



PARKS & LEISURE  
AUSTRALIA

**2023**  
**REGIONAL**  
**AWARDS OF**  
**EXCELLENCE**

## PARK OF THE YEAR AWARD

### Description

This award celebrates and promotes vibrant, successful well designed and managed new or significantly revitalised parks/ open spaces by recognising and rewarding exceptional examples of best practice in terms of design and management. This includes parks and open spaces that are large, small, linear, along transport corridors, road closures, foreshore and reclaimed urban spaces.

### 2023 Nominees

wonguim wilam Warrandyte - **Manningham City Council, Playce Pty Ltd**

Echuca East Community Precinct Redevelopment - **Campaspe Shire Council**

Whittlesea Public Gardens Stage 1 - **City of Whittlesea**

Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park - **Parks Victoria**

Romsey Ecotherapy Park: A Community Vision Realised - **Macedon Ranges Shire Council**

Glengala Road Pocket Park - **Brimbank City Council, DEECA**

### Proudly sponsored by



An industry leader in the production, sale and distribution of premium instant turf and lawns for life. They are one of the nation's largest growers of premium drought-tolerant, water-smart turfgrass varieties and are regarded amongst the most efficient and technologically advanced turfgrass operations in the world. Coolabah Turf are passionate about the turf and lawn industry and the power their people and products have to make a positive impact on people's lives.

# PARK OF THE YEAR AWARD

## 2022 Winner:

Wilson Botanic Park, **City of Casey**

The revitalisation of Wilson Botanic Park during covid-19 placed the environment and people first, supporting the community's heightened reliance on open space, through rare species planting, bird attracting area, stormwater harvesting and a sunken walkway into Lilypad Lake.



## 2023 AWARD NOMINEES



### **wonguim wilam Warrandyte: Manningham City Council, Playce**

The revitalisation of wonguim wilam is the culmination of five years of dedicated hard work from the project team and an incredible collaborative effort drawing on the diverse expertise of the wider Warrandyte community. The result is a cohesive, sympathetic and accessible riverside regional open space that is highly valued by the community and features grassed spaces, playground, fitness stations, sheltered and open picnic and BBQ areas and carpark.



### **Echuca East Community Precinct Redevelopment, Campaspe Shire Council**

Redeveloping the Echuca East Community Precinct has addressed the activation and connectivity issues, delivering an open space that addresses social and physical wellbeing through provision of elements that encourage community connections, interactive play, sport and recreation and community cohesion that is accessible and inclusive to all.



### **Whittlesea Public Gardens Stage 1, City of Whittlesea**

A Park and Garden renewed for the children of the kids that grew up in Whittlesea Public Gardens. *The park has been transformed into an inviting outdoor recreation hub with the redevelopment including a new playground featuring in-ground trampolines and nature play elements, along with a learn-to-ride area.*



# PARK OF THE YEAR AWARD

## 2022 Winner:

Wilson Botanic Park, City of Casey

The revitalisation of Wilson Botanic Park during covid-19 placed the environment and people first, supporting the community's heightened reliance on open space, through rare species planting, bird attracting area, stormwater harvesting and a sunken walkway into Lilypad Lake.



## Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park, Parks Victoria

Grampians (Gariwerd) National Park is one of Victoria's most popular and iconic parks, with significant cultural heritage, abundant environmental values and stunning landscapes supporting outstanding visitor experiences. Ongoing partnerships with Traditional Owners, key agencies, stakeholders and the community are critical in the ongoing planning and management of the park. The celebrated Grampians Peaks Trail reinforces the park's popularity, with 14,310 overnight campground stays booked since its opening in Nov 2021.



## Romsey Ecotherapy Park - A Community Vision Realised, Macedon Ranges Shire Council

The Romsey Ecotherapy Park is the culmination of 14-year community journey to develop a regionally significant all ages and abilities play and community gathering place. The park combines active play, reflection spaces, sensory gardens and sculpture/art installations that have multigenerational appeal. Conceived by Romsey community members the park contributes to health, wellbeing and economic benefits within the Macedon Ranges.



## Glengala Road Pocket Park, Brimbank City Council, DEECA

Glengala Road Pocket Park has turned a hot, barren traffic island and road into a green place for the Sunshine West community. This park reflects community ideas on the importance of being part of a community expressed through art, while this place now forms part of the community. Green infrastructure replaces grey infrastructure to ensure climate resilience and provides a place to enjoy as people move about on their daily journeys.

