then there are the gnarled wandoo trees that provide a haven for birds in Wandoo National Park and in other areas east of the Darling Scarp.

The people of Perth are fortunate to have such rich biodiversity on their doorstep.

The entire area west of an imaginary line between Geraldton and Esperance has been recognised internationally as one of 34 biodiversity hotspots in the world.

More recently, the Perth hills area, encompassing the Darling Scarp and adjoining Darling Range surrounding jarrah forests, has been recognised nationally as a hotspot within a hotspot. This reflects the enormous plant diversity found here, arising from a unique combination of soils and climates.

The escarpment is an overlap area between the sandy coastal plain and the laterites that support the jarrah forests. It is common to find 50 or 60 plant species in a 100 square metre area, then many different plants in a block nearby.

Rainfall is higher near the scarp, increasing as you go south in the Perth hills, but drops away rapidly as you head north and east. So, the hills represent the southern, northern or eastern reaches of many species.

Surprisingly, many Wheatbelt species such as ferns encroach onto the scarp, being able to endure arid summers on the numerous granite outcrops.



## Tuning in to the forest

'Listening' to the land as you move through the hills area can help you gain appreciation for Aboriginal culture.

Aboriginal people believe the land can guide those who 'listen' to the land and connect with it by taking the time to stop, relax and soak in the environment.

To the Nyoongar people, the Perth hills area is of deep cultural significance and contains many sites that must not be disturbed.

The granite outcrops you will see dotted throughout the hills and valleys are of particular significance, with some listed as Aboriginal Heritage Sites. Many of these have deep spiritual significance to the Nyoongar people. Not all of them are heritage sites, but they are all connected in Aboriginal culture.

There are also many places in the national parks where Nyoongar people

traditionally made tools. The removal of artifacts such as spearheads and grinding stones from such places, or any other form of damage to designated Aboriginal Heritage Sites, can expose you to heavy penalties.

There are many opportunities for you to learn more about Aboriginal culture. The Hills Forest Discovery Centre in Mundaring houses CALM's Nearer to Nature and EcoEducation programs. Phone 9295 2244 or email [n2n@calm.wa.gov.au](mailto:n2n@calm.wa.gov.au) for details.

CALM's Indigenous Heritage Unit also runs Sharing the Dreaming indoor and outdoor courses for groups. Bookings can be made on 9334 0564 or by email ([deniseg@calm.wa.gov.au](mailto:deniseg@calm.wa.gov.au)).

Indigenous cultural programs for tourists and students are also run in other parts of the State, including at Yancheep National Park.

## Western Shield outfoxes predators

Woylies, quendas, chuditch, quokkas, western brush wallabies and brush-tailed phascogales... these are all unique WA marsupials that are being given a better than fighting chance in the Perth hills area through CALM's world-class *Western Shield* program.

Pioneered in 1994, *Western Shield* is an aggressive native fauna recovery strategy involving aerial and ground baiting to control introduced predators such as European red foxes and feral cats.

It also involves breeding endangered species in captivity and translocating animals to areas where their numbers have dwindled.

The baits are laced with 1080 poison, a substance that occurs naturally in the native poison pea plant and to which our native animals are highly tolerant, unlike the predators.

*Western Shield* is a direct response to the enormous decline in native mammals across Australia since European arrival.

Foxes and cats have already contributed to the extinction of 10 native mammal species and many others are threatened.

The program extends across 3.7 million ha of conservation land from WA's South Coast to the Burrup Peninsula in the north, and has delivered significant success with the woylie, quenda and the tamar wallaby, which have been removed from the endangered species list in recent years.

*Western Shield* is most effective in protecting animals in the 35 gm to 8 kg weight range – those hunted by foxes. However, the battle is ongoing and always difficult.

Brush tailed phascogale



Tamar wallaby





## Avon Valley area

### Avon Valley National Park

Avon Valley National Park is a 4500-ha reserve and features forests and granite outcrops, panoramic views over the Avon Valley, and the chance to see a wide variety of wildflowers, birds and wildlife. The Avon River flows in winter and spring over spectacular rapids.

**Where is it?** 80 km north-east of Perth via Toodyay Road. Turn left onto Morangup Road and left onto Quarry Road. A self-registration entry station is located near this point.

**Travelling time:** 1 hr from Perth.

**Fees:** Entry and camping fees apply.

**What to do:** Bushwalking, picnicking, canoeing, wildlife observation, and bush camping (by arrangement with the park ranger).

**Facilities:** Wood barbecues (bring your own wood), shaded picnic areas, toilets.

**Best seasons:** Autumn, winter, spring.

**Major sites within the park:** Bald Hill, Valley Campsite, Homestead Campsite, Cec Barrows Campsite (group camping only).

### Walyunga National Park

Walyunga National Park is almost 1800 ha in size and it is here that the Avon River becomes the Swan River, running through the centre of the park. The valley sides show outcrops of granite with the occasional darker dolerite showing. The vegetation within the park varies from flooded gums on the valley floor to areas of wandoo, marri, powderbark and jarrah. The park was once the location of one of the largest Aboriginal camps near Perth and was still used by the Nyoongar people in the late 1800s.

**Where is it?** 40 km north-east of Perth along the Great Northern Highway.

**Travelling time:** 1 hr from Perth.

**Fees:** Entry and camping fees apply.

**What to do:** Bushwalking, picnicking, canoeing, wildlife observation and bush camping (by arrangement with the park ranger).

**Facilities:** Gas barbecues, shaded picnic areas, toilets, walktrails.

**Best seasons:** Autumn, winter and spring.

**Major sites within the park:** Boongarrup Pool, Walyunga Pool.

**Walktrails within the park:** Echidna Trail – 10.6 km, Kangaroo Trail – 4 km, Kingfisher Trail – 8.5 km, Syd's Rapids – 5.2 km.

## Mundaring/ Kalamunda area

### Canning National Park

Located between Brookton Highway and the Canning Reservoir this 2500-ha park is mainly jarrah forest and forms an important water catchment area for the reservoir. Canning National Park has high conservation values as many flora and fauna species are located within its boundaries and adjacent areas. Included in the park is the Boulder Rock picnic area.

