

A man and a woman, both wearing hats and dark clothing, are standing in a forest. The man is pointing towards a large, spiky plant in the foreground. The forest is filled with tall, thin trees and a ground covered in dry leaves and twigs. The lighting is warm, suggesting late afternoon or early morning.

**Leave a legacy that  
keeps on growing**



**“ Never before have we had such an awareness of what we are doing to the planet, and never before have we had the power to do something about that ...**

**The future of humanity and indeed, all life on Earth, now depends on us. ”**

**Sir David Attenborough**



At Haining Farm, a former dairy property in Victoria's Yarra Valley, Greening Australia is helping restore and create habitat for the critically endangered Lowland Leadbeater's Possum. Photo: Dan Harley.

## The challenge we all face

### **The scientific evidence is clear.**

The health and biodiversity of life on our planet is in dramatic decline. Around one million animal and plant species around the world are threatened with extinction.<sup>1</sup>

Global temperatures are expected to reach or exceed 1.5°C of warming by 2040.<sup>2</sup> Extreme weather events such as bushfires, floods, droughts and storms are already becoming more common and more severe.

The worsening environmental impacts of human-caused climate change, pollution and land degradation have placed our generation in a unique and pivotal position.

The implications of the challenge we are facing cannot be overstated. The future health and wellbeing of all life on Earth hangs in the balance.

**Every decision we make and every action we take in coming decades will be critical.**

**Let's make them count.**

## Help us restore nature

**Greening Australia is working at the forefront of efforts to restore a healthy balance to the natural environment.**

Over the past 40 years, we have planted tens of millions of native trees and other plants, and restored hundreds of thousands of hectares of degraded land across the continent.

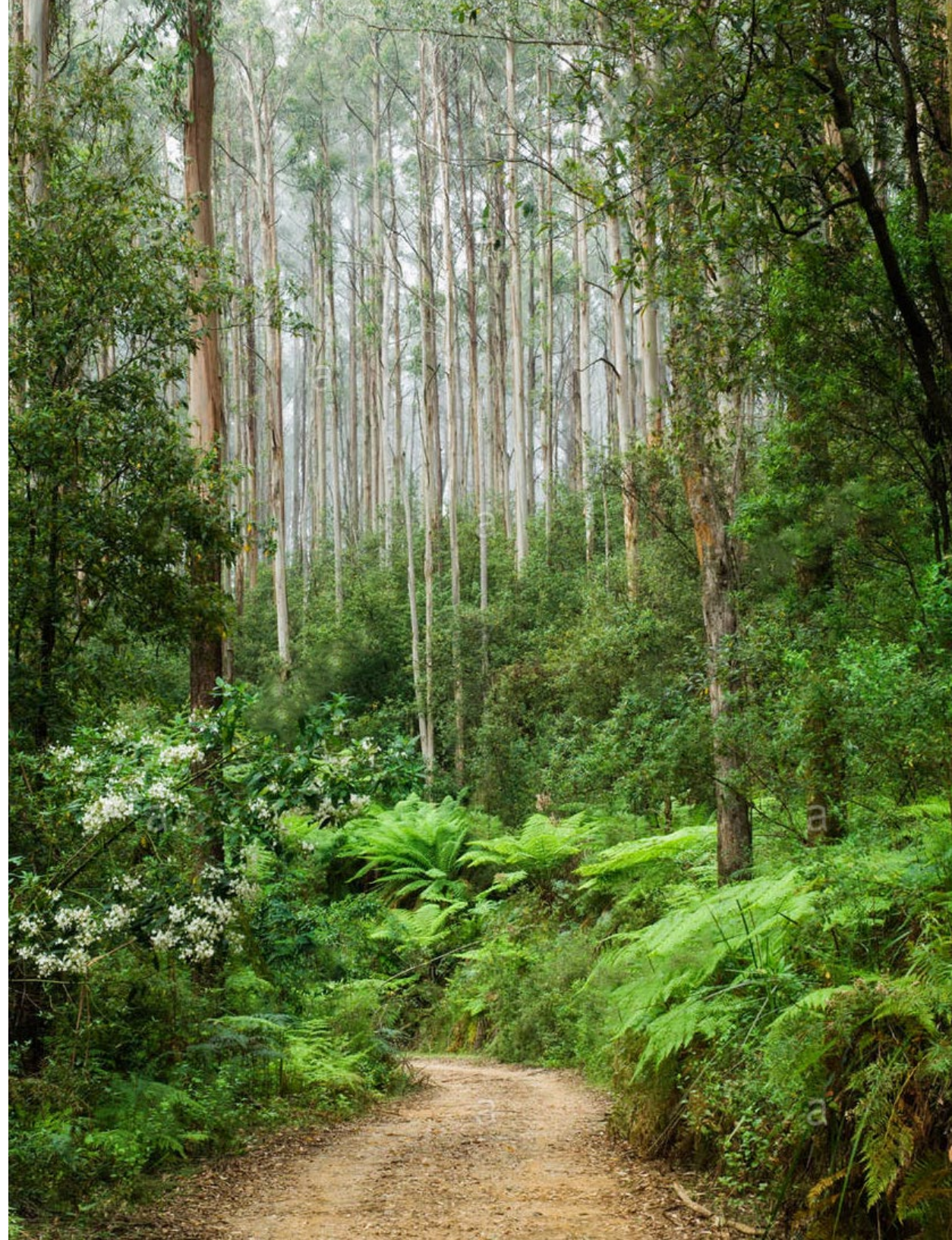
We are committed to rebuilding biodiverse climate-resilient ecosystems, creating new habitat for native animals, bringing degraded land back from the brink, and capturing and storing carbon.

