Explore nature close to home

Popular activities
The network of reserves protects threatened native animals, birds and plants. Some reserves are small strips of remnant native bush along former roads, while others are larger areas. All are vital for the survival of our local species, including those in danger of becoming extinct. You can enjoy many activities without disturbing nature in the reserves.

Walk, run or cycle
Many reserves in the network have trails or paths that make it easy to be active in relaxed, peaceful surroundings. Some trails connect to longer routes. You can walk the dog but must keep it on a leash in most areas.

Take a wellbeing break
Get some ‘me time’. Look at the trees or wildflowers, take a deep breath and check out the reserve. Studies consistently show that having regular doses of nature improves wellbeing, reduces stress and helps recovery from illness.

Introduce children to nature
Nature has a way of arousing curiosity in children and triggering their imagination. Take a child on an adventure in a reserve near you.

Go wildlife spotting
Keep your eyes peeled for fascinating creatures, from frogs to a foraging echidna, or scrub wrens to the rare Tuan. Take a wildflower walk. Grab the camera and go in search of more than 120 bird species recorded in the reserves.

Share an experience
Pack a picnic and meet a friend for some time in nature. Enjoy some family time together on a stroll.
Where to go

1. **Castle Creek Rd, Leneva**
   Known as the Castle Creek Bushlands, it is a prime place to see wildflowers in Spring. Enter via the pedestrian gate from Castle Creek Road and follow the management track through the site.

2. **Boyes Rd, access opposite Frederic Street Rd intersection or at old Avalon Rd track**
   Good opportunities for birdwatching, with the reserve adjoining other bushland that stretches into the Baranduda Range. Follow management tracks through the reserves between Boyes Road and the fire trail at the base of the Baranduda Range.

3. **Corner Baranduda Bvd and John Schubert Dr**
   The waterway adjacent to St Francis of Assisi Primary School, (formerly Frayne College), features frogs and birdlife. Its boardwalk connects to the school’s nature trail, which attracts kangaroos and echidnas.

4. **Baranduda Grove Estate, via Arnica Cct or Kiewa Valley Highway opposite Chappels Rd**
   Two reserves in this area have good remnants of grassy dry forest. Locals refer to one as the Old School Block as it was adjacent to the original school at Baranduda. This reserve and the nearby Stringybark Bushland provide good bird and wildlife-spotting opportunities and are home to the threatened Squirrel Glider and the Tuan. Access these bushlands through the newly constructed part of Baranduda Grove Estate, via Arnica Cct or from the Kiewa Valley Highway opposite Chappels Rd.

5. **Bears Hill, via Curlew Lane or Donnington Drive**
   The grassy woodland on Bear’s Hill attracts a variety of birds that are in rapid decline due to habitat loss. Follow the fire trail between Curlew Lane and Donnington Drive, or follow the track up to the water tanks for impressive views.

For more information see wodonga.vic.gov.au/local-reserves or phone (02) 6022 9300.