#### Lesley

**Where is it?** 47 km from Perth along Brookton Highway.

**Travelling time:** 1 hr.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Picnicking, bushwalking, wildlife observation.

**Facilities:** Wood barbecues (bring your own wood), toilet, picnic area.

**Best season:** Late autumn, winter and spring.

### Gooseberry Hill National Park

This hilly, 33-ha reserve has magnificent views of the Swan Coastal Plain. A one-way scenic drive, known as the Zig-Zag, leads downhill through the park and provides amazing photography and birdwatching opportunities.

#### Zig-Zag

**Where is it?** 16 km from Perth. Take Gooseberry Hill Road, turn left into Williams Street/Lascelles Parade.

**Travelling time:** 30 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Photography, birdwatching, scenic drive or walk down the Zig-Zag.

**Facilities:** None.

**Best seasons:** Autumn, winter and spring.

#### Statham's Quarry

**Where is it?** 18 km from Perth. Turn onto Scott Street (off Great Eastern Highway) and then left into Helena Valley Road and right into Ridgehill Road.

**Travelling time:** 30 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Photography, birdwatching, abseiling/rock climbing (authorised groups only).

**Facilities:** Toilets.

**Best seasons:** Autumn, winter and spring.

## Greenmount National Park

A 56-ha park of marri, jarrah and wandoo forest on the slope of Greenmount Hill, overlooking Perth and the Swan Coastal Plain.

#### Mountain Quarry

**Where is it?** 16 km from Perth. Turn onto Scott Street (off Great Eastern Highway) and then left onto Coulston Road.

**Travelling time:** 30 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Photography, birdwatching, abseiling/rock climbing (authorised groups only).

**Facilities:** Toilets.

**Best seasons:** Autumn, winter and spring.

#### Greenmount Lookout

**Where is it?** Padbury Road. Turn onto Darlington Road (off Great Eastern Highway) and then onto Oxley Road and Padbury Road.

**Travelling time:** 30 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Photography, birdwatching.

**Facilities:** None.

**Best seasons:** Autumn, winter and spring.

## Helena National Park

Located to the east of Lake C Y O'Connor, this 8000-ha park includes the popular recreation site of Mount Dale, which provides 360-degree views over State forest and national park areas. The Bibbulmun Track travels through the park as it heads south towards Albany.

#### Mount Dale

**Where is it?** Follow Brookton Highway from Kelmscott for 47 km. Turn left into Ashendon Road and then turn right into Dale Road (6 km). Follow Dale Road to Mount Dale.

**Travelling time:** 1 hr 20 min.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Picnicking, bushwalking, wildlife observation.

**Facilities:** Wood barbecues (bring your own wood), toilet, picnic area, wildlife viewing hide.

**Best season:** Late autumn, winter and spring.

## John Forrest National Park

Originally declared as a conservation reserve in 1898, John Forrest is WA's oldest national park. The visitor area contains a tavern and tearooms, cultivated gardens of native plants and a barbecue area. The rest of the park is largely undeveloped and is home to a variety of plant communities and wildlife. Several walktrails run through various parts of the park including the Railway Reserve Heritage Trail, which follows the alignment of the old railway line to York. Visitors can walk through the only railway tunnel in WA – the Swan View Tunnel. The Eagle View Walk Trail is a 15-km bushwalking circuit that leads to some of the park's less explored areas.

Mahogany Creek and Jane Brook run through the valley in John Forrest, providing spectacular waterfalls during winter and early spring. The two main waterfalls are Hovea Falls and National Park Falls.

**Where is it?** 26 km east of Perth via the Great Eastern Highway through Midland.

**Travelling time:** 30 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Entry fees apply.

**What to do:** Bushwalking, picnicking, wildlife observation, photography, mountain bike riding (Railway Reserve Heritage Trail).

**Facilities:** Electric barbecues, toilets, water, kiosk.

**Best seasons:** Autumn, winter and spring.



## Kalamunda National Park

Kalamunda National Park is 375-ha and is notable for its diversity of plants and animals. Piesse Brook runs through the park and the slopes of the valley are covered with open woodland of jarrah, marri, wandoo and buttergum.

**Where is it?** 25 km east of Perth. From Kalamunda take Mundaring Weir Road, then turn onto Hummerston Road and Schipp Road.

**Travelling time:** 40 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Bushwalking, wildlife observation, photography.

**Facilities:** None.

**Best seasons:** Autumn, winter and spring.

## Lesmurdie Falls National Park

The Lesmurdie Brook flows through the centre of the park and tumbles over the sheer face of the Darling Scarp to fall 50 m to the coastal plain. In winter the waterfalls pour over the stream's granite bedrock.

**Where is it?** 22 km east of Perth via Welshpool Road. Turn left into Falls Road from Lesmurdie Road.

**Travelling time:** 30 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Bushwalking, wildlife observation, photography, picnicking.

**Facilities:** Barbecues, toilets, water.

**Best seasons:** All year.

## Pickering Brook National Park

Located around the townsites of Karragullen and Pickering Brook, this 6000-ha park is popular for bushwalking. The Munda Biddi Trail and the Kattamorda Heritage Trail travel through parts of this park.

**Where is it?** Canning Road and Pickering Brook Road, Pickering Brook.

**Travelling time:** 45 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Bushwalking, mountain bikeriding.

**Facilities:** None.

**Best seasons:** Autumn, winter and spring.

## Mundaring National Park

Situated to the west of Mundaring Weir Road in the Shires of Kalamunda and Mundaring, this 3000-ha park includes the popular recreation sites of Fred Jacoby Park, North Ledge, Farrell Grove and South Ledge. Golden View lookout, located at South Ledge, provides panoramic views over Lake C Y O'Connor, the Helena River Valley and the Mundaring Weir.

### Fred Jacoby Park

This landscaped park is planted with trees from many parts of the world, including one of the largest English oak trees in WA. The park is popular for family gatherings and weddings.

**Where is it?** 37 km from Perth on Mundaring Weir Road.

**Travelling time:** 45 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Bushwalking, picnicking, wildlife observation, photography.

