

Native birdlife of Fairfield City

Fairfield City is home to a wide range of native bird species, including ibis, ducks, cockatoos, galahs, corellas, lorikeets and noisy minor birds.

Feeding these birds is damaging to their health, encourages aggressive behaviour towards residents, pollutes the natural ecosystem and can cause a health risk to humans.

The birds can also become a nuisance to people and animals by gathering in large numbers at feeding spots.

It is important not to feed native birds food sources that are not part of their natural diet, including bread, meat or bird seed.

Fairfield City Council

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Why we should NOT feed native birds



It is unhealthy for birds

When we feed native birds food that is not their natural diet, it can make them sick.

Processed foods such as bread cause malnutrition.

If birds become dependant on food sources from us, they lose the ability to fend for themselves and this will affect their survival.

Feeding birds can also cause them to become aggressive towards us and can stress them as they congregate in larger numbers than they would naturally.



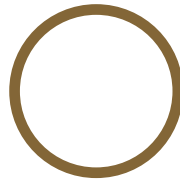
Creates unbalanced & unsustainable bird populations

When we provide native birds with more food than is available in our bushland, it encourage birds to breed all year round which can over-inflate their numbers.

Species such as rainbow lorikeets take advantage of more abundant food sources, enabling them to out-compete other species such as scaly breasted lorikeets.

Introduced bird species also feed from these food sources, outcompeting native animals for food and nesting locations.

Bird feeding can make native birds vulnerable to predation from species such as foxes or feral cats who prowl the feeding spots where birds congregate.



Alternatives to bird feeding

An alternative to feeding native birds is to plant native plants in your garden that can be a natural food source for birds.

It is important to choose a variety of species which are local to the area, and a mixture of trees, shrubs and grasses.

If you are unsure what to plant, you can consult Council's community nursery at Nalawala located at Fairfield Showground, or refer to the following birds in backyards guide.



Injured or sick native bird?

If you find a native bird that is in distress, call Sydney Wildlife or WIRES and follow their instructions.

For further information

[Biosecurity Act 2015 No 24 - NSW Legislation](#)

[Avian influenza | Department of Primary Industries](#)

[Bird flu | Australian Centre for Disease Control](#)

[Biosecurity concerns associated with feeding wild birds](#)

[Identify the risks](#)

[welcome to Bird's in Backyards | BIRDS in BACKYARDS](#)

[Sydney Wildlife](#) (02) 9413 4300

[WIRES](#) (02) 8977 3333 or 1300 094 737

Feeding can spread disease

When birds congregate in large numbers they have a greater potential to spread disease to one another.

This can also cause a health risk to humans because some viruses such as bird flu can spread from animals to humans.

Under the Biosecurity Act (2015), it is everyone's responsibility to minimise biosecurity risks "where reasonably practicable," which is the case also means not feeding birds.

