

The Ballarat Botanical Gardens precinct consists of 40 hectares, defined by the area bound by the bluestone gate pillars at the North Gardens Wetlands, bluestone gate pillars at the Ex-prisoner of War Memorial in the south gardens, Lake Wendouree waters' edge in east, and Gillies Street North on the west side.

The precinct contains valuable plant collections, including rare Begonias, trees, and many endangered species of the Ballarat region. Biosecurity is an important practice to help protect these living assets and plays an integral role in a Botanical Garden. It is our responsibility to create awareness around potential threats and implement measures to reduce the likelihood of contamination.

Pests, diseases, and soil borne pathogens are most dangerous when they are transported into a new environment, and to minimise this risk across our site, it is imperative that items brought into the precinct are healthy, clean, and free of old growing media that may contain harmful organisms. To reinforce this, we have introduced new guidelines as a safeguard, and to provide potential stall holders with a clear understanding of our biosecurity requirements when participating in activities within the precinct. In addition to the guidelines, vendors are required to complete an online application form.

By submitting an expression of interest, you agree to the following terms and conditions;

Biosecurity requirements for Stall Holders

- Plants must be clean and free of pest and disease. Please do not bring unhealthy plants displaying signs or symptoms of viral infection, often characterised as abnormal growth.
- No second-hand growing pots/containers. Plants must be grown in new pots.
- Growers must use commercial grade potting mix only. No soil or home-made media used as growing material.
- Compost or fertiliser products may be sold but must be in a sealed bag prior to coming onsite and remain sealed.
- Seed must be in sealed packets prior to arrival onsite.
- No hay or straw bales.
- Any tubers or root vegetables must be thoroughly washed prior to arrival on site. Dormant bulbs / corms must be free of growing media or supplied in a sealed bag.
- Begonias are not permitted. (Note: Expression of interest will be accepted for vendors wishing to sell Begonias at the Ballarat Begonia Festival. Numbers strictly limited and conditions apply.)
- Cut flowers must be pest and disease free. Please do not bring flowers with distorted petals or foliage that may be the result of a virus.

- Dried flowers must not show evidence of pest and disease. Do not bring in dried material that has died for unknown reasons.
- Unprocessed timber products (dead or alive) are not permitted unless sealed with lacquer/paint and have no evidence of borer holes.
- Processed timber products, including timber pallets, must be clean and free of soil and have no evidence of borer holes.
- Any products containing sawdust must be in a sealed bag.
- Gardening equipment/tools must be new or sanitised prior to coming on site.
- Display props must comply with the terms and conditions above. Items such as decorative pots, vases, pavers, statues, and garden ornaments must be new, or clean and free of old soil/growing media and sanitised prior to arrival on site.

Please note:

- Stalls may be subject to random inspections during the event. If pests, diseases, or inconsistencies with information provided are found, the stallholder will be required to cease trading, pack-up immediately, and will not be permitted to trade within the Ballarat Botanical Gardens precinct in the future.
- Terms and conditions may be subject to change at short notice.

The application will require approximately 21 days to process from receipt of the application form by the Ballarat Botanical Gardens. Written approval is required prior to commencing trade.

Biosecurity is a collaborative effort, and the goal is to protect our plants and the broader environment. If you require further information, please contact gardenseducation@ballarat.vic.gov.au

Thank you for your co-operation.