**Facilities:** Wood barbecues (bring your own wood), shaded picnic areas, toilets.

**Best seasons:** All year.



### South Ledge

The South Ledge picnic area is surrounded by jarrah forest and a short walktrail leads to the Golden View lookout which provides spectacular views over the Helena Valley, Lake C Y O'Connor and Mundaring Weir.

**Where is it?** 40 km from Perth on Mundaring Weir Road.

**Travelling time:** 1 hr from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Bushwalking, picnicking, wildlife observation, photography.

**Facilities:** Wood barbecues (bring your own wood), shaded picnic areas, toilets, on-site interpretation.

**Best seasons:** All year.

### Mundaring Weir Road picnic sites

Along Mundaring Weir Road between Mundaring and Kalamunda are several small picnic sites set among the jarrah forest. These sites include Pimelia Mycumbene, Grevillea Mycumbene, North Ledge, Farrell Grove, Gungin Gully and The Dell.

**Travelling time:** 1 hr from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Bushwalking, picnicking, wildlife observation, photography.

**Facilities:** Wood barbecues (bring your own wood), shaded picnic areas, toilets.

**Best seasons:** Autumn, winter and spring.

### The Hills Forest Discovery Centre

Located in Mundaring National Park is The Hills Forest Discovery Centre – home to CALM's popular Nearer to Nature and EcoEducation programs. Nearer to Nature provides opportunities for locals and visitors to take part in unique, engaging guided activities at a range of natural environments in and around Perth, including The Hills Forest Discovery Centre.

**Where is it?** Allen Road, Mundaring. Take Mundaring Weir Road from Mundaring and Allen Road is on the left at the roundabout about 6 km from Mundaring.

**Travelling time:** 45 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Apply to guided activities and camping.

**What to do:** Guided activities, camping, bushwalking, picnicking, wildlife observation, photography.

**Facilities:** Toilets.

**Best seasons:** All year.

### Weir View Walk

This 2 km walktrail starts at The Hills Forest Discovery Centre and takes you through a mixture of jarrah and marri forests, with some areas of wandoo woodland. The trail leads to a small viewing platform overlooking Lake C Y O'Connor and the Mundaring Weir. The walk takes around one hour to complete.

### The Hills Forest Discovery Centre Campground

Located adjacent to the discovery centre, this campground has been designed to cater for all groups of people. The sites are set among jarrah and marri trees and provide a sense of being in the forest. The campground kitchen has electric barbecues, power, water and fridge. Bookings are required for the campground and can be made through the office at The Hills Forest Discovery Centre.

### Patens Brook Campsite

Patens Brook Campsite is a walk-in only campsite because it is located within a Disease Risk Area. A 5 km walk through jarrah and marri forest leads you to the campsite, which is set alongside a small winter flowing creek. This

campsite is for use by groups only and bookings are required. Bookings can be made through the office at The Hills Forest Discovery Centre.

## Wandoo National Park

Situated between Great Southern Highway and Brookton Highway this 44,000-ha national park features areas of wandoo forest and granite outcrops. The Mount Observation Recreation Site is situated off Great Southern Highway about 80 km from Perth via The Lakes.

### Mount Observation

**Where is it?** 80 km from Perth along the Great Eastern Highway to The Lakes, then along Great Southern Highway. Turn right at the signs on Catchment Road and follow the gravel road for about 1.5 km.

**Traveling time:** 90 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Bushwalking, picnicking, wildlife observation, photography.

**Facilities:** Wood barbecues (bring your own wood), shaded picnic areas, wildlife viewing hide, toilets.

**Best seasons:** Late autumn, winter and spring.

## Serpentine/Jarrahdale area

### Serpentine National Park

Serpentine National Park is on the Darling Scarp, the western edge of a huge, titled ancient plateau. Past weathering has resulted in distinct landscapes of lateritic uplands, minor and major valleys, and abrupt scarps. The Serpentine River contributes to the landscape with the steep slopes of the river valley and granite outcrops giving rise to the unique feature of the park, the Serpentine Falls. In winter, the river rushes down a sheer granite face, polished by past rushing water, cascading 15 m into the rock pool below.

**Where is it?** 26 km south of Armadale. Take South West Highway from Armadale and turn left onto Falls Road.

**Travelling time:** 1 hr and 15 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Entry fees apply.

**What to do:** Picnicking, bushwalking, wildlife observation.

**Facilities:** Gas barbecues, toilets.

**Best seasons:** Spring for wildflowers, winter for the waterfall.

**Walktrails in the park:** Kitty's Gorge Walktrail – 11 km return, takes 5 hr.

### Kitty's Gorge Walktrail

Named after a cow called Kitty, which wandered away from home and was found months later beside the gorge, the trail begins at the falls' car park. A short, steep climb leads to an easy walk along the Serpentine River and Gooralong Brook into Kitty's Gorge. A series of markers (pine posts with orange triangles) should be followed. Early into the walk, Spencer's Mud Cottage, a heritage building, originally built by the pioneering Spencer family, can be seen. Once in Kitty's Gorge, there is a series of waterfalls leading to the gauging station and weir. Highlights of the walk are the granite outcrop plant communities in the gorge, and the jarrah forest.





### **Baldwins Bluff Nature Trail – 6 km return, takes 2 hr.**

The walk begins behind the toilet block in the falls picnic area. A medium level of fitness is required, as a steep gravel track has to be overcome to reach the top of the bluff. The ascent of the hill sees the vegetation change from redgum forest to wandoo with a variety of bird life including twenty-eights, western king (red-capped) parrots and splendid fairy wrens. At the top of the hill, the path turns right past granite outcrops. At the summit, spectacular views of the Serpentine Falls and a vast area of the park can be enjoyed.

### **Christmas Tree Well**

This is a shady picnic area, with large paperbark trees and clumps of the Christmas tree (*Nuytsia floribunda*), on the edge of wandoo country. The Christmas tree is the largest member of the parasitic mistletoe family and obtains part of its nourishment by latching onto the roots of other plants. In December, the Christmas trees burst into brilliant orange flowers.

