



HUME CITY COUNCIL

CITY NATURE CHALLENGE 2024

Friday 26 April to Monday 29 April

Citizen science is free, fun, and easy to do on your own, or with family and friends. In this four-day biodiversity survey, head outdoors with your phone or camera to record as many wild animals, plants, and fungi as you can find.

Over 475 cities will be involved worldwide, with people searching for wildlife in their gardens, local parks, and creeks. Upload photos to iNaturalist by 5 May for these observations to count, and they are automatically included into projects.

Hume City is collaborating with 25 local governments and several organisations to form the Greater Melbourne project.

A lead-up iNaturalist training session will prepare people to take part. Guided nature walks are planned over the weekend to look for various species. Please register your attendance as places are limited; via the [Eventbrite](#) collection or visit Council's Events Calendar at www.hume.vic.gov.au

For more information, contact Melissa Doherty, Council's Urban Biodiversity Officer.
melissado@hume.vic.gov.au - 0409 702 086



How:

Install iNaturalist on your phone & create an account

Take photos of nature on your phone or camera

Upload to iNaturalist using the app or website

Why:

Add to species databases

Connect with nature

Get active outdoors



City Nature Challenge 2024

Important Dates

Friday 26 April to Monday 29 April

- Take photos or sound recordings of wild animals, plants, and fungi.
- Indoor or garden plants, pets, captive animals, domestic livestock, and humans do not count.

Friday 26 April to Sunday 5 May

- Upload observations to iNaturalist using the mobile phone app or website.
- Make species identifications or iNaturalist will help.

Monday 6 May

- Global results announced

Keeping Score

Competition statistics for most observations, most species, and most observers can be followed on the project result boards.

- [Global Cities](#)
- [Greater Melbourne](#)
- [Hume City](#)

Getting Prepared

iNaturalist Training

An online [iNaturalist](#) training session is being held in the lead-up to [City Nature Challenge](#), to help people get familiar with using the smart phone app and website. Learn about where to find different species and how to take good nature observations so species can be identified.

Tuesday 23 April, 7.30pm to 9.00pm

[Online Zoom webinar](#)

Other Online Resources

- iNaturalist [getting started guide](#), [video tutorials](#)
- California Academy of Sciences - [Breakfast Club Ep 10 City Nature Challenge](#)
- Dr Luis Mata, University of Melb - [How to use iNaturalist](#) (recorded March 2021)
- [The Small and Mighty Micro World](#) (recorded April 2022)
- [Leaves, Feathers and Scales: The Macro World](#) (recorded April 2022)

See the [Victorian Environment Friends Network](#) for event links with other local government areas as part of the Greater Melbourne collaboration.

Taking Part

Hume City's Guided Nature Walks

Friday 26 April, 1.30pm to 3.00pm

[Guided bushwalk](#) with the Land and Biodiversity team at Wanginu Park, Sunbury.

Saturday 27 April, 9.00am to 11.00am

[Guided bird and flora bushwalk](#) with the Sustainability Engagement team at Mt Ridley Nature Conservation Reserve, Mickleham

Saturday 27 April, 6.30pm to 9.00pm

[Guided spot-light walk](#) with the Urban Biodiversity Officer at Woodlands Historic Park, Greenvale.

Sunday 28 April, 9.30am to 12.00pm

[Guided bird, frog, and water bug survey](#) with the Urban Biodiversity Officer at Jacana Wetland.

Sunday 28 April, 1.30pm to 3.00pm

[Guided bushtucker Indigenous cultural walk and talk](#) with Jo Russell at the Westmeadows Indigenous Community Garden.

Monday 29 April, 1.30pm to 3.00pm

[Guided bushwalk](#) with the Land and Biodiversity team at Broadmeadows Valley Park.

What to bring on guided walks

- Mobile phone or digital camera, fully charged.
- Wear weather-appropriate clothing, longs pants and bring along a rain/wind-proof jacket.
- Wear fully-enclosed walking shoes or boots as will be going into long grass.
- Own drink bottle and snacks.
- Binoculars (some will be available to borrow).
- Own torch or head lamp to spot-light walk.

Hard copies of the Birds of Hume and Fauna of Hume field guides will be available at events. Find PDF versions at [Discover Nature in Hume](#). Join [Hume City's Wildlife](#) iNaturalist project to see what lives in your neighbourhood.

Subscribe to [Live Green News](#) for environmental and sustainability events, news, and updates.

Explore your garden or head to nearby parks and wetlands. Let's showcase our amazing wildlife to the world and to each other. These iNaturalist observations made by everyday people as citizen scientists, deepens our understanding of nature.