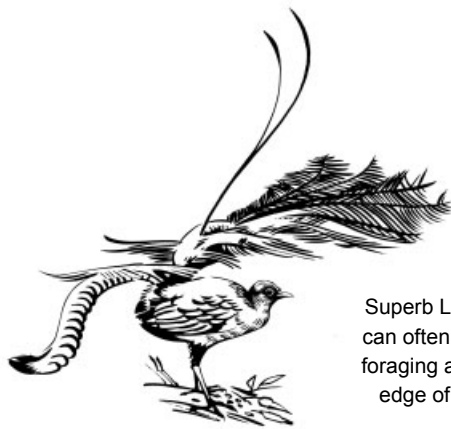


O'Shannassy Aqueduct Trail



Yarra Ranges National Park

Nestled above the floor of the Upper Yarra Valley, O'Shannassy Aqueduct Trail follows the historic open channelled O'Shannassy Aqueduct, meandering through pristine forest which has been protected for nearly 100 years for water harvesting. The trail, stretching 30 kilometres in its entirety, passes mature fern gullies, creeks and plantations and offers spectacular views of the valley below.



Superb Lyrebird's can often be seen foraging along the edge of the trail.

Take a walk

The O'Shannassy Aqueduct Trail is a long distance walking track passing through the Yarra Ranges National Park from Don Valley to East Warburton.

Opportunities exist to Step-On Step-Off the trail from main visitor areas for a shorter walk. Or if you're interested in a longer hike, the trail can be linked to the popular Warburton Rail Trail at several locations.

When completed, the trail will link Lilydale to East Warburton via a 70km network of walking and bike trails.

Planning your journey

Before you put on your walking boots to explore this outstanding trail, plan ahead!

Know your entry and exit points! The trail provides for short, medium and long distance walks and several access points are available. The trail itself is a gentle grade however access from the valley floor is more challenging and classified as grade 3 (moderate fitness required).

Organising car shuffles can be a useful way to maximise your walking experience.

Accommodation

Pre-book your accommodation needs. Use the popular caravan and camping ground at Upper Yarra Reservoir Park as a base for extended visits to the Yarra Ranges National Park and the wider region. Alternatively a wide range of accommodation is available from the nearby towns along the Warburton Highway.

For more information on the local area call the Warburton Water Wheel Visitor Information Centre on (03) 5966 9466 or visit their website www.warburtononline.com

Camping is not permitted along the aqueduct.