**Where is it?** 72 km from Perth. Take Brookton Highway out of Kelmscott.

**Travelling time:** 1 hr 15 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Picnicking, bushwalking.

**Facilities:** Wood barbecues (bring your own wood).

**Best seasons:** Spring and early summer.

### **Gleneagle**

Originally the Gleneagle settlement, this picnic area has secluded and shaded spots off the bitumen perimeter road. It is set in a wooded area of pines, marri and jarrah. There is also a small arboretum of non-local trees and shrubs such as bluegums, sugar gums, rodanthus, acacias, tea-trees, figs and jacarandas. Many of these trees are from the gardens of the original settlement. The area is well populated by birds, including western king parrots.

**Where is it?** 55 km south-east of Perth. Take Albany Highway out of Armadale.

**Travelling time:** 1 hr 20 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Picnicking, bushwalking.

**Facilities:** Wood barbecues (bring your own wood).

**Best seasons:** All year.

### **Langford Park**

Once the site of a bauxite-mining operation in the early 1970s, Langford Park has been extensively replanted and landscaped for public recreation. An open grassed foreshore surrounds an artificial lake, and trees shade the picnic area. There are several trails in and around Langford Park including bushwalking, mountain bikeriding and bridle trails.

**Where is it?** 54 km from Perth. Travel 8.5 km from Armadale on the South West Highway, turn left at Byford onto Nettleton Road, then turn right at signs to Langford Park.

**Travelling time:** 1 hr from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Picnicking, bushwalking, horse

riding, mountain bikeriding.

**Facilities:** Wood barbecues (bring your own wood), toilets.

**Best seasons:** All year.

### **Sullivan Rock**

Sullivan Rock, a granite outcrop with surrounding laterite, was a regular stopping place for travellers by horse and cart. A well, originally established by convicts, can still be seen there. The numerous little rock pools found on the rock itself contain many unusual water plants, including extraordinary tiny ferns called quillworts. The Bibbulmun Track passes through this area and Sullivan Rock is a popular drop-off/pick-up for walkers on the track.

**Where is it?** 65 km from Perth. Take Albany Highway out of Armadale.

**Travelling time:** 90 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Picnicking, bushwalking, wildlife observation.

**Facilities:** Wood barbecues (bring your own wood).

**Best seasons:** Spring and early summer.

### **Walktrails in the Jarrahdale area**

There are many walktrails in the Jarrahdale area, including the Blue Rock Walk Trail, the Wetland Experience, the Mundlimup Timber Trail, and the Balmoral POW camp ruins and walk trail.

For more information on these walks pick up a brochure at the Jarrahdale General Store.

## **Dwellingup area**

### **Lane Poole Reserve**

Situated just 100 km from Perth near Dwellingup, the Lane Poole Reserve covers some 55,000 ha of jarrah forest. The Murray River flows through the reserve, and offers numerous recreational activities from swimming and canoeing to white water rafting.

The recreation sites of Baden Powell, Charlie's Flat, Tony's Bend, Yarragil, Chuditch, Nanga Mill, Stringers and Nanga Townsite are popular for camping.



### **Baden Powell (day-use and campground)**

Baden Powell offers visitors the first view of the Murray River and consists of a day-use area with an adjoining campground. It is very popular for swimming and for picnics, as well as for camping.

**Where is it?** 9.5 km from Dwellingup along Nanga Road and 2 km from entry station on Park Road.

**Travelling time:** 90 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Camping fees apply. No fees for day visitors.

**What to do:** Picnicking, swimming, canoeing, wildlife observation and camping in the campground only (no camping in day-use area).

**Facilities:** Wood barbecues (bring your own firewood), tables, toilets, bins, parking.

**Best seasons:** All year.

### **Chuditch campground**

Chuditch campground was opened in September 2004 and features numbered bays for individual group camping. It is named after WA's largest marsupial predator, the chuditch, which may be seen throughout the reserve (keep an eye out at night as they are nocturnal). Otherwise referred to as the quoll, chuditch is the local Aboriginal name, which mimics the guttural call the animal makes when disturbed.

**Where is it?** 16 km from Dwellingup and 8.5 km from entry on Park Road and over Bob's Crossing. (During winter drive in via Nanga Mill from Nanga Road).

**Travelling time:** 2 hr from Perth.

**Fees:** Camping fees apply.

**What to do:** Camping, bushwalking, short walk or drive to river.

**Facilities:** Individual camping bays, tables, toilets, enclosed camp kitchen with gas barbecues (for campers and day visitors). No wood fires are permitted at Chuditch. Please bring gas stove/cooker to use in camping bays.

**Best seasons:** All year.

### **Icy Creek**

Situated alongside the Lane Poole Reserve, Icy Creek Environmental Education Camp is a venue requiring pre-booking for public access. It is very popular with school groups and with people who want to enjoy the peace and tranquility of a forest setting.

**Where is it?** 14 km from Dwellingup along Nanga Road.

**Travelling time:** 2 hr from Perth.

**Fees:** Fees are applicable

**What to do:** Camping, bushwalking, wildlife observation, photography.

**Facilities:** Six cottages with eight beds each with mattress supplied. Hot showers, toilets, campground covered camp kitchen with fridge, gas burners and gas barbecue, tables, covered rotunda with central fire place and grassed oval.

**Best seasons:** All year.

To book contact CALM's Dwellingup office on 9538 1078. A minimum of 20 people is required to book the venue exclusively.

### **Nanga Mill and Nanga Townsite**

The popular recreation sites of Nanga Mill and Nanga Townsite have a strong link with the timber milling days, when jarrah was harvested in the area from as early as 1898. Nanga Townsite came into existence in 1909, but during the Dwellingup fire of 1961 the countryside was devastated and the townsite was incinerated and never rebuilt.



Today at each site you can see the remains of this heritage from old railway formations to remnant garden plants such as poplars and blackberry.

**Where is it?** Nanga Mill is 18.5 km from Dwellingup and 11 km from entry station on Park Road via Bob's Crossing (accessed in winter via Nanga Road, 5.5 km from entry station). Nanga Townsite is 13.5 km from Dwellingup and 6 km from entry station via Nanga Road.

