

# Media Release

**Steve Dimopoulos MP**  
Minister for Environment  
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events  
Minister for Outdoor Recreation



Sunday, 17 November 2024

## DELIVERING 500,000 TREES FOR MELBOURNE'S WEST

The Allan Labor Government is planting 500,000 new trees in Melbourne's west – creating cooler spaces for families in the western suburbs to enjoy for generations to come.

Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos today visited Burndap Park in Maribyrnong to announce the opening of applications for the final round of the More Trees for a Cooler, Greener West program, which has already seen 410,000 trees planted since 2021.

The Labor Government will invest a further \$2 million to deliver the final phase of plantings, with both mature and young trees for areas of western Melbourne with the lowest tree canopy cover – including Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Maribyrnong, Melton, Moonee Valley and Wyndham.

There are around 90,000 trees available under this round for schools, parks and reserves in the western suburbs to plant over the next 18 months.

The new trees will consist of a mix of tube stock and advanced tree plantings. The matrees will be prioritised for streets in greatest need of more trees and shade.

This latest round of funding will help provide more green open spaces, vital new habitats for our local wildlife and reduce the urban heat island effect which means more shade and cooler streets and parks in summer.

Applications for local councils, public land managers and Traditional Owner Corporations will open on Tuesday 19 November and close on 3 December 2024, with trees ready to be planted throughout 2025 and 2026.

Schools will be invited to apply for native trees to plant on their grounds early next year.

These trees will add to the 6,500 hectares of new open space and parklands being delivered by the Labor Government through the \$315 million Suburban Parks Program, providing new parkland, walking trails, bike trails, pocket parks and dog parks – including 22 new and upgraded parks in Melbourne's west.

For more information on the program and how to apply, visit [environment.vic.gov.au/more-trees](https://environment.vic.gov.au/more-trees).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos

*"More trees means less pollution and more green spaces for Victorian families to enjoy for years to come."*

*"We've already planted more than 400,000 trees across Melbourne's bustling western suburbs and we're looking for schools and other local organisations to put their hand up to host some of these 90,000 trees."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Footscray Katie Hall

*"This is a great next step towards creating greener spaces for our community to enjoy for future generations – and I'd encourage locals to volunteer and take part in tree planting programs across Melbourne's west."*