

SUSTAINABILITY IN THE BROADER LANDSCAPE

KEY POINTS

Sustainability is enhanced by community facilities and good urban planning.

Making use of community gardens and landscapes.

Water Sensitive Urban Design.

Environmentally sensitive urban design.

Urban and town planning can be used to reinforce sustainability by making it easier for the community to work, travel, shop, play, learn and eat in more sustainable ways as they go about their daily lives.

Community gardens

Gardening is an act of faith in the future.

DON LINKE, FOUNDING MEMBER VEG OUT

There is a long European tradition of community gardens. Since the first in 1977, they have become increasingly popular across Australia. Each is run slightly differently, but generally the annual fees entitle members to a plot of about 15 m² although size varies. They are usually used to grow food. Australian City Farms and Community Gardens Network can help find the closest

community garden and provide advice on how to start one.

Progressively more schools have vegetable plots for students to learn about food gardening and to enjoy the produce. The programs are being initiated by keen teachers and/or parents, with increasing support from governments.

Street tree selection can include food-producing species, the fruit being available for harvest by the nearby residents. The idea is not well developed in Australia, but there are some historic examples and some local councils promote fruit species in their lists of acceptable species.

Redundant industrial sites for parks

Under-utilised industrial land in cities presents opportunities for a change in land