What you're likely to see

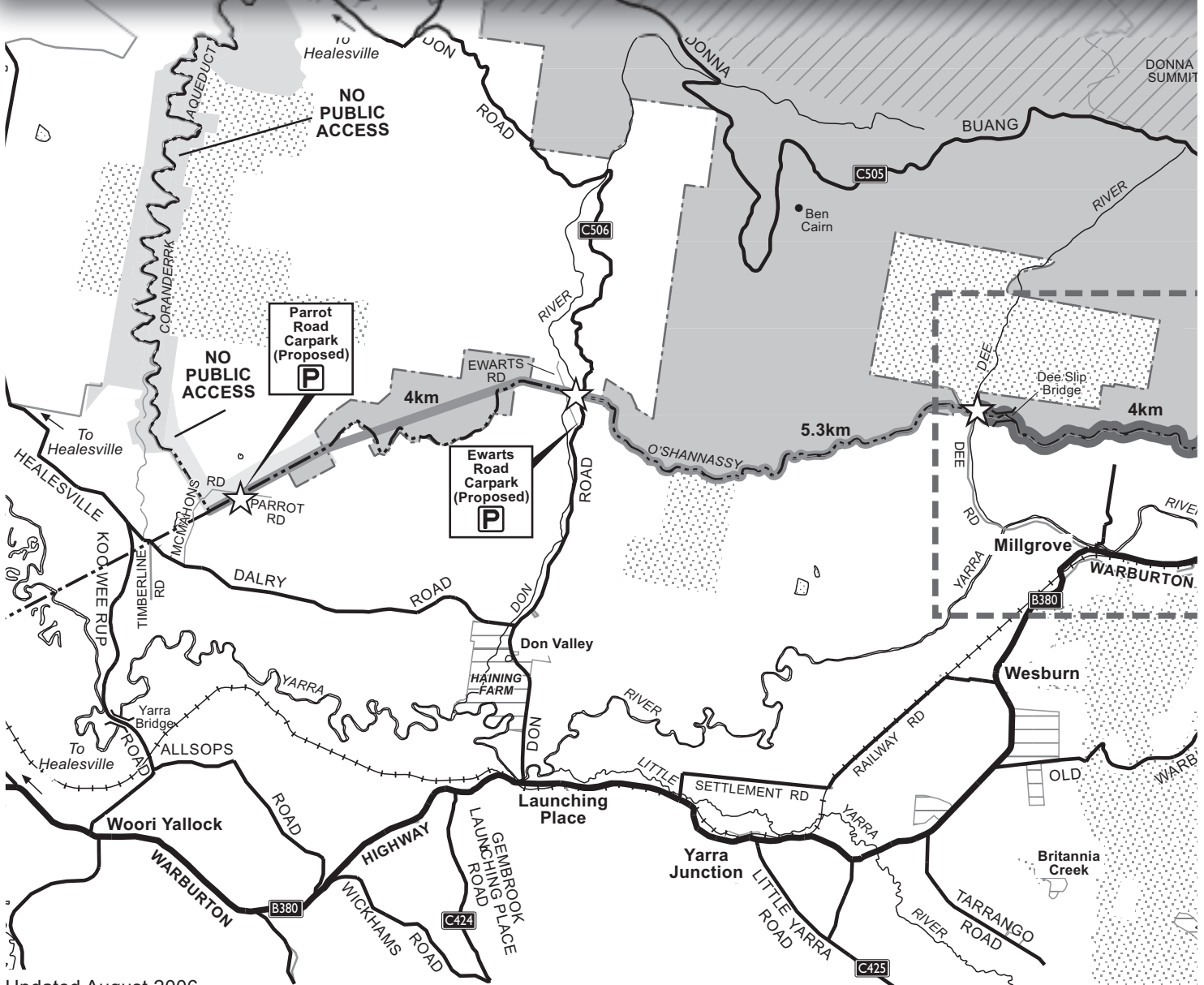
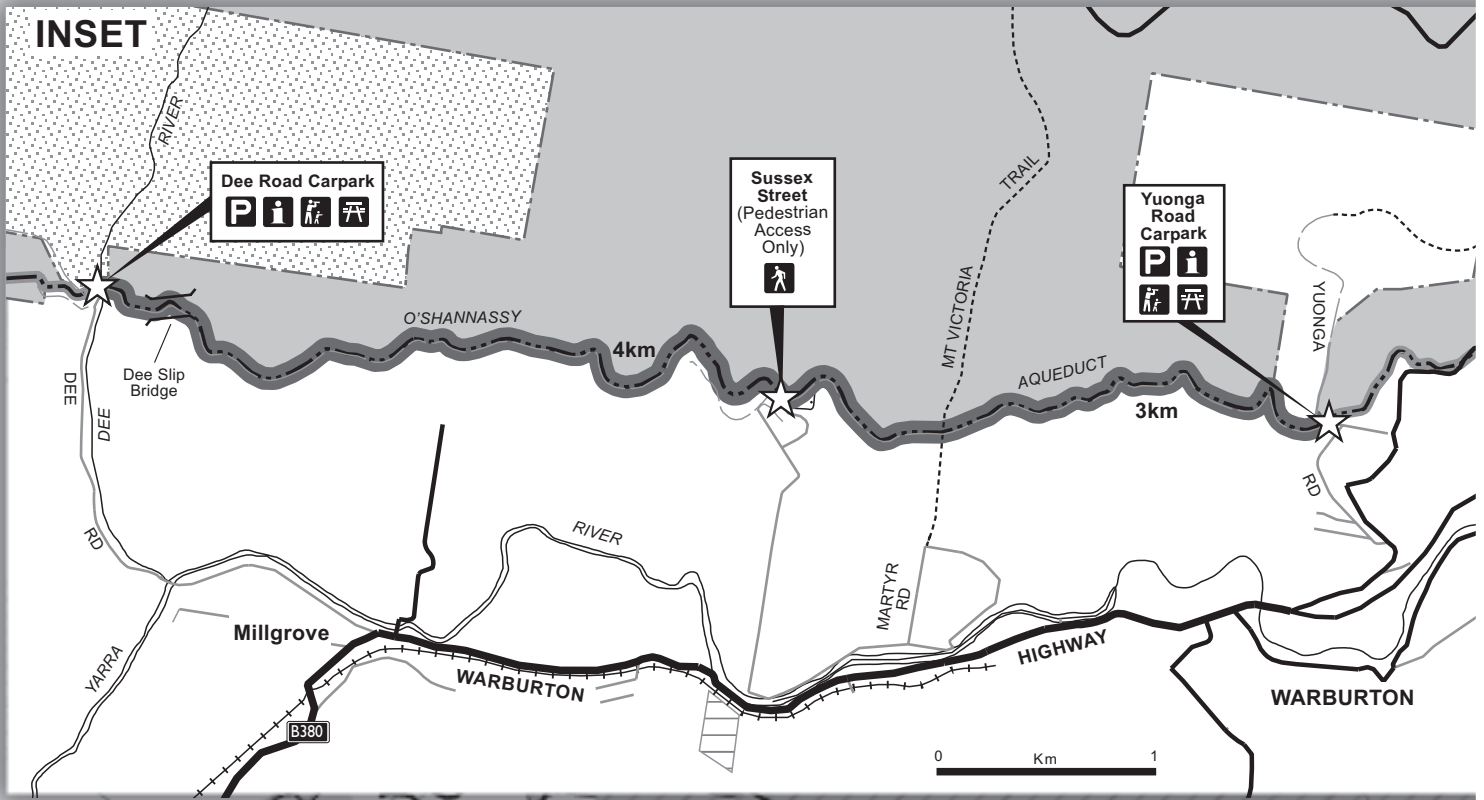
The natural state of the forest surrounding the aqueduct provides a haven of homes for many native animals. A keen eye and ear will discover kookaburras, eastern rosellas, lyrebirds, superb fairy-wrens, magnificent Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos, wallabies and echidnas. The tranquil setting also offers spectacular views across the Upper Yarra Valley.

