

Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc



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Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow

28 November 2024

Letter to Blue Mountains nurseries not accredited under BMCC Bushland Nursery Incentive scheme

Attention: Nursery Manager

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 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.

The Society endorses the Blue Mountains Bushland Nursery Incentive scheme managed by BMCC (<https://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/bushland-nursery>). The eleven registered participant plant sale outlets undertake to not sell BMCC Local Priority listed environmental weeds (<https://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/weed-management/priority-weeds-list>). The Society encourages its members and the general public to consider purchasing garden plants at accredited nurseries (<https://bluemountains.org.au/environmental-weeds.shtml>). Quite possibly, you are careful to not stock any local priority weeds. On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank you for taking the time and trouble to help with conserving our local environment.

BMCC environmental records indicate that your nursery is not accredited with BMCC as a participant in the Blue Mountains Bushland Nursery Incentive scheme. Quite possibly, you were not aware of the scheme. The Society wishes to take this opportunity to suggest that on a voluntary basis, you consult with BMCC and consider joining the scheme. I emphasise, and the Society respects, that joining the BMCC scheme is a voluntary undertaking.

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 environmental weeds, as determined by BMCC.

Quite possibly, you are careful to not stock any of the environmental weed species listed in the BMCC DCP 2015 Weeds List. On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank you for taking the time and trouble to help with conserving our local environment.

If this is not the case, then I would like to suggest that on a voluntary basis, you consult BMCC DCP 2015 Weeds List and remove from sale in your outlet any listed environmental weeds, as well as local 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>)

5). Again, the Society respects that your consideration and actioning of this suggestion would be conducted on a voluntary basis.

For the sake of our local plant species and vegetation communities, and the wildlife dependent on local plant species for survival, thank you for considering our requests. Thank you for considering the Society's proposals and position on this issue. If you would like to discuss the matter with me, then I may be contacted on my email address: president@bluemountains.org.au

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Annette Cam
President
Blue Mountains Conservation Society
president@bluemountains.org.au