**Travelling time:** 2 hr from Perth.

**Fees:** Camping fees apply.

**What to do:** Camping, bushwalking close to Nanga Brook and Murray River.

**Facilities:** Wood barbecues (bring your own fire wood), tables, toilets, bins, walktrails.

**Best seasons:** All year.

#### Charlie's Flat

**Where is it?** 14.5 km from Dwellingup and 7 km from entry station, on River Road.

**Travelling time:** 2 hr from Perth.

**Fees:** Camping fees apply.

**What to do:** Camping, swimming, canoeing.

**Facilities:** Individual campsites, wood barbecues (bring your own firewood), tables, toilets, bins. Not suitable for large groups or caravans.

**Best seasons:** All year.

#### Bob's Crossing

**Where is it?** 12.5 km from Dwellingup and 5 km from entry station on River Road.

**Travelling time:** 2 hr from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Swimming, canoe pick-up/drop-off, 10 min parking on crossing, no camping.

**Facilities:** Concrete river crossing providing access to Chuditch, Nanga Mill and Stringers, except in winter when river floods (access via Nanga Road and Nanga Mill during flooding).

**Best seasons:** All year.

#### Stringers

**Where is it?** 19 km from Dwellingup and 11.5 km from entry on Park Road via Bob's Crossing (via Nanga Road during winter into Nanga Mill).

**Travelling time:** 2 hr from Perth.

**Fees:** Camping fees apply.

**What to do:** Camping, swimming, canoeing.

**Facilities:** Campground, wood barbecues (bring own firewood), tables, toilets, rubbish bin, canoe launch.

**Best seasons:** All year.

#### Yarragil

**Where is it?** 20 km from Dwellingup and 12.5 km from entry station on River Road.

**Travelling time:** 2 hr from Perth.

**Fees:** Camping fees apply.

**What to do:** Camping, swimming, canoeing.

**Facilities:** Small campsite, wood barbecues (bring own firewood), tables, toilet, rubbish bin. Not suitable for large groups or caravans.

**Best seasons:** All year.

#### Tony's Bend

**Where is it?** 17 km from Dwellingup and 9.5 km from entry station on River Road.

**Travelling time:** 2 hr from Perth.

**Fees:** Camping fees apply.

**What to do:** Camping, swimming, canoeing.

**Facilities:** Individual campsites, wood barbecues (bring own firewood), tables, toilets, bin. Not suitable for large groups or caravans.

**Best seasons:** All year.



#### Marrinup Campsite

The Marrinup Campsite is situated where the old Marrinup Townsite was established for timber harvesting (jarrah), in the 1880s. The Dwellingup fire of 1961 burnt what remained of the townsite. It was closed due to resource decline and moved to Dwellingup.

**Where is it?** 100 km from Perth off Del Park Road near Dwellingup, or access via Grey Road, 2 km from Dwellingup along the Pinjarra-Williams Road.

**Travelling time:** 90 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Camping, bushwalking, cycling (access to Marrinup Cycle Trail and Munda Biddi Trail).

**Facilities:** Wood barbecues (bring own firewood), tables, toilet, camping area suitable for caravans and group camping.

**Best seasons:** All year.

#### Marrinup POW Camp

In the 1940s a Prisoner of War (POW) camp was established at Marrinup to house some 200 German and 1300 Italian POWs. The camp was primarily a staging post for Italian prisoners enroute to work on Wheatbelt properties. Those prisoners who lived permanently at the camp were employed as firewood cutters.

**Where is it?** 100 km from Perth off Del Park Road near Dwellingup, or access via Grey Road, 2 km from Dwellingup along the Pinjarra-Williams Road (follow the signs to POW camp from Marrinup).

**Travelling time:** 90 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable

**What to do:** Historical site. No camping permitted at POW camp.

**Facilities:** Toilet, some interpretive material, parking.

**Best seasons:** All year.

#### Marrinup Falls

**Where is it?** 100 km from Perth, access off Del Park Road near Dwellingup or access via Grey Road, 2 km from Dwellingup along the

Pinjarra-Williams Road (follow the signs to Marrinup Falls from Marrinup).

**Travelling time:** 90 min from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Bushwalking (Marrinup Falls walktrail), wildlife observation, photography. No camping permitted at this site.

**Facilities:** 1.5 km loop walktrail.

**Best seasons:** Winter and spring for waterfalls and wildflowers.

#### Other sites

There are several State forest recreation sites within easy reach of Perth and close to Dwellingup, including Oakley Falls, Goldmine Hill, Scarp Pool and Scarp Lookout.

**Where are they?** See back page map for details.

**Travelling time:** 90 min to 2 hr from Perth.

**Fees:** Not applicable.

**What to do:** Picnicking, bushwalking, wildlife observation. Camping is not permitted at these sites.

**Facilities:** Toilets, tables, parking and short walks, and river access at Scarp Pool.

**Best seasons:** Spring for wildflowers and winter for waterfalls.

## Mountain biking in the Perth hills

There are many mountain bike trails in the Perth hills area that provide a wide range of recreational opportunities for bike riders, ranging from leisurely rides to more challenging circuits and loops. Some of these trails are dual-use, so riders need to be aware of other trail riders at all times. Brochures and further information are available from CALM's Mundaring office.

#### Railway Reserve Trail – from Midland to Mt Helena and return

The Railway Reserve Trail retraces 40 km of the old Eastern Railway constructed from Fremantle to York in the 1880s. It starts at the corner of Pechey and Morrison Roads in Swan View and goes through John Forrest National Park.

#### Mundaring Loop Trail – from The Hills Forest Discovery Centre to Mundaring and return

The Mundaring Loop Trail is 15.5 km long and riders travel along old rail formations and forestry tracks as well as purpose built bike trails through Mundaring National Park.

#### Carinyah Trail – from Brookton Highway to Carinyah and return

The Carinyah Trail is 15.7 km and takes riders through the jarrah forest to old Carinyah forestry settlement and part of the Pickering Brook National Park.





