

HELP TO GROW AND RESTORE
A VITAL AUSTRALIAN ECOSYSTEM AND
TAKE IMMEDIATE CLIMATE ACTION



PLANT-A-TREE PROGRAM IN THE *Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Corridor*

Carbon Neutral carries out large-scale revegetation of degraded farmlands. The Carbon Neutral Plant-a-Tree Program allows organisations to actively support this vital work by funding the planting of mixed native species in the *Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Corridor*.

Woodlands and forests play a vital role in providing clean and cool air. They act as natural water pumps to reduce soil salinity, reduce erosion, recycle nutrients and support habitats for wildlife.

Our Plant-a-Tree Program restores landscapes and creates natural ecosystems across large tracts of land. So far, we at Carbon Neutral have planted over 30,000,000 trees, plants and shrubs and have restored more than 16,000 hectares of cleared land.

A GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

Our plantings are in the northern wheatbelt region of Southwest Australia, significantly one of only 36 global biodiversity hotspots. These are regions that have an exceptionally high number of endemic plant and animal species that are at extreme risk of habitat loss.

- ✓ Restore native biodiversity
- ✓ Rejuvenate degraded landscapes
- ✓ Grow critical habitat for endangered wildlife



TAKE ACTION TODAY Call: 1300 851 211

Email: contactus@carbonneutral.com.au Buy online at carbonneutral.com.au/plant-a-tree/

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The area that we now call the *Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Corridor* was once vibrant with expansive York and Salmon gum woodlands. But since the early 1900s, Europeans have cleared more than 97% of the vegetation so they could farm. Now, parts of the landscape are not suitable for traditional agriculture due to soils that are increasingly uneconomic to farm in a warmer, drier climate.

The Plant-A-Tree Program is a bold vision to link small patches of remaining vegetation and twelve nature reserves to create a green corridor from the coast to the rangelands.



CREATING WILDLIFE HABITATS

In the small patches of vegetation that have survived the 20th century land clearing there is an amazing richness and diversity of plant and animal species. In just two weeks of wildlife survey monitoring, more than 450 species of flora, insects and birds were identified.

This included thirteen bird species of conservation significance as well as threatened species such as Malleefowl, Bush Stone-curlew, Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo, Western Spiny-tailed Skink and the Woylie (Brush-tailed Bettong), as well as 30 species of conservation-significant native plants.

The Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Corridor is growing to become a 200km stretch of trees and other plant life, reconnecting coastal and drier inland habitats.





DELIVERING FOR THE GLOBAL GOALS

Our Plant-a-Tree Program directly contributes to seven of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Global Goals.

The Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Corridor project is the winner of the Banksia 'Natural Capital' Sustainability Award, and Australia's largest biodiverse, reforestation carbon sink.



PLANT-A-TREE IN MORE DETAIL...

CLIMATE CHANGE

Plantings are in a Mediterranean climate with average annual rainfall of around 350mm. Though climate change means reducing rainfall, the Mid West region of WA benefits from more valuable summer rainfall.

MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING FIRE

The Carbon Neutral group maintains overall management. This includes health monitoring and fire control measures.

LEGAL PROTECTION

Trees are legally protected for 100 years by a Carbon Right and a Carbon Covenant.

MONITORING & REPORTING

Our plantings are independently monitored for health and survival and reports are posted on the Carbon Neutral website. Each tree sold is given a unique serial number which is recorded on the buyer's receipt.

PLANTING METHOD

Carbon Neutral has developed a pioneering approach to direct-seeding and hand planting. Our method encompasses provenance seed collection, seed pre-treatment, equipment design and modification to control weeds and harvest water.

All this significantly cuts planting establishment costs per stem causes faster planting over larger areas and greater diversity, survival and growth rates. As a result, the scale of biodiverse reforestation planting has grown substantially with over 60 native tree and shrub species established.

The resulting plant density is highly variable across sites. Due to a relatively high ratio of mixed Acacia species, the Plant-a-Tree Program adopts a conservative maximum plant density allocation of 1,650 stems per hectare. Carbon Neutral's Plant-A-Tree sites are often selected to be low carbon yield sites.

CARBON SEQUESTRATION

Trees and shrubs planted do sequester carbon but carbon will not be measured therefore Plant-a-Tree is not a carbon offset product. As a guide, it is estimated between 10 and 15 trees or shrubs will sequester 1 tonne of CO₂-e over 30 years.

CARBON NEUTRAL

Carbon Neutral one of Australia's largest biodiverse reforestation 'carbon sink' developers and managers. Since 2008, we have established over 16,000 hectares on mostly unproductive and degraded farmlands. Much of these plantings are for carbon credits under the prestigious international Gold Standard certification

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