

Walking

Aranda Bushland has wildflowers, beautiful trees, birdlife and kangaroos within easy access of the city and suburbs. Walking is great for health and well being and allows us to appreciate the beauty and diversity of our natural environment.

There's a network of tracks for walking, rambling and jogging with some challenging grades. Dogs are permitted in Aranda Bushland, but must be on a leash. Aranda Snow Gums is a no-dogs reserve.

Cyclists may use management trails (formed roads) but are not permitted on walking tracks.

Frost Hollow to Forest Walk

Friends of Aranda Bushland's self-guided walk showcases 10 species of eucalypts and 4 ecological communities in a way that explains the subtle differences. It's a 1 to 2 hour walk with stiles and a short uphill grade half way up Aranda hill.

Well placed signs describe leaves, buds, nuts and bark for identifying each eucalypt species and they explain where each occurs naturally. The walk covers half of the eucalypts in the ACT and is a great introduction for those who want to know more about these iconic trees.

Wildflower appreciation

Our Patch, Friends of Aranda Bushland's field guide to the flora of the region is particularly useful as the photos are all from this reserve. It's inexpensive, colourful, botanically accurate and always on sale at the Australian National Botanic Gardens.



Aranda Snow Gums Heritage Site

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CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

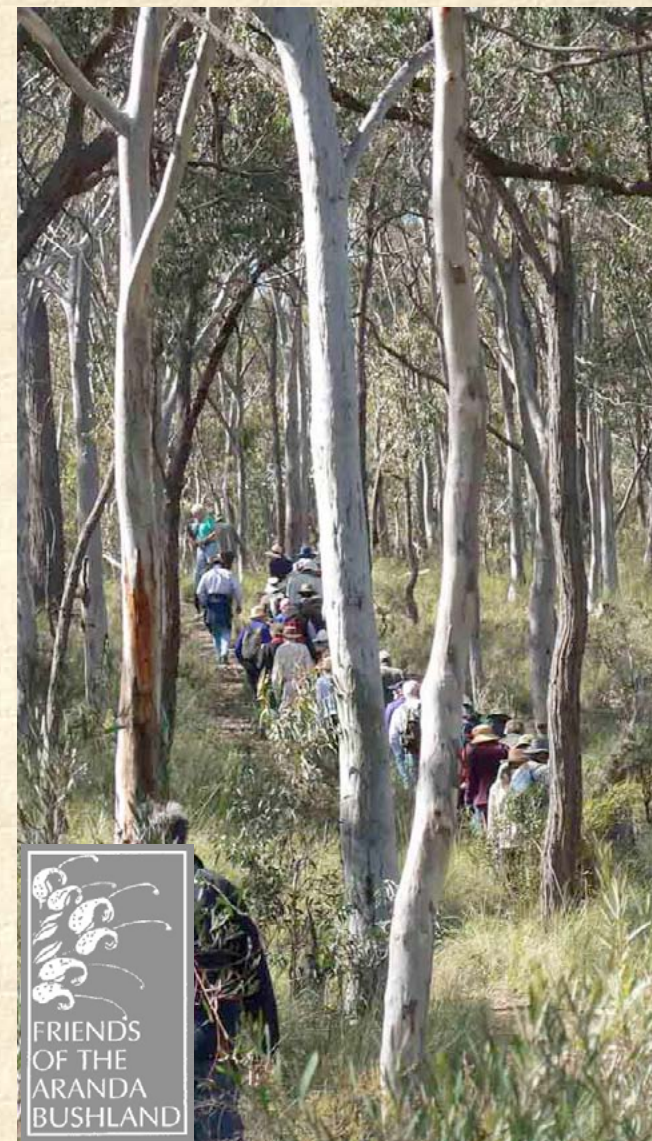


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Photos by Jean Geue

Aranda Bushland

Aranda Snow Gums



Canberra Nature Park

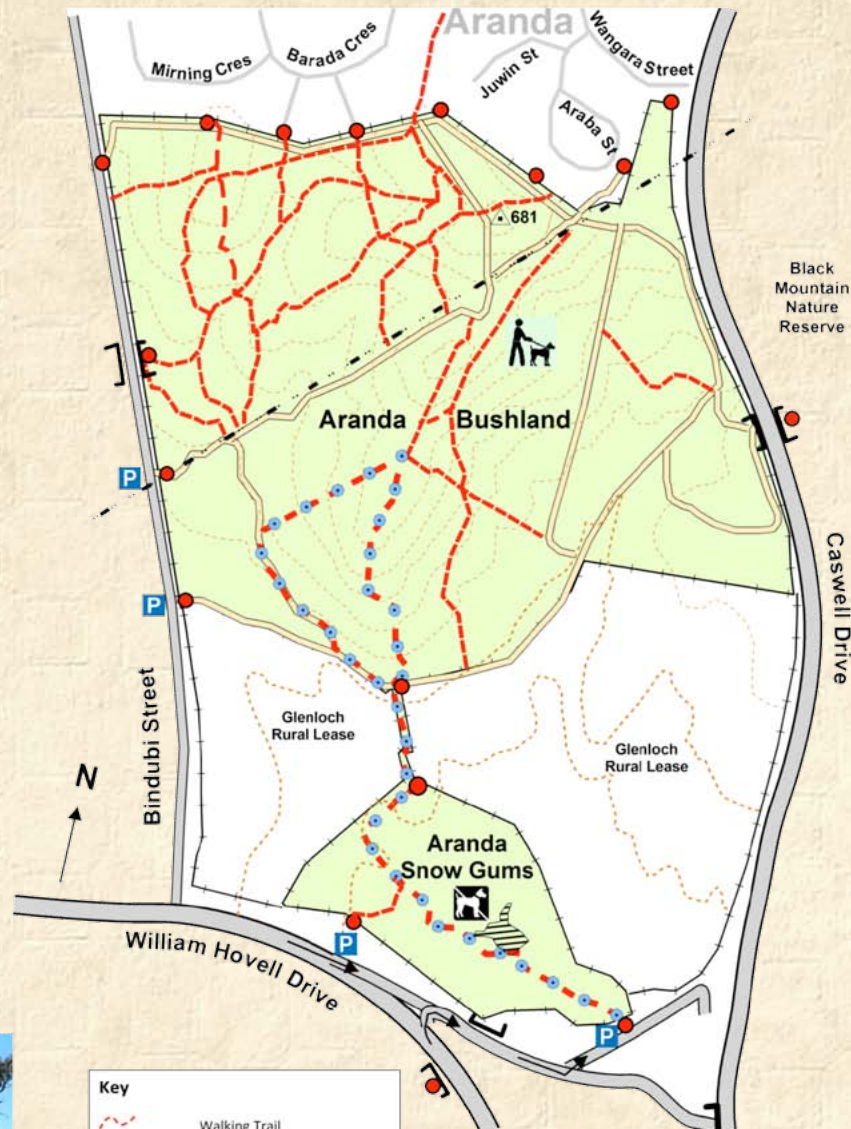
What makes Aranda Bushland special?

Our patch is a very special one as it contains healthy bush and a high diversity of species. There is always something in flower once you get your eye in and you can see tiny orchids, bush peas, lilies and daisies. There are subtle changes as you go up and down the hill and move from one aspect to another.

