

## Let's enhance our lives too

Residential areas with mature trees and canopies are more desirable and therefore valuable, than those without.

By planting and caring for your trees and shrubs you will:

- reduce the temperature of your home, thus saving money on cooling
- beautify your home
- improve your streetscape
- increase the amenity of your local area

and all the while you will be protecting Powerful Owls! What's not to like?



## How can you help?

Submit sightings to [powerfulowl@birdlife.org.au](mailto:powerfulowl@birdlife.org.au) (give the time, date, place, any interesting details and, if possible, attach a photo or recording).

Contact your local council and politicians if you become aware of inappropriate development or clearing.

## Need more information?

Powerful Owl Coalition [www.step.org.au/POC](http://www.step.org.au/POC)

Birdlife Australia [www.birdlife.org.au/projects/powerful-owl-project](http://www.birdlife.org.au/projects/powerful-owl-project)

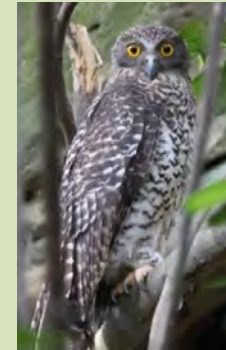


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## Protecting Powerful Owls in Sydney

### *Powerful Owls Benefit People*



## Why do Powerful Owls need our help?

Human actions are causing a decline in Powerful Owl numbers by removal of trees and vegetation, development on bushland fringes and road deaths.

They are a threatened species – there may be as few as 5000 in the world.

Their habitat supports amazing wildlife, enriches our lives and connects us with nature.

Future generations deserve to see these birds in the wild.

## Powerful Owls deserve protection because they are ...

Australia's largest owl.

An icon of the Australian night.

Charismatic, impressive birds.

Top predators which help to keep our ecosystems in balance, e.g. by controlling possum populations.

Only found along Australia's east coast.

## Do you know that Powerful Owls ...

Live for up to 25 years in the wild.

Have long and strong partner bonds.

Grow up to 60 cm tall.

Have a wingspan of up to 140 cm.

Have striking yellow eyes.

Have large orange feet with strong, sharp talons.

Are brown and white with brown chevrons on a white chest.

Chicks have downy white chests and grey masks.

Nest in large hollows of trees at least 150 years old.

Have a delightful low 'hoot hoot'.

Need to eat approximately one possum (or flying fox) per night.

## What do Powerful Owls need to survive?

Huge old growth trees more than 80 cm in diameter, with hollow entrances of 40 cm or more.

Roosting trees with dense canopies, particularly near rivers, creeks and gullies.

Foraging areas of complex vegetation large enough to support abundant prey species such as possums and birds.

Urban green spaces, bushland and leafy gardens.

Safe flight paths through bushland and urban areas.

Humans to help them survive and thrive.

## How can you make your garden Powerful Owl friendly?

Maintain and protect your old trees and value your tree hollows – they are homes for frogs, possums, sugar gliders and birds.

Keep dead trees – they may have wildlife hollows.

Install a nest box.

Plant native trees and shrubs.

Plant understorey trees and shrubs to support prey species.

Plant shrubs in dense, continuous groupings for birds.

Don't plant climbers and vigorous plants close to trees as they can damage the bark.

Keep thick mulch away from tree trunks.

Avoid changing soil levels under tree canopies to maintain healthy tree roots.

Employ reputable arborists to prune trees (you may need council permission).

Plant a gum tree, but not too close to your house, for future generations of Powerful Owls – you will also enjoy its beauty, wildlife and shade.

Protect Ringtail Possum dreys (they look like footballs made of twigs).

Reduce hard surfaces such as paving.