## Great places to climb and abseil

If you fancy rock climbing or abseiling, then the historic Statham's and Boya Mountain granite quarries are the ideal venues.

Statham's Quarry in Gooseberry Hill National Park in Helena Valley has two 25 km high rock faces open for such activities, while Boya Quarry (or Mountain Quarry) in Greenmount National Park has faces of 15 m, 25 m and 50 m.

To ensure maximum safety, all abseil leaders must have NOLRS registration. It is also essential to book with CALM.

Both quarries have climbing anchor points installed and there are toilets, a shelter and picnic tables nearby.

Statham's Quarry is on the historic Zig-Zag railway that ran from Midland to Kalamunda. Both quarries have significant heritage value, having been among the first commercial quarries operating in the Perth area.

It is estimated that up to 10,000 people climb or abseil at the two venues each year and the number is rising steadily.

For more information or to make a booking, contact The Hills Forest Discovery Centre on 9295 2244 or email [n2n@calm.wa.gov.au](mailto:n2n@calm.wa.gov.au).



## Pets in parks

Dogs are welcome at most regional parks around Perth, as well as in State forest, timber reserves and some other categories of reserve such as regional parks or at Lane Poole Reserve near Dwellingup.

Dogs are, however, not permitted in nature reserves, marine nature reserves or most national parks.



Numbat

If you decide to take your dog into State forest or a CALM-managed reserve where dogs are permitted, make sure it is on a lead and under effective control.

1080 poison baits are laid in south-west forest areas to eradicate foxes and cats as part of CALM's wildlife recovery program, *Western Shield* (for more details about this program see page 3).

Native animals are tolerant to the 1080 baits, which contain a natural poison, but they will kill cats and dogs. **There is no antidote.**

Check with the nearest CALM district office to find out which areas are currently baited. You may want to muzzle your dog to prevent it picking up a bait.



Echidna

Visually impaired people with guide dogs can take their dogs into any CALM-managed area.

Cats should not be taken into any area managed by CALM. Feral cats are a major threat to wildlife, and have been linked to the extinction of several small native mammal species.

## National park passes

Western Australia boasts some five million ha of national parks featuring some of the most spectacular landscapes in the world.

To access parks with entry fees, CALM offers national park passes.

CALM spends the fees it collects at the parks on maintaining and improving visitor facilities or on conservation projects.

The national park passes are available from all CALM offices (except Crawley), more than 40 WA tourist centres, park entry points or from rangers within those parks.

At parks where entry points are not staffed, please take one of the supplied envelopes, complete your details, enclose the prescribed fee, tear-off and retain the receipt and deposit the envelope in the fee-container provided.

Park passes do not cover camping. Other fees may apply.

### Day Pass

Only four national parks in the Perth hills area – John Forrest, Avon Valley, Serpentine and Walyunga – are currently subject to day pass charges. A fee of \$9 per car (up to eight legally seated people), \$3 per motorcycle and \$3.40 per tour vehicle passenger provides entry to one or more parks on the day.

### Annual Local Park Pass

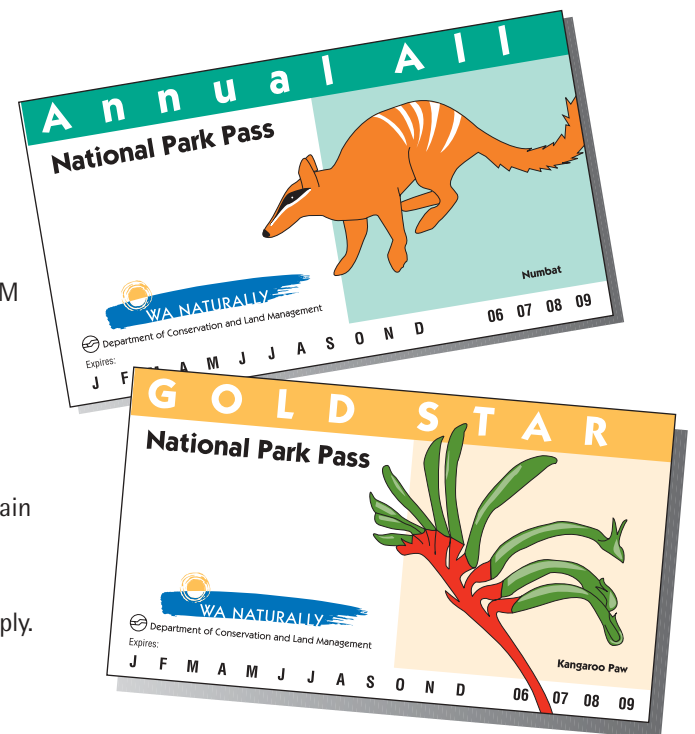
This pass, at \$17 per vehicle (up to eight people), allows you to visit a park or group of parks in the same area as many times as you wish for one year. Walyunga and Avon Valley National Parks are covered on the one Annual Local Park Pass.

### Holiday Pass

This pass entitles you to visit as many parks as you wish anywhere in WA during a four-week period. The fee is \$22.50 per vehicle (up to eight people).

### Annual All Parks Pass

If you want to visit any park in WA for 12 months, this is the pass to have. The fee is \$51 per vehicle (up to eight people).



### Gold Star Pass

This is an annual all parks pass that includes a 12-month subscription to *LANDSCOPE*. It's available through CALM offices or when you subscribe to the magazine. The fee is \$73 per vehicle (up to eight people) and includes four issues of CALM's award-winning magazine.

### Concessions

Drivers with a Seniors' Card, aged pension card or Department of Veterans' Affairs card pay a concession price of \$3 per car for day passes or \$1 per person when on private outings on buses (not including commercial tours).

Groups of people with disabilities, or aged and infirm people entering parks on buses, as well as students undertaking educational activities in a park are entitled to free entry. Please apply in advance, in writing, to CALM.

CALM's fees and charges are reviewed from time to time.

## Water activities rare, but dams offer plenty for tourists

The network of rivers flowing through the Darling Range largely sustains Perth and its surrounding areas.

Dams in the valley gorges of the Helena, Canning and Serpentine rivers create reservoirs from which the bulk of the region's drinking and irrigation water is taken.

