



# **PICNIC FOR NATURE**

## **2023**

### **HOST GUIDE**

# Your Picnic for Nature

Thank you for your involvement in hosting your own Picnic for Nature!

This initiative started in 2022 as a way to celebrate nature, the creatures that call it home, and everyone who works to protect and help it. The picnic had the added benefit of being able to energise nature groups and bring people together in the community after the isolating times of Covid-19.

Last year we had over 1,000 people at 40 simultaneous picnics across NSW. Picnic hosts reported that it was a great event to reconnect with the local community, energise their group and find new volunteers.

Based on what we learnt last year, we've updated this guide to get you started and host your own Picnic for Nature.





# Benefits of hosting Picnic

The Picnic is about celebrating the natural beauty of your local area and connecting with community. But it's more than just a fun day of getting out and enjoying nature. It's a chance to get together and make plans to protect nature and take urgent action on climate change.

From feedback from last year, groups said some of the benefits from hosting a picnic included:

- Educating the public on local environment issues
- Creating awareness around what you/your group does
- Finding and engaging new volunteers and members
- Relationship building with other environmental groups
- Hosting activities linked to your group
- Build your group's capacity and the broader movement of people fighting for nature
- Reengage current members of the group
- Have a fun day in nature!

# What will the day look like?

Totally up to you!

You can choose the location, time, any activities you want to include and the focus of the day based on what message you'd like to convey.

Some suggestions to get the creative juices flowing:

- Invite other local community and environmental groups to host it with you
- You could have stalls or displays with information about your organisation and/or campaigns
- Selling or giving away items such as native seedlings for planting, group t-shirts, knitted items, baked goods
- A children's table with colour-in sheets containing images of nature. These could be hung up on-site using pegs and string for all to admire and then taken home.
- Activities such as: beach cleanup (see [CleanUp Australia](#) for a cleanup kit), identifying flora or fauna, planting trees, collaborative creative activity.
- Inviting guest speakers from within or outside your organisation – these could be political, academic, ecologists or members from other environmental organisations.
- A local band playing on the day or having music playing from a playlist.
- Handing out materials such as flyers or petitions.

We've created a suggested planning checklist template as a Word doc so you can edit it. You can download it at [www.nature.org.au/picnic](http://www.nature.org.au/picnic)



# How NCC can support

We'll be working state-wide to help the hosts of the Picnic for Nature event by:

- Promoting all the picnics to our network to help with attendance
- Creating an interactive map on the webpage so people wishing to attend can find their local picnic
- We will set up a registration page for each event through our website so you have an idea of attendance numbers. **Please direct attendees to this webpage to register.** We will send you your unique NCC registration webpage once we've confirmed the details of your picnic with you.
- We are also working on some extra promotional support documents, such as Canva templates and that you can adapt for social media and use to promote your picnic. They will be uploaded to the Picnic for Nature website at [www.nature.org.au/picnic](http://www.nature.org.au/picnic) - watch this space!

## NCC Staff working with you

Kristina Dodds (Community Organiser) - Project Lead  
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# Imagine

Imagine that on the 21st of October 2023 there are picnics held in support of our environment across the state: from Dubbo to Albury, Sydney to Byron.

How electrifying would that be! What a message of grassroots power it would send to our communities and our politicians that we want urgent action now to protect nature and deal with environmental issues and climate change.

A coming together of those who believe our environment is worth protecting, and welcoming of those who may be getting involved for the first time.

Because of you hosting a Picnic for Nature this is what we can achieve. What fun.

Thank you.