However, we must scale up our activities dramatically in coming decades to achieve the level of landscape restoration needed to enable the Australian environment to adapt to and withstand the impacts of climate change.

We cannot achieve this without support from people who cherish and value the Australian bush as we do – individuals who care enough to leave a legacy that lives on.

**By leaving Greening Australia a gift in your will, you will be leaving a vital legacy that helps heal our continent, and our planet.**

**Help us grow the future we all want to see.**



## When nature thrives, people thrive

### **Humans are totally dependent on the natural world.**

Nature provides us with life-sustaining food, water and air. Research shows that spending time in nature eases stress and anxiety and boosts our immunity.

### **A healthy natural world is the most precious asset we have.**

However, the impacts of population growth, industrialisation and changes in land use are taking a devastating toll.

The rise of human civilisation has almost halved the number of trees on Earth. Humans are removing around 15 billion trees from our planet every year.<sup>3</sup> This equates to removing tree cover across an area the size of Cambodia (approx. 180,000km<sup>2</sup>) annually.

Almost half the forests and woodlands on the Australian continent have been cleared since European settlement.<sup>4</sup>

Trees capture and store carbon as they grow, helping reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. They provide homes for native species and support biodiversity.

Large-scale reforestation and ecosystem restoration are, therefore, some of the main actions we can take to tackle climate change and address species extinction.

By working together, we can make a difference.

Greening Australia is committed to bringing biodiversity back to the Australian continent on a huge scale between now and 2050, so people and nature can continue to thrive.

**When you leave a gift in your will to Greening Australia, you will be contributing to this vital endeavour and benefitting many generations to come.**



A person wearing a blue wide-brimmed hat and a backpack is walking through a field of tall grass and trees. The person is seen from the side, moving towards the right. The background is filled with green foliage and trees under a clear blue sky. The overall scene is bright and natural.

**“ Healthy biodiversity is the essential infrastructure that supports all forms of life on earth, including human life. ”**

**Cristiana Pasca Palmer, Executive Secretary,  
UN Convention on Biological Diversity**

A photograph of a man with a grey beard and hair, wearing a dark purple jacket over a blue shirt and light blue jeans. He is standing in a lush green forest, looking upwards and to the right, with his right hand resting on the trunk of a tree. The background is filled with dense foliage and trees.

**“ I want to give people the best gift I can possibly leave them after I’m gone – the gift of helping sustain the planet. That’s why I’ve chosen to bequest most of my estate to Greening Australia. ”**

**Brian Steadman**





## A gift to help save the planet

**“I’ve been planting trees and other native plants with several Friends groups in Melbourne’s west for many years. I’m trying to leave the world a better place than I found it.**

When I started to realise how serious the threat from climate change was, I did a lot of research into the topic.

I was astounded by what I was reading. The biodiversity and food chains in our oceans are already collapsing. Over-farming is making the land less productive but we’re just clearing more land and continuing the vicious cycle.

I thought, ‘Where can I run and hide from this? Will I move to Perth or to Tassie?’ And then I realised it wouldn’t matter where I went – no one’s going to be able to run from this. We’re going to have to face it head on.

And the only way we can do that is to put the carbon back in the ground, rebuild biodiversity and start to reverse the process.