To prevent contamination of this resource, water-based activities such as swimming, boating, canoeing and fishing are not permitted in most areas surrounding the reservoirs.

One of the few places where swimming is permitted is near the picturesque Serpentine Falls in Serpentine National Park, downstream from the drinking water supply reservoir.

At this popular recreation spot, water cascades 15 m down a sheer rock face and feeds two rock pools, one of which is open to swimmers. Please observe the warning signs. A nearby picnic area is also equipped with barbecues and picnic facilities.

The Mundaring Weir (now called Lake C Y O'Connor) on the Helena River in Mundaring National Park has a special place in WA's history.

In the late nineteenth century, WA's Chief Engineer, C Y O'Connor, after whom the lake is named, built a 560-km pipeline, largely uphill, to sustain the Goldfields east of Perth during the great gold rush.

The pipeline stands as one of the great engineering achievements of the era and continues to sustain the Goldfields today.

Those interested in history can visit South Ledge lookout overlooking the weir and Helena Valley.

There are also several tracks adjacent to the pipeline. The National Trust's Golden Pipeline tour (walk/drive) starts at the old No. 1 Pump Station Interpretive Centre below the dam wall and follows the pipeline, providing interpretive information along the way.

Dams at North Dandalup and South Dandalup have picnic areas with gas barbecues and toilets, as well as walking trails. South Dandalup is the largest of the dams that supply drinking water to Perth, with a storage capacity of more than 200 million cubic metres.

So, while water-based activities are rare in the reservoir areas, there is plenty for visitors to see and do.

For more details about tracks and trails around the Serpentine, Mundaring and Canning dams, contact CALM's Tracks and Trails Unit on 9334 0265. For information about what activities allowed in the area, visit the 'Waterways' section of the Department of Environment's website ([www.environment.wa.gov.au](http://www.environment.wa.gov.au)).



## Leave the car and hit the tracks for a closer view

If you like to walk or ride a mountain bike you will be spoilt for opportunities in the Perth hills.

Apart from the popular Bibbulmun Track and the Munda Biddi Trail, there is a vast network of more than 50 tracks and trails spanning the hills, many of them offering interpretive signage providing information about the environment.

The tracks allow you to leave your car behind and enjoy the best natural sites up close. In some cases they will take you from the top of the scarp, to the very bottom and along the banks of rivers.

A favourite among walkers in the Jarrahdale area is a track that runs from Gooralong

through the Serpentine National Park following the river and finishing at Serpentine Falls.

Another favourite is the Eagle View Walk Trail that takes in part of John Forrest National Park and allows visitors to experience a variety of flora, fauna and landscapes from high ground.

Many mountain bikers favour the Railway Reserve Bike Trail that follows the route of a disused railway up the scarp and features a 340 m tunnel built by WA's famous Chief Engineer of the early twentieth century, C Y O'Connor.

Horse riders can enjoy the particularly scenic Lower Helena Bridle Trail from Kalamunda to Mundaring.

For more details about walking and riding opportunities in the hills, contact CALM's Perth Hills District Headquarters at Mundaring on 9295 1955 or CALM's Dwellingup office on 9538 1078. Detailed brochures and maps are available for many of the trails.

CALM has also produced two publications, *Family Walks in Perth Outdoors* and *More Family Walks in Perth Outdoors*, which both contain maps and descriptions of around 50 walks in and around the Perth area. These books retail for \$16.95 and are available from newsagents and bookstores as well as from CALM offices and online at CALM's NatureBase website at [www.naturebase.net](http://www.naturebase.net)



## Fire is both friend and foe

CALM, in cooperation with the Fire and Emergency Services Authority and local government bushfire brigades, has a comprehensive fire risk management strategy that applies to the Perth hills area.

This strategy involves prescribed burning to reduce bush fuel levels, an early spotting network of towers and aircraft, grading of fire breaks and fire-fighting efforts from the air and on the ground.

CALM's fire management strategy is not only about preventing danger to people. Prescribed burning is an essential part of helping the bush regenerate.

The frequency of burning is carefully managed according to the specific area to maximise benefit to the types of plants and animals living there.

Each year CALM plans to undertake prescribed burning on CALM-managed lands in the south-west to:

- protect and conserve biodiversity values and community assets;
- reduce the occurrence and impacts of large, intense wildfires; and
- regenerate and protect forest ecosystems.

However, all visitors to the hills need to be aware they are entering a fire risk area, particularly in the warmer months, and need to behave accordingly.

- Please light campfires only where you are authorised to do so. Such areas are clearly sign-posted and well cleared. In some cases, gas facilities are provided rather than open fires.
- Always let a responsible person know you are heading into the bush. In the event of a bushfire, it helps CALM to know who is in the area.
- Always stay on the tracks or trails provided.
- If you spot smoke and feel a fire may be heading your way, get out as quickly as possible. Again, stick to the tracks or trails. You will move much quicker on the tracks than through the bush.
- Please report any suspicious activity. CALM is always on the lookout for arsonists.

In January 2005 a bushfire burnt through 28,000 ha of bush in the Perth hills area and required a massive inter-agency and community response. This potentially devastating event was a reminder of the importance of community vigilance in preparing for fires and ensuring park visitor safety.

## A silent killer lurks in our bush

As you relax in the bush it's easy to overlook the likelihood you are in the presence of a ruthless killer – jarrah dieback!

This disease, otherwise known as *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, is a soil-based pathogen. It attacks the roots of more than 3000 native species in the south-west of WA, from tall trees to tiny shrubs and ground covers, destroying their ability to absorb water and transport nutrients.

In smaller plants, death can be almost instantaneous on contact of the pathogen with the roots, but most people recognise the disease in the ailing foliage of jarrah trees, which take longer to die.

WA's bush, including the Perth hills, is a huge mosaic of infected and uninfected areas. CALM scientists estimate the disease has seriously damaged up to 20 per cent of the natural environment, greatly thinning the bush across the State.

Affected areas cannot be re-populated with the susceptible native species without the ongoing application of protective treatments.

