



### Further information

Fairfield City Council has the Cabramatta Creek Flying-fox Camp Management Plan. Available on the Council's webpage.

If you would like to find out more about the Grey headed flying fox or participate in any of the working groups, please call Council on 9725 0222 and ask for the Natural Resources team.



# Living with Grey headed flying foxes in Fairfield

## *Pteropus poliocephalus*



Fairfield Local Government area has one permanent flying fox camp (roosting area). Located on Cabramatta Creek near the Hume Highway, Cabramatta.

For more information on these initiatives contact Fairfield City Council on 9725 0222 or visit [www.fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au/environment](http://www.fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au/environment)



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## Living with flying foxes

All flying foxes are protected under both state and federal laws. Flying foxes can visit your garden at night to feed on nectar and fruit. Fruits and flowers may only be available for a short time. Flying foxes will move on once the plants have finished fruiting and flowering.

What can you do to prevent harm to your property:

- Trim branches away from the house
- Cover fruit trees with bat friendly netting
- Bring your washing in at night
- Wash any flying fox poo off as soon as it is identified
- Park your car under cover or cover with a tarp.
- If you find an injured flying-fox, do not pick it up. Immediately notify your local animal rescue organisation. In NSW, phone Sydney Metropolitan Wildlife Service on 9413 4300 or WIRES on 1300 094 737.



## How can you help?

- Plant locally native plant species in your yard that will attract a range of fauna, including flying foxes
- Join a local bushcare group to improve the local bushland reserves
- Use only flying fox approved netting for your fruit trees. Netting mesh size should not exceed 40mm. Single trees can be netted by pulling the netting tight to the trunk of the tree. Gardens and multiple fruit trees can be netted over a frame. The fabric must be pulled tight to prevent animals becoming trapped in the netting. Netting should be checked daily to make sure there are no animals trapped.
- Keep your pets inside at night to protect foraging animals. Cats and dogs can kill native animals that visit your back yard.

## Why are Grey Headed Flying Foxes important?

- Are a key native species that help native forests and trees survive.  
By eating pollen, nectar and fruits flying foxes pollinate trees and disperse seed. Due to the large distances travelled by individual animals, genetic diversity for these plant species is higher through pollen and seed dispersal.
- They are Australia's largest bat with a wingspan of up to a metre and can travel up to 50km per night.
- Flying foxes are the only mammals in the world capable of active sustained flight
- Bats comprise the second largest group of mammals after rodents, with more than 900 species worldwide.