**We really do need to save the world.**

I wasn’t a high-income earner in my working life, but I own my home and I’ve made some good investments over the years. So I’m in a position to leave a decent legacy and I want it to make a real difference.

**Greening Australia is one of the biggest organisations doing the scale of work that’s needed in this country. They’re also the most credible and competent when it comes to doing the job properly.**

**That’s where I want to put my money – where it can do the most good for the planet.”**

Brian Steadman

## Bringing land back to life for over 40 years

Greening Australia was founded in 1982, the International Year of the Tree, to protect, restore and conserve Australia's native vegetation.

Our founding partners were the United Nations Association of Australia and the Nursery Industry Association of Australia. Our initial focus was delivering the National Tree Program in partnership with the Australian Government, to reverse tree decline across the continent.

We are serious about maximising our impact. To ensure that we are contributing to solutions at a global scale, Greening Australia has set bold and ambitious 2030 goals aligned with worldwide targets for climate action, sustainable development, land restoration and biodiversity.

Since setting these goals in 2018, we have planted over 20 million native trees and other plants across the Australian continent – and counting.

We are a proudly independent and apolitical non-profit organisation, owned by voting community members who also appoint our Board.

### **A force for nature**

Greening Australia has grown to become a driving force for ecological transformation in this country.

We are one of only a few national organisations applying the latest science, technology and nature-based solutions to restore landscapes and protect biodiversity on a very large scale.

From the warm waters of the Great Barrier Reef to the vast agricultural regions of southern Australia, the cool island ark of Tasmania and the green spaces in our major cities, we are committed to delivering practical solutions to Australia's biggest environment challenges.

In the process, we are undertaking some of the largest revegetation programs in the world.

### **Taking massive action**

We continually have dozens of field operations underway across the continent, and our activities vary widely depending on the needs of each location.

They include rebuilding degraded farmland across Australia, aiding in the recovery of fire-ravaged habitat in Victoria and New South Wales, improving water quality for the Great Barrier Reef, establishing landscape-scale habitat corridors across the Tasmanian Midlands, and collecting climate-resilient seeds from Western Australia's biodiversity hotspots.

We focus on delivering effective on-ground solutions in partnership with governments, businesses, landholders, First Nations Peoples and local communities.

In particular, we recognise the critical importance of the skills and knowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have developed over 65,000 years of deep connection with Country. To fully heal Australian landscapes, we are partnering with First Nations Peoples to combine the strength of their sacred knowledge with Western science, creating opportunities together in the growing restoration economy.

Our skilled and passionate workforce is augmented by thousands of community and corporate volunteers. Together, we are rolling up our sleeves and getting our hands dirty to establish biodiverse, climate resilient ecosystems that are designed to thrive.



Two of the Woorabinda Rangers undertaking a cultural burn during the launch of the Woorabinda Healthy Country Plan. Greening Australia is involved as part of the project reference group. Photo: Melissa Mills.

## Our values and approach

You naturally want to have confidence in the integrity, values and capability of any organisation you choose to recognise in your will.

These are the values Greening Australia is committed to upholding in everything we do:

- We put people first.
- We take action to find solutions.
- We collaborate for impact; we need each other.
- We are accountable for our commitments.

We are a trusted delivery partner of federal, state and local governments; a member of the Australian Land Conservation Alliance; and skilled at collaborating with corporate sector partners and landholders to achieve major environmental outcomes. For example, our partnership with Alcoa of Australia, which began in 1982, is the longest-enduring community-business partnership in Australia.

Greening Australia is listed on the United Nations Environment Programme's Global 500 Roll of Honour, in recognition of our significant contribution to the environment. We share this honour with other environmental champions such as Sir David Attenborough, National Geographic Society and Jacques-Yves Cousteau.

## Our restoration priorities

### Restoring degraded farmland

**Planting trees and shrubs on farms is vitally important for rebuilding biodiversity, addressing climate change and supporting farming communities.**

This is the focus of Great Southern Landscapes – one of the world’s largest and most ambitious ecological restoration programs.

Through this program, Greening Australia is addressing the legacy of land degradation and extinctions caused by over-clearing and development.

Our large-scale, strategic plantings are being delivered in partnership with landholders. The aim is to capture carbon, improve soil health and water quality, protect biodiversity and support ongoing farm productivity.

These revegetated areas provide food and shelter for livestock, improve soil structure, and reduce salinity and soil erosion, while also creating connected habitat corridors for native wildlife including the Greater Glider, Koala, Malleefowl, Red-tailed Phascogale, Eastern Quoll, Tasmanian Devil and Glossy Black-Cockatoo.

