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## Fiona Stanley Hospital lends a hand to regional park volunteers

Seven local community projects have received grants totaling more than \$24,000 for conservation and rehabilitation programs in Beeliar Regional Park thanks to the Fiona Stanley Hospital project.

This year's funding – which is part of the Fiona Stanley Hospital project's five-year commitment to community conservation projects – was awarded to:

- **Friends of Market Garden Swamp** – \$2,942 for the revegetation of Market Garden Swamp wetlands;
- **Friends of the Spectacles** – \$4,390 for rehabilitation work at the Spectacles Wetlands;
- **Friends of North Lake** – \$1,200 for the North Lake Nut Grass eradication project;
- **Murdoch Environmental Restoration Group** – \$4,550 for seed collection and propagation of native plant species for a wildlife corridor, wetland restoration and Carnaby's Black Cockatoo reserves;
- **Murdoch Environmental Restoration Group** – \$3,000 for the installation of Carnaby's Black Cockatoo nest boxes at Murdoch University;
- **Wetlands Conservation Society** – \$4,500 for the development of a wetland seed production area at Bibra Lake; and
- **Friends of Cockburn Wetlands Education Centre** – \$3,779 to reconnect the vegetation between North Lake and Frog Swamp.

Fiona Stanley Hospital Executive Director Brad Sebbes said the protection and rehabilitation of the local environment was a major priority for the project.

“Funding for these community groups is part of a \$2.3million commitment to environmental rehabilitation and protection programs – most of which are locally focused to support the community and environment near the Fiona Stanley Hospital site,” Mr Sebbes said.

“Maintaining and rehabilitating the natural environment around the hospital is crucial to its development. Working with local groups and supporting grassroots environmental programs is an important part of this work.”

Denise Crosbie, Vice President for the Wetlands Conservation Society, said the funding had provided her group with a greater opportunity to enhance conservation in the local area.

“The funding from the Fiona Stanley Hospital project will allow us to extend our rehabilitation areas at Bibra Lake and plant more than 12,000 wetlands plants over the next three years,” Ms Crosbie said.



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Department of **Health**

“It will also help to extend the rehabilitation of vegetation and encourage the return of southern brown bandicoots and frogs to the area.”

The funding is being distributed through the *Regional Parks Community Grant Scheme* under a unique partnership between the Department of Environment and Conservation, the Department of Health, and the Department of Treasury and Finance. A further 19 projects were awarded grants ranging from \$800 to \$5,000 from the Department of Environment and Conservation under the scheme.

Fiona Stanley Hospital will be the major tertiary hospital in the south metropolitan area. Work is under way on the Murdoch site and construction of the main hospital buildings is expected to commence later this year. For more information about the Fiona Stanley Hospital project and its environmental programs, visit [www.fionastanley.health.gov.au](http://www.fionastanley.health.gov.au) or call 1800 659 475.

