



Murrk Ngubitj Yarram Yaluk



Following extensive remediation and restoration, the 30 hectare environmental and community place, known as Murrk Ngubitj Yarram Yaluk, is open for the community to enjoy.

Meaning 'headwaters of continuous flowing river' in Wadawurrung language, the old Bellarine Basin site has been transformed into an area that provides a unique and inclusive community place, where people can celebrate, respect and enjoy nature.

Community consultation helped to inform the site's masterplan, which was backed by an advisory group that included representatives from Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation and state and local government organisations.

Barwon Water is grateful to its project partners Wadawurrung, the Bellarine Catchment Network and the Friends of Murrk Ngubitj Yarram Yaluk group for helping to make this community-driven vision a reality.

The project has been supported by a \$650,000 grant from the Victorian Government's Distinctive Areas and Landscapes program.

The Government's Nature Fund also provided \$445,000 to the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation to deliver the first stage of integral infrastructure that gives all community better access to Country.

This includes the car park, walking trails, establishment of the Friends of the Murrk Ngubitj Yarram Yaluk group, and bush regeneration activities.

Murrk Ngubitj Yarram Yaluk, located on the corner of Grubb and Swan Bay Roads Wallington, is now open every day during daylight hours.

What does the project involve?

The first phase of works focused on rehabilitating the site and restoring the natural headwaters of Yarram Creek. This included removing the old water basin, associated infrastructure, part of the ageing pine plantation and re-creating the natural Yarram Creek alignment.

The second phase involved building maintenance and walking tracks, constructing a public car park and picnic area, while monitoring natural regrowth and controlling pest plants and animals.

The next phase will include extending the path network, building a bird hide, and installing interpretive signage. The signs will clearly communicate the site's environmental and Cultural values, explain the rehabilitation works and acknowledge the site's historical and ongoing significance to Wadawurrung People.

This is intended to provide context and public understanding, and provide a mechanism for all visitors to find connection to Country at the site.

How do I pronounce Murrk Ngubitj Yarram Yaluk?

Murrk Ngubitj Yarram Yaluk, meaning 'headwaters of continuous flowing river' in Wadawurrung language is pronounced like this:

"Mirk Newb itch Yeah-rem Yell-uk".

Get involved

If you'd like to get involved in helping us continue to revegetate the site, join the Bellarine Catchment Network's Friends of Murrk Ngubitj Yarram Yaluk, please register your interest via email to info@bcn.org.au



For further information

☎ 1300 656 007 | ✉ info@barwonwater.vic.gov.au
www.barwonwater.vic.gov.au

f t y o in

How is the site regenerating?

Wadawurrung's Gobata Dja (Caring for Country) team, the Bellarine Catchment Network, community volunteers and Friends group have continued to meet on site, undertaking targeted weeding of blackberries, pampas grass, creeping oxalis and non-native grasses, enabling natural regeneration processes to take place.

The teams have been seeing the incredible biodiversity that is emerging in the area, including the Smooth Parrot Pea, a plant that's not commonly seen in the region.

Native wildlife and birds such as the Eastern Snake-Necked Turtle, Spotted Pardalotes and Pied Stilts have been seen, along with a range of insects such as the Willow-herb Day Moth adding to the growing list of inhabitants.

For more information on the project and the site, go to www.yoursay.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/bellarine-basin

