

# Living with Nature – Keeping weeds in your garden

**Did you know that there are approximately 1,400 weeds that have gone bush in recent decades? 65% of these began as ornamental garden plants.**

Environmental weeds represent one of the most serious threat to native biodiversity. Invasive gardens plants can quickly find their way into valuable remnant vegetation, parks and waterways. There, they compete with native flora and threaten the fauna that is directly or indirectly dependent on it.

Many popular and beautiful garden plants are escaping from cultivation and invading our natural environment. You can do your part in reducing their impact.



Agapanthus



Blue Periwinkle

## You can:

- ❖ Avoid planting known problem weeds.
- ❖ Replace environmental weeds in your garden with local indigenous, native or non-invasive species.
- ❖ Cut off and dispose of spent flower heads before the seeds open and fall.
- ❖ Compost general garden waste at home.
- ❖ Avoid flushing aquarium or pond weeds down the drain.
- ❖ Cover your trailer when transporting green waste so that seeds and cuttings do not fall out.
- ❖ Clean your mower and tools before using them in other areas.
- ❖ Contain self-seeding plants to a specific area of the garden so they are easier to control.
- ❖ Don't dump weeds and prunings on vacant land. Use your green waste or compost bin.
- ❖ Plant creeping or suckering plants in pots to restrict root growth.
- ❖ Choose sterile forms of plants that normally produce high numbers of seed.



For Further information contact: