

Frequently Asked Questions



How do I know where to plant trees?

Start with your local council. Most if not all councils now have detailed tree planting programs already set out for the next few years. This not only includes exactly **where** they want to plant trees, but also how many and what types.

Also have a chat to your local Landcare group, as chances are they also have plans and have selected areas that need planting. Where there are waterways in your area, also talk to the local Catchment Management Authority (CMA), as they will not only help with expert information and any necessary approvals but might even have grant funding available!

Apart from these options, have a look around you. Is there a bike path or walking path that needs winter sun and summer shade? Planting deciduous trees along the northern side of such paths fits the bill nicely.

Is there a new housing estate going in near you? These will always benefit from new trees. Developers are required to put in a minimum number of trees, but more is better so you might be able to talk to the developer or the council to supplement their tree planting.

How do I know what trees to choose?

Again, consult council, Landcare and the CMA. Make sure you don't plant anything that might turn into an environmental weed! In some areas locally native trees would be recommended, but in others deciduous shade trees would be more suitable.

What counts as a "tree"?

Any tree or shrub planted will count. This includes any trees that you pay for, any you actually plant yourselves, or any that you plant in partnership with other organisations such as Landcare. Restoration of foreshores and waterways with vital ground cover plants is also counted.

What if we have already planted some trees this year?

Any trees planted since July 1, 2024, can count towards this project. Just report these against the *Lions Green Canopy Tree Planting National Project*. See separate instructions.

How do we report the trees we plant for this project?

There is a separate document called "How to Report Green Canopy Project on Lion Portal" which gives step by step instructions on how to report any plantings under this project.

Is it OK to partner with other organisations for this?

It is not only OK, it is a great way to proceed. Groups such as Landcare are obvious choices, but so are other service organisations, councils, schools, scouts, nurseries, sporting clubs – you name it! Just remember that

the project is called the *Lions Green Canopy Tree Planting Project* so **always** include the word LIONS when mentioning it.

Where do we source the trees?

There are numerous options here. Some councils will supply them to you for you to plant. Local nurseries will grow specific varieties for you on request – particularly locally indigenous plants, using locally-sourced seed. Often these will be supplied to you at a lower cost than that paid by the general public, and sometimes free.

Local growing enthusiasts will also be very helpful. And Landcare will have all the contacts – just ask them.

Grants are often available to fund both the growing of trees and the planting of them with proper tree guards etc. Most Catchment Management Authorities have a grants program for this purpose, as do many philanthropic organisations.

Can we involve the general public in this?

Yes you can, and we encourage you to do so. Tree planting is a great family activity so try to involve families in these events. Younger people today are very conscious of the environment, and very keen to volunteer to help (on their terms) so the more you promote this to the public, the better. You will find that there will be lots of people who want to help, and when they do be sure to reward them – not with a plaque or certificate, but a simple gesture of a thank you meal is perfect. The traditional Lions sausage sandwich is ideal.

How should we promote it?

Quite simply, any way you can. Social media, newsletters, newspaper articles, radio interviews, posters in shops and more are all great options. The more people that know about it the more successful it will be, the more Lions will be known as a modern, progressive environmentally-focused organisation, and the easier it will be to recruit more members.

More questions?

If you have a question that is not answered here, please contact your district environment officer (or specific Green Canopy officer if there is one) in the first instance, or you can also email the committee on greencanopy@lions.org.au, visit greencanopy.lions.org.au or contact your nearest committee representative:

Chairman Tim Moore (Western Australia) – mooretc73@outlook.com.au, 0419 040 036

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