



My Home Is My Hollow Discovery Circuit

Currawong Bush Park Walk



Suitable for

Active Families	✓
Strollers	
Pleasure Walkers	✓
Super Striders	✓
Circuit	✓
Seating	✓
Dogs	Currawong Bush Park is a protected habitat.
Trail Type	Natural Heritage with Historic Places

Manningham City Council

699 Doncaster Road
Doncaster Victoria 3108
t 03 9840 9333 f 03 9848 3110
e manningham@manningham.vic.gov.au
www.manningham.vic.gov.au

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Walk Overview

This trail is perfect for children aged up to eight years. They follow a bushland 'Who Am I?' game that unfolds in rhyme. Once the animal has been identified the children become bush detectives and look for clues of their whereabouts and can play at being each of the animals.

Time

1 hr

Distance

2 kms

Difficulty

Moderate—there are hills

Accessibility

Medium—unsuitable for wheelchairs



Location

Start and finish at Currawong Bush Park, Reynolds Road, Doncaster East.

Melway Reference

34 H6

Public Transport

Metlink: t 131 638
www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au

Ventura Buses: t 9488 2100
www.venturabus.com.au

Parking

At Currawong Bush Park, Reynolds Road.

This walk moves you through the Currawong Bush Park's Discovery Circuit. Sculptural Markers dot the landscape and are places to stop for interpretation.

The paths are generally gravel and easy to navigate, but there can be mud after rains. There are hills to climb, ponds to investigate, trees to study, leaf litter to explore, plants to smell and evidence of wildlife to find.



Facilities

Drinking fountain, toilets, picnic tables, barbecue facilities, camping and function rooms for hire

Contact Council for camping permits and room hire.

Hazards

Muddy and slippery in places
Beware of snakes in warm weather



Be Prepared

Sun protection recommended

Carry a camera—wildlife are frequently seen

Good walking shoes are recommended

Good trail for Nordic Walking sticks.

Days of total fire ban

Currawong Bush Park is closed on days of Total Fire Ban.

Check the fire risk warning before embarking on this walk:
www.cfa.vic.gov.au



Opening Hours

Currawong Bush Park is open during daylight hours

The automated boom gate has a 24-hour timer programmed to open and close at 8.00 am–5.00 pm, and 8.00 am–8.00 pm during daylight savings











If you find yourself in the car park after hours, simply driving up to the boom gate will trigger the opening mechanism.



Additional Walks

There are 20 other walks throughout Manningham to choose from, showcasing the city's rich cultural and natural environments and unique heritage.

Copies are available from the Civic Centre or see:
www.manningham.vic.gov.au/walks

-  Parking (incl. disabled parking)
-  Public toilets
-  Picnic area
-  Drinking fountain
-  Playground
-  Barbecue
-  Horse Riding Track
-  Environment Centre & Conference Room
-  Bushland
-  Parkland



Welcome to Currawong Bush Park—the best little wilderness in Melbourne. We acknowledge the *Wurundjeri-wilam* as the traditional owners of this land. The name *Wurundjeri* means ‘Wurun’ the Manna Gum, and ‘djeri’ is the grub that lives under its bark; ‘wilam’ means camp. The language spoken by Wurundjeri people is ‘Woi wurrung’.

The Woi wurrung names for the mammals found here include Marram (kangaroo), Walert (possum), Warin (wombat), Wimbirr (wallaby) and Gurrborra (koala). We also have Dulai wurrung (platypus) and Garwarn (echidna), along with Guyup Guyup (birds), Narrang (lizards), Ngarrert (frogs), Kaan (snakes) and Kam-kam-koor (insects).

If you don't see any wildlife, you will most definitely hear them and see evidence of their existence. Remember, all flora and fauna are protected here. Please take only pictures and leave only footprints.

There are toilets and a drinking fountain to prepare for your adventure.

If your children can read, hand them the map and let them be your guide. If you have very young children read the poem for them at each stop.

Begin your walk from the picnic area carpark and head downhill to the first sculptural marker.

1 Wurundjeri Wisdom

My home is a hollow

As branches fall a hollow is made
 With twigs and grass a bed is laid
 I curl up quiet throughout the day
 At night my eyes help light my way

I wander the trees looking for seeds
 Nuts and flowers all meet my needs
 I have a brush-tail, and a brown coat
 I make a harsh growl deep in my throat

I sleep with friends and am never alone
 I live where I'm safe—the trees are my home
 With a short climb I can dine
 on sweet blossom
 Now guess who I am...

That's right I am possum.

It is time to find clues that this little creature has been here:

- Look for scratching marks in the bark
- Look up, find a tree hollow
- Collect fallen twigs to make a nest and curl up for a sleep

Follow the track heading downhill.

2 Pond Ponder

My home is a pond

Down comes the rain, the pond's happy
 and gushes
 I love all the water, the reeds, trees
 and rushes
 And so do the insects, who come here
 to breed
 Yum, yum they are perfect and my
 favourite feed.

I am well hidden, you won't find me at all
 But if you wait for a while, you will hear
 my call
 Be patient and listen, it is worth the
 long wait
 Bonk, bonk, I call out, as I search for
 a mate

I lay eggs in the water and babies appear
 They swim in the spring to autumn
 each year
 As they grow legs they hop from water
 to log
 Now guess who I am...

That's right I am frog.

It is time to find clues that this little creature has been here:

- Listen for a bonk, bonk coming from the pond
- Look for little air bubbles rising up from the water
- See if you can spy a tadpole
- Jump in the air and snap at a dragonfly

Follow the path heading downhill.

3 Gregarious Grasslands

My home is the ground

When dusk is upon us and the light
 starts to fade
 I emerge from the bushes, from the
 safety of shade
 I jump to the grasses—my favourite food
 Munch, munch I chew noisily, mouth
 open (how rude)

I live in a mob, it's a very big crowd,
 But we stay very quiet not a sound
 is allowed,
 When it's time to move out, a thump,
 thump you will hear
 As we hop through the forest, hearts
 racing with fear

I carry my young in a large furry pouch
 Just like your bed but not like a couch,
 My joey hangs out at the grasses to chew
 Now guess who I am...

That's right I'm a roo.

It is time to find clues that this creature has been here:

- Look for round green droppings, several in the one spot
- Long marks in the dirt made by their tail dragging
- Grass that is flat from where they have had a rest
- Rest on your side and have a good scratch

Continue around to your left following the access track.

4 Riverside Revelry

My home is a burrow

You won't see me by day, not even
 at night
 If I see you first, I'll run out of sight
 I live close to bushland, in a burrow
 I sleep
 A tunnel I dig, that is wide, warm
 and deep

I chew on leaves, mushrooms and roots
 I really love tender juicy grass shoots
 I waddle off when I'm full, but I leave
 something that's square
 It's smelly and pongy;
 You might squash it—beware!

If I am chased by a fox down my tunnel
 I lump
 In comes the fox, and I push with my
 rump
 Ha, Ha he's surprised that I'm ready
 for combat
 Now guess who I am...

That's right I am wombat.

It is time to find clues that this creature has been here:

- Find scratching marks on the ground
- A hole in the hill
- Droppings that are almost square in shape
- Pretend you are in a burrow; curl up and have a snooze

To complete your walk take a sharp turn to your left and head up the hill to the picnic area carpark.

Or to lengthen this walk, continue until the track meets the road then retrace your steps to the uphill track to your right and return to your starting point.

This finishes your walk.

*Time to plan your return visit. There are eight themed trails to follow with several longer walks that take you to two additional Sculptural Markers: **Beaut Eucs** and **Wild Wetlands**.*