For those who are more adventurous, take the Mt Victoria trail link to the summit of Mount Donna Buang where an observation tower provides exceptional views of the national park, Alps and the city of Melbourne.

How to get there

The beginning of the O'Shannassy Aqueduct Trail is located 72 kilometres from Melbourne. Follow the Maroondah Highway through Lilydale and turn onto Warburton Highway. From Lilydale travel 30 minutes to Dee Road Millgrove, the first access point. Ample parking is available at Dee Road and Yuonga Road, Warburton.





Updated August 2006

O'Shannassy Walking Trail

- Highway
- Major sealed road
- Minor sealed road
- Unsealed road
- Aqueduct
- O'Shannassy Walking Trail
- Existing
- Proposed
- Lilydale Warburton Rail Trail
- Walking track

- Yarra Ranges National Park
- State Forest
- Catchment area - No Public Access
- Other Parks/Reserves
- Other public land
- Water body
- Distances between access points

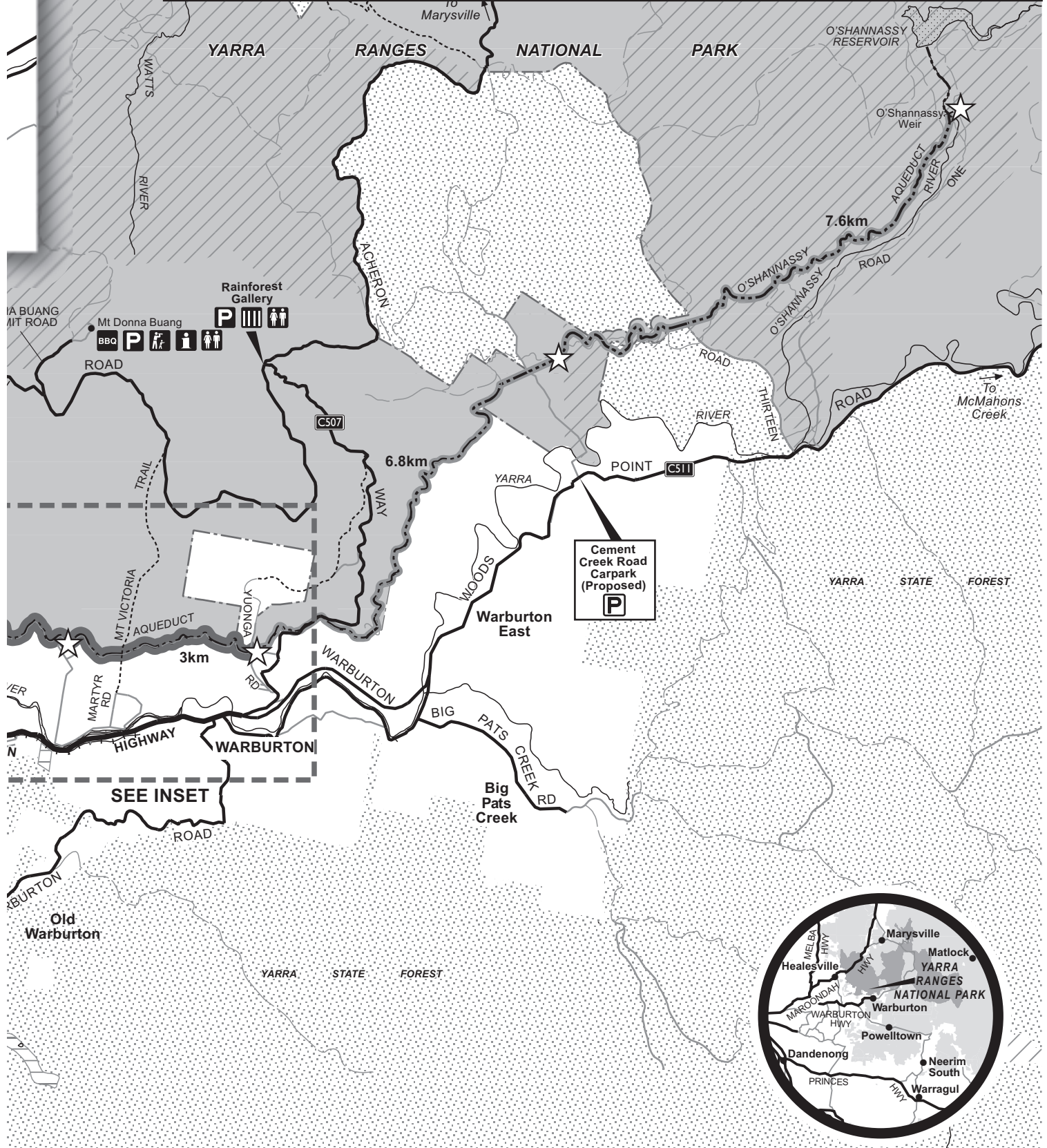
Recreational Facilities

- Barbecue
- Boardwalk
- Carpark-Existing
- Carpark-Proposed
- Lookout
- Park information
- Pedestrian access
- Picnic table
- Toilets