The hill is dry sclerophyll forest and ecologically part of Black Mountain. It is deemed forest as the tree canopies mostly join. Most other Canberra hills are woodland with a different suite of eucalypts, wattles, bush peas and grevilleas.

Aranda Bushland has a rich flora on poor soils that are among the oldest in the ACT. The Deakin Fault runs more or less down Bindubi Street and divides Aranda's Pittman Formation (460 to 445 Ma) from the Mount Painter volcanics (425 to 424 Ma). The vegetation difference can be seen from afar.

Aranda Snow Gums reserve is heritage listed as its remnant Snow Gum patch is the best Canberra example of frost hollow grasslands with edging gums and native vegetation zones largely intact.



Key	
	Walking Trail
	Management Trail
	No Dogs Allowed
	Dogs on Lead
	Parking
	Underpass
	Dam
	Pedestrian Access
	Frost Hollow to Forest Walk
	Fence line
	Power Lines
	Trig Point

Parkcare volunteers

Friends of the Aranda Bushland conserves and rehabilitates the bush by removing weeds to encourage natural regeneration. The group has been weeding since 1990 and keeps the bushland at 95% weed free. Serious weeding in Aranda Snow Gums only started in 1999 and the reserve still has recalcitrant herbaceous weeds. The group also tackles weeds in the endangered Box-Gum woodland/grasslands on the adjoining rural lease.

Maintaining low tech rollovers on the steep walking tracks is an annual winter task to control erosion. The unsightly gullies in Aranda Snow Gums reserve are being tackled with coir rolls and woody weed debris to reduce further erosion and protect natural regeneration.

Friends of the Aranda Bushland promotes the values of nature reserves through their field guide, website, guided walks and a self-guided walk with web based products for school children. They have increased the area protected and aim to improve corridors and ecosystem diversity.

Work parties are the morning of the third Sunday of each month with a delicious morning tea. Membership is free and everyone is welcome.



Delicious morning teas build energy & team spirit



Glossodia major & *Dillwynia phyllicoides*



Grevillea alpinia