

# Environmental Education Information Package



Produced by Apunga Ecological Management 2025



## Introduction

This package is designed to provide an overview of the environmental education services offered by Apunga Ecological Management (AEM).

The implementation of a program to provide access for community members, families and children, and corporate groups to environmental workshops, guided walks, expert speakers, and structured learning programmes can provide a valuable service to the community. This can lead to greater appreciation and use of Council reserves, increase in volunteer programmes such as Bushcare and National Tree Day, increased ability to apply for grant funding, and a flow on effect to much wider environmental benefits.

AEM has developed a range of environmental education services. Drawing on staff with extensive experience, and a vast network of available experts, the programs on offer are comprehensive and varied. All programs and events are highly flexible and can be tailored to meet the needs of individuals and organisations.

## **About Apunga Ecological Management**

Apunga Ecological Management is a privately owned and operated business specialising in environmental consulting, bush regeneration, landscape rehabilitation, revegetation, and environmental education in Sydney and surrounding areas. Established in 2005, it draws together the most qualified professionals in the industry in order to develop and deliver best practice. Drawing on a wide and extensive range of skills and experience, AEM have provided services for National Parks, private property holders and businesses, and 16 different councils throughout Sydney.





## **Environmental Education**

#### Walks, Talks and Workshops

AEM can facilitate guided walks, presentations, hands-on workshops, and activities for a range of audiences including residents, families and children, and corporate and community volunteers. Bookings are available seven days, including evenings, for single or progressive programs.

Popular topics include:

- **Introduction to bush regeneration** A brief overview of the principles of bush regeneration, some common weeds and natives, weed removal techniques and planting. Introductory, intermediate or advanced level.
- **Plant identification** Tailored to suit any level and focused on one particular plant group such as grasses or orchids, or general plant ID.
- **Habitat gardens** Learn how to create a native garden that will attract birds, reptiles and insects and act as a stepping-stone in the urban/suburban environment. For small to large spaces. Plants can be provided for participants to take home.
- **Guided bush experience** A general walk and talk through a local bushland area, covering topics of local flora and fauna, Aboriginal history, and site-specific information regarding vegetation communities.
- **Citizen science** Flora and fauna monitoring including surveys to see what species are living in the local area.
- Indigenous guided cultural walk – A guided walk through a natural area focusing on First Nations culture and history.
- Art in nature Experience the joys of creating art in a beautiful bushland setting. Art instruction supplied by expert artist, all materials supplied.



Other topics include but are not limited to:

• Insects • Birds • Food gardens • Eco-therapy • Native bees • Native alternatives in gardens • Fire ecology • Fungi • Orchids • Weeding without Roundup – alternatives to Glyphosate • Growing and caring for houseplants • Seed raising and propagation

These are an example of the range of topics available by both AEM educators and our network of experts. There are many more options available or specific topics can be tailored to the needs of a group or event.

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#### Family and Children

All AEM education programs can be customised to provide an engaging, interactive, and inclusive experience for families and children. Program formats include single or multi-week programs and incursions/excursions for school, early childhood and OOSHC. All programs can be aligned with syllabus and learning framework outcomes.

Fun, hands-on, and interactive games and activities are designed to develop ecological literacy in the above topic areas and may include:

- Searching for clues and evidence
- Meeting small critters
- Naming fungi
- Leaf mapping
- Life web games
- Making habitat
- Planting
- Seed balls
- Sensory activities



#### **Events**

AEM is available to coordinate or take part in one-off or recurring events.

#### **Corporate Volunteering**

AEM coordinates corporate volunteering and wellbeing days. Corporate volunteers can take part in a native planting or bush regeneration in a local bushland area. All plants and equipment can be provided by AEM. Volunteers will be trained in the basics of bush regeneration and planting and taught about the value of conservation.

#### **National Tree Day**

AEM can run plantings for National Tree Day for local residents, volunteers, and/or families and children. All plants and equipment can be provided by AEM.

#### **Festivals**

AEM is available to have a stall at local environment-focused festivals and market days to educate the local community about the bush, creating habitat gardens and choosing native alternatives in the garden, or any topics as listed above.



#### **Interpretive Outdoor Signage**

AEM can design and create temporary or permanent interpretive outdoor signage to educate the community about their local area. This can be for bushwalks, significant natural areas, and man-made environmental features such as constructed wetlands.

### Costings

Costings vary greatly from project to project and depend on time involved in coordination and administration, additional services of experts, and materials.

#### Indicative costings (ex GST)

1-2 hour session \$500

Half day (3hr) \$650

Full day (6r) \$1000

Subject to confirmation depending on number of participants, logistics, equipment, and supplies required. Weekends and Public Holidays may incur additional charge.

For more detailed figures on costings, please contact AEM to request a free quote for your event or program by emailing <u>education@apunga.com.au</u>.