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KILOMETRES
Cartography by Spatial Vision 2006
M/8723

MELBOURNE

Parks
VICTORIA



For further information

Parks Victoria
Information Centre

Call 13 1963

or visit the

Parks Victoria website

www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

Visitor Information Centres

Warburton Water Wheel
Visitor Information Centre

Warburton Highway

Warburton VIC 3799

Tel: (03) 5966 9600

Caring for the environment

Help us look after your park by following these guidelines:

Please take rubbish away with you for recycling & disposal

All native plants & animals are protected by law. Please do not disturb them in any way

Keep to tracks, for your own safety and to protect soils and vegetation

Disabled Visitors

The aqueduct has wheelchair standard access to facilities

Mobile Phones

CAUTION: You may not be in network range in some areas of the park. In the event of an emergency, when in range connect to Police, Ambulance or CFA. **Key in 112 then press the YES key**

It is your responsibility to know if it is a day of Total Fire Ban.

Call the Total Fire Ban and Fire Restriction Information Line on 13 15 59

O'Shannassy Aqueduct Trail is in the **Port Phillip East Fire District**

Things to see and do

The aqueduct trail offers an excellent opportunity to relax in a peaceful environment. Whether enjoying a walk, riding your bike or studying nature, there are fantastic photo, sightseeing and picnic opportunities available. Bring your binoculars and camera and take advantage of the fantastic bird watching opportunities.



Cycling the aqueduct trail is the perfect way to have fun, feel great about yourself and spend time with your family and friends.

A rich heritage

The forests surrounding the weir have been managed for water harvesting for nearly 100 years, providing an invaluable water source and contributing to the supply of approximately 50% of Melbourne's water requirements.

In its prime, the gravity fed O'Shannassy Aqueduct delivered 90 million litres a day to the Surrey Hills Reservoir providing a vital source of fresh water for the metropolitan region. The development of the Yarra – Silvan conduits in the early 1950's resulted in reduced requirement for the aqueduct.

In 1997 the channel and surrounding area was decommissioned by Melbourne Water and bestowed to Parks Victoria in 2005 for inclusion into the Yarra Ranges National Park.

Dee Road – Yuonga Road Section

Since its completion in 1914, the aqueduct experienced several failures, two of which occurred between Dee Road, Millgrove and Yuonga Road, Warburton. The construction of an open steel flume section of channel and the picturesque Dee Slip Bridge remain today and serve as a strong reminder of the challenges the aqueduct faced.

Further Afield

The Yarra Valley offers a range of fantastic experiences. Please take the time to explore the scenic wonders and culture it offers.

Warburton Township

Explore the many cafés, restaurants, shops and landmarks or merely drop in for supplies. The township of Warburton, one of Melbourne's most recognised rural destinations, should not be missed.

Rainforest Walk

Enjoy the rainforest walkway on the southern slopes of Mount Donna Buang with its spectacular observation platform.

Upper Yarra Reservoir Park

Located at the upper most point of the Yarra River accessible to the public, the picnic facilities and camping grounds, encompassed by eucalypt bushland and spectacular scenery, makes visiting Upper Yarra Reservoir Park a memorable experience.

Discover Victoria's gold mining heritage

Located between East Warburton and Upper Yarra Reservoir Park, the Little Peninsula and Big Peninsula Tunnels highlight the areas rich goldmining heritage.

Be Safe, Be Prepared

- Be self-sufficient with drinking water
- Carry enough food for your walk with you.
- On longer walks carry warm and wet weather clothing, just in case.
- A hat and sunscreen are essential.
- Always wear sturdy footwear.
- Plan your walk and ensure you return from walking well before dusk.
- Depending on your carrier mobile phone coverage may be limited in some areas along the trail.
- Be alert! Snakes, leeches and wasps are all a part of the bush environment.
- Supervise children at all times.
- Think seriously before walking on days of high fire danger.