

Community Notification - Bush regeneration works

Dear residents,

We are writing to inform you that bush regeneration works will take place over the coming weeks in the Blue Gum High Forest as part of the Ryde Hospital Redevelopment.

In early 2023, HPAC Pty Ltd was awarded the early works contract for the Ryde Hospital Redevelopment. Early works are the preliminary works carried out onsite in preparation for the main works, which are set to begin later this year.

Bush regeneration works

Bush regeneration works are planned from mid-February 2023, pending relevant licences. Work will take place during standard construction hours **7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday** and **8am to 1pm on Saturdays**, weather permitting.

Total Earth Care in collaboration with HPAC Pty Ltd, will commence bush regeneration work with a qualified and experienced bush regeneration specialist. The upcoming works will involve the removal of the lantana, a non-native plant species that is known for its ability to outcompete native plants and reduce biodiversity in Australia.

Lantana is known for:

- producing many seeds that can easily germinate and establish themselves in the environment
- It is dense growth habit shades out other plants, and
- It is also known to be toxic to some native wildlife, which can further impact the local ecosystem.

By removing this invasive species and restoring the area to its natural state, we will help to preserve the unique and valuable ecosystem that exists in the Blue Gum High Forest. This will provide benefits for the local community, wildlife and the environment, including:

- Improving the overall health of the ecosystem: by removing lantana and planting native species that are better suited to the local environment, we will help to improve the overall health of the Blue Gum High Forest.
- Providing habitat for native wildlife: by restoring the area to its natural state, we will provide suitable habitat for a range of native species, including birds, reptiles and mammals.
- Maintaining biodiversity: the Blue Gum High Forest is home to a range of unique and valuable species, and by removing lantana and restoring the area to its natural state, we will help to maintain this biodiversity.

We believe that the outcome of this project will be a more vibrant and healthy Blue Gum High Forest that provides benefits to the local community, wildlife and the environment.

What to expect?

The bush regeneration work will take place near **Ryedale Road** and **Florence Avenue** in the Blue Gum High Forest, as shown on the map located overleaf.

The health, safety and well-being of the community are our highest priorities. We will be working with our contractors to implement strategies to minimise disruptions to nearby residents.



Further information

If you would like to find out more information about the Ryde Hospital Redevelopment, please visit www.rydehospitalredevelopment.health.nsw.gov.au, email rydehospitalredev@health.nsw.gov.au or call 02 9978 5411 to speak to a member of our project team.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience while we complete the bush regeneration work, as part of the essential early works for the Ryde Hospital Redevelopment.