### Protecting the Great Barrier Reef

**Greening Australia works to address the two greatest threats to the Great Barrier Reef: climate change and polluted water.**

We are using innovative techniques to restore wetlands and rebuild eroding gullies to keep sediment and nutrient pollutants from being washed into waterways and out to the Reef.

As well as protecting water quality, the new vegetation we establish through these projects also stores carbon and provides habitat for native species.

Field trials have shown that restoring eroding gullies (like the one shown top right) can quickly reduce the amount of sediment reaching the Reef by up to 98 per cent.

### Establishing resilient ecosystems

**Intense bushfires, droughts and floods, vegetation loss, invasive species and land degradation have put pressure on our ecosystems’ ability to naturally regenerate.**

Our work to restore landscapes therefore relies on sourcing large quantities and varieties of high-quality seed, from appropriate locations.

Greening Australia has a proud history of supplying native seeds, including operating Australia’s largest native seed business, Nindethana in Western Australia.

Our sophisticated native seed services collect huge quantities of native seeds from across the country and prepare them for use in landscape restoration.

We work hard to ensure we sow seeds for maximum impact. Greening Australia collaborates with researchers on designing, monitoring and scaling up our restoration approaches to ensure they are creating functioning, climate-resilient ecosystems that safeguard Australia’s iconic flora and fauna.

### Greening our cities

**Around 85 per cent of Australia’s population lives in urban areas. However, the liveability of our major cities is under increasing pressure due to population growth and climate change.**

Trees and other plants lower city temperatures and make hot summers more bearable. Green spaces like parks, riverbanks and shaded pathways make it easy for people to get outdoors, helping their health and wellbeing.

Our Nature in Cities program is a national initiative to restore urban habitat and its benefits to people in cities and suburbs. Our vision is a biodiverse, climate resilient network of gardens, parks, schools and waterways where communities connect with nature and help it thrive.



L-R, top row: Greater Glider – Matt Wright, Faunagraphic; Reef Aid constructed wetland – Toby Peet; Erosion gully in 2017; middle row: Direct seeding in Katanning, WA – Jesse Collins; Students planting trees through Cooling the Schools, NSW; Erosion gully following treatment in 2020 – Fruition Environmental; bottom row: Seed collected for revegetation – Jesse Collins; Shelter belts of native vegetation established in seven years for a cattle farm, NSW; Endangered Australian Painted Snipe visits restored Mungalla wetlands, QLD – Mike McMaster, Birdlife Australia.

## Our vision for a greener continent

**Greening Australia's vision is for healthy, productive landscapes where people and nature thrive.**

Combatting climate change to achieve this vision requires landscape restoration on a global scale.


It is widely accepted that to achieve healthy and resilient landscapes, nature needs at least 30 per cent vegetation cover to sustain ecosystems and provide landscape connectivity for birds and mammals<sup>5,6</sup>. To reach this threshold in Australia, at least eight million hectares of degraded land needs to be restored. The sooner this can be achieved, the better our chances of adapting to climate change and offsetting its most severe impacts.

Greening Australia has set an ambitious interim goal of restoring 330,000 hectares across Australia by 2030, and achieving even greater goals by 2050.

Over 40 years, we have amassed strong technical knowledge in restoring landscapes. Now, we must build on this expertise and dramatically scale up our field operations, funding and resources, to sustain a heightened level of activity for the next 40 years, and beyond.

**By supporting our efforts through a gift in your will, you will be enabling us to meet this environmental crisis head on. You will be helping safeguard the future of all life on Earth.**





**“ Unprecedented is not a reason to be unprepared. We already have many of the solutions we need to reduce the impact of climate change on plants and animals and increase nature’s resilience for generations to come. ”**

**Dr Elisa Raulings,  
Greening Australia’s Science and Impact  
Manager**

## **Leave a legacy that lives on**

**Imagine a future in which Australia’s most degraded landscapes have been transformed into flourishing woodlands and bush.**

A future where our iconic ecosystems like the Great Barrier Reef are fully healed and thriving.

Now imagine your youngest relatives looking back, from the end of this century, with gratitude that you and others in your generation responded decisively to the threat of climate change and took massive, collective action.

How much better will their lives be because we chose to chart a different ecological course for this continent, and for the planet?

