

# FROG-FRIENDLY GARDENS



## FRIENDLY FROGS YOU MIGHT SEE IN YOUR GARDEN:

- Motorbike Frog (*Litoria moorei*)
- Slender Tree Frog (*Litoria adelaidensis*)
- Western Banjo Frog (*Limnodynastes dorsalis*)
- Quacking Frog (*Crinia georgiana*)
- Moaning Frog (*Heleioporus eyrie*)
- Squelching Froglet (*Crinia insignifera*)
- Clicking Froglet (*Crinia glauerti*)

## Location, Location, Location

Find a place in your garden that is suitable for a frog pond or bog. The perfect location will have a wet area, access to sunlight, shade and shelter. Make sure it is not a busy place as there might be too much activity for frogs.

## Think, Design, Build

Having a special habitat in your garden for frogs is an easy thing to do. Different frogs like different habitats so you need to decide what kind of frogs you want to attract. Not all frogs like deep water.

## Wet Area

Once you have picked a spot you will need to decide on the wet area. Ponds can be purchased brand new or you can be creative and make one out of recycled materials such as an old bath, sand tray, or even an old bucket! Dig a hole, place your pond in it and fill with water.



## Shelter

Good shelter – whether natural or artificial – is essential in your frog-friendly garden.

Natural shelter includes branches, rocks, logs and leaf litter placed around the wet area. These provide spaces for frogs to sit or hide in. Please don't remove them from the bush as they may already be another animal's home.

Artificial shelter includes bricks or pvc-piping, which provide a sturdy frog haven.

## Plants

Plant native plants around your wet area. They are more suited to your local area than introduced plants and often require less water. They also attract insects, which in turn attract frogs.

Suitable water plants in your pond, such as rushes or sedges, provide shelter and help keep the water clean and oxygenated.

## PLANTS FOR A FROG-FRIENDLY GARDEN:

### Water Plants

- Native Waterlily (*Ottelia ovalifolia*)
- Pale Rushes (*Juncus pallidus*)
- Tassel Sedge (*Carex fasciculstris*)

### Groundcovers

- Centella (*Centella sp.*)
- Common Linearis (*Dampiera linearis*)
- Kidney Grass (*Dichondra repens*)

### Climbers and Creepers

- Running Postman (*Kennedia prostrata*)
- Native Wisteria (*Hardenbergia comptoniana*)
- Old Man's Beard (*Clematis linearifolia*)

## A Balanced Ecosystem

The perfect frog habitat has the right balance of plants and animals. Plants filter the water, frogs eat the insects and tadpoles feed on the rotting vegetation.

Buy some native fish from a pet store to control mosquito larvae, but don't include Goldfish or Mosquito Fish as they feast on frog eggs.

## FROG-FRIENDLY FISH:

- Western Pygmy Perch (*Edelia vittata*)
- Western Minnow (*Galaxias occidentalis*)
- Swan River Goby (*Pseudogobius olorum*)

## No Chemicals

Avoid using chemicals and non-organic fertilisers in and around your garden as they may harm frogs. As frogs drink and breathe through their skin, they are very sensitive to chemicals. Use environmentally friendly fertiliser alternatives.

