

Cardinia Creek Catchment Deer Partnership Project (CCCDPP)

Deer are having a major environmental impact along Cardinia Creek and its tributaries. The riparian environment is changing in front of our eyes and the problem is getting worse. The evidence of this is obvious to anyone who walks in these areas, and now, thanks to an innovative citizen science project conducted by CDMC, we have hard data to prove it. (See [here](#) for article on the CDMC Deer Vegetation Impact – Faecal Scat Survey.)

Cardinia Council has initiated the CCCDPP (The Project) in response to the feral deer problem using grant funding from the Department of Energy, Environment & Climate Action (DEECA) Periurban Deer Management Plan. The aim of The Project is to encourage landowners to control deer on private property and simultaneously work with other stakeholders (ie council, Parks Vic and Melbourne Water) to develop a multi-tenure land control effort to decrease deer numbers. This is a multilayered effort and will involve nature walk – information sessions, community education meetings and support for citizen-based deer control initiatives. It will also involve efforts to improve liaisons and better cooperation between managers of the various land tenures.

The Project primarily focuses on the stretch of Cardinia Creek between Brennan Reserve and Guys Hill. Some of these initiatives are already underway with several local neighbourhood meetings either just held or planned soon. CDMC strongly support Cardinia Council's efforts to support and enhance opportunities for deer control throughout the shire and especially along this stretch of Cardinia Creek.