The disease spreads naturally from one plant to another through soil and water and little can be done to halt its progress given the vastness of the areas affected. Humans can greatly accelerate its movement by spreading infected soil and plant tissue.

Please obey signs advising you to wash or brush down your feet, bike, car or four-wheel drive (mainly the tyres and undercarriage). The signs are usually positioned in Disease Risk Areas where

you pass from an infected to an uninfected area and the risk of the disease spreading through soil that you may be carrying is very high. It is also important that you obey any road closure signs or gates as these are in place to help stop the spread of the disease into uninfested areas.

The disease has even spread into many bush reserves and back gardens of Perth through inappropriate nursery practices (failure to

sterilise soil used for seedlings), large-scale movement of soil for housing subdivisions or road construction, and by individuals.

Whenever you go bush, stick to the firm paths provided, clean your feet and/or vehicle where requested and conduct another clean-up before returning home. By no means remove any plants or plant materials from their natural settings.

More information about dieback is available from CALM's NatureBase website ([www.naturbase.net](http://www.naturbase.net)). Information can also be obtained by typing jarrah dieback into a web search engine.

You can also visit CALM's Perth Hills District Headquarters in Mundaring or phone 9295 1955.



## A forest adventure on two wheels

A suitable bike, a trail map, some basic supplies and a taste for forest adventure are all you need to tackle the extremely popular Munda Biddi Trail, starting at Mundaring in the hills east of Perth.

Munda Biddi, meaning 'path through the forest' in Nyoongar Aboriginal language, is the latest addition to WA's growing network of world-class recreational trails. It provides a great opportunity to combine a love of nature with a desire for healthy activity.

The car-free, off-road trail, constructed and maintained by CALM with the assistance of the Munda Biddi Trail Foundation, winds through the eucalypt forests, picturesque river valleys and rolling hills of the south-west on its way to Collie in the Darling Range, about 300 km south. It will eventually extend about 900 km to Albany on the South Coast.

Along the northern section of the trail, observant cyclists might catch sight of a native western brush wallaby, brushtail possum or western grey kangaroo which make the jarrah forest their home. There is also a wide variety of unique flora on display.

A major access point to the Munda Biddi Trail is at its terminus in Sculpture Park, Mundaring. Other access points include The Dell recreation area on Mundaring Weir Road and where the track crosses Brookton Highway and Albany Highway and passes through Jarrahdale or Dwellingup.

With these easy entry and exit points, you can cover as much or as little of the trail as you choose.

The trail is largely on gentle grades and designed for use by people of all ages and cycling experience levels. However, there are some steep sections, particularly in the Helena

Valley area and north of Jarrahdale and also near Dwellingup.

Campsites are located at 35 to 50 km intervals and the trail passes through a town at least every second day. Some campsites are specially designed for cyclists and feature a roomy sleeping shelter, cycle storage, rainwater tanks and a toilet. You will need to take a fuel stove if you intend to cook.

For more details about the Munda Biddi Trail, contact CALM's Tracks and Trails Unit on 9334 0265, email [mundabiddi@calm.wa.gov.au](mailto:mundabiddi@calm.wa.gov.au), or visit the Munda Biddi Trail Foundation's website at ([www.mundabiddi.org.au](http://www.mundabiddi.org.au)).

Cycling and nature enthusiasts are encouraged to support the trail by joining the Munda Biddi Trail Foundation. Members receive regular newsletters and discounts on merchandise. The foundation also arranges special group events.



## Keep your four-wheel drive on track!

Four-wheel driving through the wilds of the hills can be great fun, but it can also be damaging to the environment.

### Stay on the tracks

Except in areas specially designated for off-road driving (for vehicles such as trail bikes and dune buggies), all vehicles must stay on established roads or tracks. The destructive practice of cross-country 'bush bashing' is not allowed.

### Why have controls?

Destruction of flora and fauna, soil compaction and erosion, vandalism, littering and excessive noise can all potentially occur as a result of four-wheel driving. Perhaps the greatest problem of all, however, is the spread of the fungal disease dieback. This can be spread by soil carried on the tyres and undercarriages of four-wheel drive vehicles. CALM has designated and sign-posted various Disease Risk Areas, where vehicle traffic is strictly controlled through a permit system.

### Tread lightly

All drivers have a duty of care to the environment when using public lands. A 12-point Code of Ethics has been drawn up by the Australian National Four Wheel Drive Council in consultation with CALM. Behaviour standards are also prescribed by the Tread Lightly program. Copies of the Code and the Tread Lightly guidelines are available to the public.

### Other useful tips

- Unlicensed vehicles are not allowed on CALM-managed lands.
- Build up your skills by doing a four-wheel driving course through a four-wheel drive club.
- Buy a detailed map of the area you plan to drive through.
- Allow extra time for unforeseen circumstances.

- Plan alternative routes in case your original route is inaccessible.
- Maintain appropriate tyre pressure to protect the environment.
- Thoroughly check your vehicle before setting off.
- Stay out of boggy areas.

There are various planned four-wheel drive routes through the hills and a number of publications containing useful information about them. For details, contact CALM's Perth Hills District Headquarters in Mundaring on 9295 1955 or visit CALM's NatureBase website ([www.naturebase.net](http://www.naturebase.net)).





## How to contact our parks

### Perth Hills National Parks Centre

Ph: (08) 9295 2244  
Fax: (08) 9295 3247

### Mundaring, Helena, Wandoo, Pickering Brook and Canning national parks

Ph: (08) 9295 1955  
Fax: (08) 9295 2404

### Walyunga National Park

Ph/Fax: (08) 9571 1371

### Serpentine National Park

Ph/Fax: (08) 9525 2128

### Avon Valley National Park

Ph/Fax: (08) 9571 3066

### John Forrest National Park

Ph: (08) 9298 8344  
Fax: (08) 9298 9426

### Lane Poole Reserve

Ph: (08) 9538 1078  
Fax: (08) 9538 1203

Tracks, trails or organised activity enquiries should be directed to CALM's Dwellingup Work Centre on (08) 9538 1078.

Other enquiries can be directed to CALM's Perth Hills District Headquarters in Mundaring on (08) 9295 1955.

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

