



Strategic Plan 2020-2025

Mission: To promote the understanding and stewardship of the environment in the Ararat urban area.

Ararat Landcare Group (ALG) formed in 1999 and continues to work for the better management of natural areas in Ararat. The group meets monthly to discuss issues and plan projects. A working bee is held every month (excluding January) to work on various projects. ALG collaborates with a number of regional and state agencies, including Ararat Rural City Council, Victorian Gorse Taskforce, Agriculture Victoria, Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority and Department of Land, Water and Planning.

Projects conducted by ALG focus on:

- protection of remnant vegetation especially where extensive and continuous areas remain reasonably intact;
- control of invasive weed species on public land, particularly where weeds impact on native groundcover species e.g. orchids, grasses, lilies and other herbaceous plants;
- planting of indigenous trees and shrubs to provide habitat and passage for native birds, animals, reptiles and insects;
- caring for natural waterways within the city, especially Cemetery Creek;
- promoting the benefits of a healthy, viable environment and educating the community, especially young people in protecting and caring for it.

Goals 2020-2025

Goal	Action
1. Maintain membership levels at current status.	1a. Ensure that meetings are welcoming and accessible to all. 1b. Encourage recruitment of new members.
2. Control gorse throughout Ararat, focusing on Cemetery Creek.	2a. Target gorse infestations during monthly working bees.
3. Promote stewardship and engage community in the local environment.	3a. Work with local schools (e.g. Ararat Secondary College) to collaborate on revegetation projects. 3b. Participate in community engagement events (e.g. All Things Gardening, Landcare events) to highlight the work of ALG and Landcare.
4. Support protection of remnant vegetation and revegetation projects.	4a. Collaborate with local and regional agencies to ensure that habitat and biodiversity are protected and enhanced.