When you leave a gift in your will to Greening Australia, you will be supporting the fight to protect and restore the Australian bush and return balance to the natural world humans rely on for our survival.

**You will be a part of the solution to the greatest problem on Earth.**

**With this greener, more sustainable and resilient world in mind, we invite you to leave a legacy that keeps on growing.**

## How to leave a gift in your will

Deciding who to remember in your will is a deeply personal matter.

After providing for loved ones, many people choose to bequest a portion of their estate to one or more charities. This is a relatively simple process. We suggest you follow these steps and seek professional legal advice.

### 1. Consider your values and interests

Consider the difference you want to make in the world through the legacy you leave behind. What causes are you most passionate about?

Which organisations do you trust to honour your final wishes and achieve the greatest impact with your legacy?

### 2. Get in touch with us

If you are thinking about leaving a gift in your will to Greening Australia, we are grateful to be considered. We would love to have a confidential discussion about what you would like your gift to achieve.

If you wish to leave your gift free from conditions, you can be assured that it will be directed into our highest priority nature restoration activities. Or, if you would rather your bequest benefitted a specific location or aspect of our work, we can help you plan accordingly.

### 3. Choose the type of bequest

You can leave a gift of:

- the residue of your estate, after providing for loved ones and covering costs
- a particular asset (for example, a property, life insurance policy or work of art.)
- a specified sum of money, or
- a percentage of your estate.

We recommend discussing this with your solicitor, so they can advise you about the options available and help you choose what is right for you.

### 4. Prepare your will

Have your will written or updated to reflect the bequest you wish to make.

You may wish to give your solicitor a copy of this booklet or direct them to our Gifts in Wills webpage: [greeningaustralia.org.au/gifts-in-wills](https://greeningaustralia.org.au/gifts-in-wills).

Example wording for your will:

*"I give [(a specific amount or gift) or (a percentage) or (the residue)] of my estate to Greening Australia (ABN 40 002 963 788) to be used for [(the general purposes of Greening Australia) or (a particular purpose)], free from all taxes and duties. Written receipt by the Secretary or another authorised officer of Greening Australia or a successor organisation shall be accepted by my executors as a full and complete discharge of this bequest."*

### 5. Let us know about your gift

Once you have formalised the gift in your will, please let us know about it so we can thank you personally for your commitment to helping people and nature thrive.

You will be invited to special events and kept up to date about our ongoing programs and activities. If you like, we can also share your story, so your generosity and passion for nature can inspire others.





Photo: Toby Peet.

## Our promise to you

We will help you make decisions that are right for you, recognising that your loved ones come first.

We will respect your wishes regarding privacy and confidentiality.

We will direct your legacy where there is the greatest need and where it will have a lasting impact. If you specify that your gift is to be directed to a particular location or purpose, we will honour your wishes.

We will spend your gift wisely to ensure your legacy keeps on growing for the benefit of generations to come.

We will offer recognition, invite you to special events, keep you updated about our activities and provide opportunities to get involved in our field operations.

**You and your generous gift to the future will be honoured and remembered by our organisation in perpetuity.**

## Help us heal our planet



“Thank you for considering making a bequest to Greening Australia.

In my 9-plus years as a board member and now as the Chair of Greening Australia, I’ve seen first-hand how the work that we do restores landscapes, enhances biodiversity, and creates a positive impact on the environment and in our local communities.

Financially supporting this work, by providing a gift in your will, means that you will be making a meaningful contribution towards a better world.

The ability to change the future and to leave behind a planet that is healing, not harmed, is within our reach. Together, we can create a future that supports communities and enhances people’s lives.

People and nature can both thrive – it’s not a question of one over the other. It’s about working out how we set the right balance. Your contribution will ensure this can happen.


Rest assured, your bequest will be directed to where it can have the greatest impact, because that is how the team at Greening Australia approaches this important work.

I have made a bequest in my will and wholeheartedly encourage you to do the same.”

**James Atkins**  
**Chair, Greening Australia**

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**“ The present generations have the responsibility to bequeath to future generations a planet that is not irreversibly damaged by human activity... we must live on Earth differently. ”**

**Audrey Azoulay, Director-General, UNESCO**

## Thank you for considering leaving a gift to Greening Australia in your will.

We would love to hear from you. Please contact our gifts in wills team for a confidential discussion.

You can also help by sharing this information, or a link to our gifts in wills webpage, with someone you know who may also wish to leave a legacy that keeps on growing.

### CONTACT US

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Photo: Tobias Rowles.