

# MEDIA STATEMENT



Tuesday, 15 May 2018

## **City warns residents about impacts of Flinders Range Wattle Weed**

Each year the City of Bunbury spends thousands of dollars removing woody-tree weeds from its bushland reserves.

A major threat to Bunbury reserves are the introduced wattles which are commonly planted in urban gardens because of their relatively small and compact nature and beautiful flowering habit.

Introduced wattles often become weeds in bushland when seeds from trees growing in people's gardens are dropped by birds in to nearby bushland areas.

Of particular concern to the City is the increasing number of Flinders Range Wattle (*Acacia iteaphylla*) seedlings that are now being regularly observed in bushland areas.

This South Australian native tree can become an aggressive weed competing with native plants for nutrients, water and light. It often creates thickets of trees that smother native vegetation wiping out all other native plants and habitat for native animals.

City of Bunbury Environmental Officer Colin Spencer said the removal of woody tree weeds, including the Flinders Range Wattle can be very challenging and expensive.

"In 2017 the City of Bunbury, Bunbury Cemetery Board and Main Roads Western Australia with the assistance of a \$22,200 State NRM Program grant, supported by Royalties for Regions worked collaboratively to remove a large infestation of the common woody weed Sydney Golden Wattle from a wetland and road reserve areas at the southern end of the Bunbury Regional Cemetery site in Carey Park, Bunbury," Mr Spencer said.

"We encourage people to think about what they plant in their gardens as they may end up a weed in the bush next door."

Please help keep our bushland free of weeds and consider the native bushland before planting trees or other plants which may become a weed in our natural environment.

Lee-Maree Gallo, Media and Communications Officer  
**T:** 0428 201 253 **E:** [imgallo@bunbury.wa.gov.au](mailto:imgallo@bunbury.wa.gov.au)

4 Stephen Street, Bunbury WA 6230 - PO Box 21 Bunbury WA 6231 **T:** (08) 9792 7000  
**TTY:** 13 36 77 **F:** (08) 9792 7184 **E:** [contact@bunbury.wa.gov.au](mailto:contact@bunbury.wa.gov.au) **W:** [www.bunbury.wa.gov.au](http://www.bunbury.wa.gov.au)

# MEDIA STATEMENT



For more information on managing woody weeds please check the Weed Wattles Fact Sheet on the City of Bunbury's website at [www.bunbury.wa.gov.au](http://www.bunbury.wa.gov.au)

**ENDS**

Lee-Maree Gallo, Media and Communications Officer  
**T:** 0428 201 253 **E:** [imgallo@bunbury.wa.gov.au](mailto:imgallo@bunbury.wa.gov.au)

4 Stephen Street, Bunbury WA 6230 - PO Box 21 Bunbury WA 6231 **T:** (08) 9792 7000  
**TTY:** 13 36 77 **F:** (08) 9792 7184 **E:** [contact@bunbury.wa.gov.au](mailto:contact@bunbury.wa.gov.au) **W:** [www.bunbury.wa.gov.au](http://www.bunbury.wa.gov.au)