

Federal Golf Club - Managing its Natural Environment

The aim of Federal Golf Club is to preserve and enhance its native bushland setting at the foot of the Red Hill Nature Reserve. The course is a bushland retreat in the heart of the National Capital and just 2 kilometres from Parliament House, a distinctive and prestigious location.

Our protected flora and fauna are among Federal's most important assets. The course boasts many fine old eucalypts that the Club has supplemented over the years with new plantings of species native to the area. The Club's aim is to achieve botanical variety and excellence and to nurture its environment in a sustainable manner through the adoption and implementation of ecologically sound policies and work practices.

Federal Golf Club celebrated its 75th Anniversary in 2008, and has been on its present site since 1947. It is a high quality golf course noted for its undulating fairways and grand vistas from many parts of the course. .

We adhere to the principles of the ACT Integrated Nature Conservation Plan, the Canberra Nature Park Management Plan, the Environment ACT Vertebrate Pest Management Strategy, the ACT Weeds Strategy and laws relating to water use in the ACT.

Water

Federal has traditionally relied on potable water and water from on-site bores. The Club aims to become substantially water self-sufficient and to this end will develop its own irrigation storage ponds within the boundaries of the course. A complementary program to reduce water consumption by changing our grass species to a more drought-tolerant variety has been completed.

Flora

The objective is to always present the course, clubhouse and surrounds in a manner compatible with its native bushland setting. Natural habitat trees are protected wherever possible, consistent with public safety requirements, and efforts are being made to attract native bird life through the planting of flowering native shrubs and suitable native grasses. New tree plantings will be predominately native species common to the Red Hill Nature Reserve. Limited introduced species will be planted where necessary to meet the particular demands of some sites.

Fauna

Kangaroos have long been associated with Federal and in recent years the course has been home to approximately 80 Eastern Grey kangaroos. We have no kangaroo-proof boundary fence and the kangaroos are free to migrate between the course and the nature reserve. They do little damage to the golf course but add a charm and character that is essentially Federal. We have never culled our kangaroo population and if it ever became necessary it would be undertaken in a sensitive and appropriate manner.