

Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc



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Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow

27 November 2024

Letter to Blue Mountains nurseries accredited under BMCC Bushland Nursery Incentive scheme.

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to you on behalf of the Blue Mountains Conservation Society. The Society is a community volunteer organisation consisting of approximately 850 members. The Society's aim is to conserve the natural environment of the Blue Mountains.

The Society is strongly focused on managing environmental weeds in the Blue Mountains. Weeds displace locally indigenous vegetation, smother natural ecosystems and destroy the habitat of indigenous animals. Weeds pose a serious threat to the environmental values of Blue Mountains National Park and the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. At considerable expense, Blue Mountains City Council (BMCC) and National Parks and Wildlife Service staff and many hundreds of local bushcare volunteers work hard to control the spread of environmental weeds in the Blue Mountains. As a plant lover, I am sure that you are opposed to dense thickets of Privet or Tutsan, for example, overrunning our local plant communities, swamps, scenic areas and bush walks. Visitors to the Mountains wish to view our unique bushland, rainforests and waterfalls, and not expanses of Blackberry and Lantana.

BMCC environmental records indicate that your nursery is accredited as a participant in the Blue Mountains Bushland Nursery Incentive scheme managed by BMCC (<https://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/bushland-nursery>). Participants undertake to not sell Local Priority listed environmental weeds (<https://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/weed-management/priority-weeds-list>).

On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank you for participating in this important BMCC environmental initiative. The Society encourages its members and the general public to consider purchasing garden plants at accredited nurseries (<https://bluemountains.org.au/environmental-weeds.shtml>).

In addition to priority weed lists, BMCC maintains a general list of all Blue Mountains environmental weeds: BMCC DCP 2015 Weeds List. BMCC DCP 2015 Weeds List is comprised of priority weeds and all the other plant species evaluated as Blue Mountains weeds, as determined by BMCC.

Quite possibly, you were aware of the BMCC DCP 2015 Weeds List and are careful to not stock any of the listed environmental weed species. If this is the case, then on behalf of the Society, I would like to thank you for taking the time and trouble to help with conserving our local environment.

Quite possibly, you are not aware that BMCC maintains a comprehensive list of environmental weeds. The Society would like to suggest that on a voluntary basis, you might care to consult BMCC DCP 2015 Weeds List and remove from sale in your outlet any listed environmental weeds, as well as priority listed weeds. The list may be accessed at <https://bluemountains.org.au/documents/BMCC%20DCP%202015%20Weeds%20List.pdf> or in the BMCC document *Development Control Plan 2015: Part C Environmental Management, Revision: Amendment 5 (April 2023)* (<https://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/development/planning-rules/development-controls-for-land-zoned-under-LEP-2015/DCP-2015>).

For the sake of our local plant species and vegetation communities, and the wildlife dependent on local plant species for survival, your consideration of this voluntary action would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for considering the Society's proposals and position on this issue. Should you wish to discuss the matter, please feel free to contact me by email at president@bluemountains.org.au

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Annette Cam
President
Blue Mountains Conservation Society
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