

Ku-ring-gai  
**Wildflower**  
Garden  
& Bushland Education Centre



Ku-ring-gai Council

## About the garden and centre

### The garden

The Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden covers 123 hectares of urban bushland on Sydney's north shore. Managed by Ku-ring-gai Council, it features heathland and tall forest, sandstone outcrops, ponds, gullies and waterfalls.

The garden is open to the public and has a range of walking tracks, ponds, boardwalks, a fernhouse, picnic areas and plenty of on-site parking.

### Bushland Education Centre

The Bushland Education Centre provides a venue for Council's environmental education programs. Garden maps and environmental community information can be obtained here. Facilities include a teaching and workshop space, a kitchen, environmental displays, toilets, including a disabled toilet and a parents' change area. It also features a covered outside patio area with tables, chairs and electric barbeques.

The centre is available for daytime venue hire.

### Programs

- Bush Birthday Parties - nature activities for children
- Bush Kids School Holiday Program
- School excursions for primary and high school students
- Nature for the Very Young for pre-schools and playgroups
- English at the Garden - ESL nature excursion program
- Habitat Ku-ring-gai Seniors Program
- Gardening and sustainability workshops
- Australian Plants Society Walks and Talks Program
- Festival of Wildflowers - last weekend in August



# Track descriptions



## Short walks 200m to 500m

### Bentham Track

Distance: 300m Time: 15min



An enjoyable short walk taking you through an area that is frequented by the White-faced Honeyeater bird. The track takes you from Lambert's Clearing picnic area and joins up with either the Caley or Smith's Track.

### Caley Track

Distance: 200m Time: 10min



A pleasant walk from Lambert's Clearing to Cunningham's Rest. Both the Caley and Betham tracks take you through open heathland on unusual rocky sandstone outcrops. In winter and spring the track is enhanced by magnificent displays of native flowers.

### Smith's Track

Distance: 400m Time: 15min



A pleasant short walk linking the Bushland Education Centre with Cunningham's Rest, passing through Scribbly Gum and Bloodwood trees to an open heathland area.

### Brown's Track

Distance: 300m Time: 15min



This is a short sealed walk. Several different types of habitat provide shelter to a variety of birds. Listen for the loud 'crack' call of the Eastern Whipbird followed by the short return call by the female. Access to the start of the Mueller Track is from Brown's Track.

### Banks Track and Boardwalk

Distance: 300m Time: 10min



Take a leisurely stroll along a boardwalk and sandstone track overlooking Donnelly's Swamp. A wonderful walk to spot and hear small birds. Listen for the chattering warble of the Variegated Wren and the sharp 'bark' of the Red Wattlebird.

### Senses Track

Distance: 500m Time: 15min



This pleasant sealed track is suitable for strollers, wheelchairs, elderly and visually impaired. The track is located near the entrance to the garden and offers self-guided signage. The shale soil sustains taller trees creating the only area of open woodland habitat in the garden.

## Longer walks 2km to 3km

### Solander Trail

Distance: 2km Time: 45min



This sealed walk commences at the Education Centre winding its way through typical Hawkesbury Sandstone habitat. The track passes the main picnic area, Lambert's Clearing, where you will also find the Fern House with a collection of ferns and orchids. The track continues down the valley and back up to the Education Centre.

### Mueller Track

Distance: 3km Time: 2hrs



From the Education Centre follow the Solander Trail to the start of the Mueller Track off Brown's Trail. The most rugged walk in the garden, the track winds its way down the valley along the Tree Fern Gully and Ku-ring-gai Creek through a variety of habitats and open forest to Phantom Falls. The track continues through tall Sydney Red Gums, crosses the fire trail and proceeds uphill to Cunningham's Rest. This is a walk where the stillness of nature surrounds you and the cares of city living slip away!

## Facility symbols



Toilets



Electric barbeques



Disabled access



Playground



Parking



Fern House

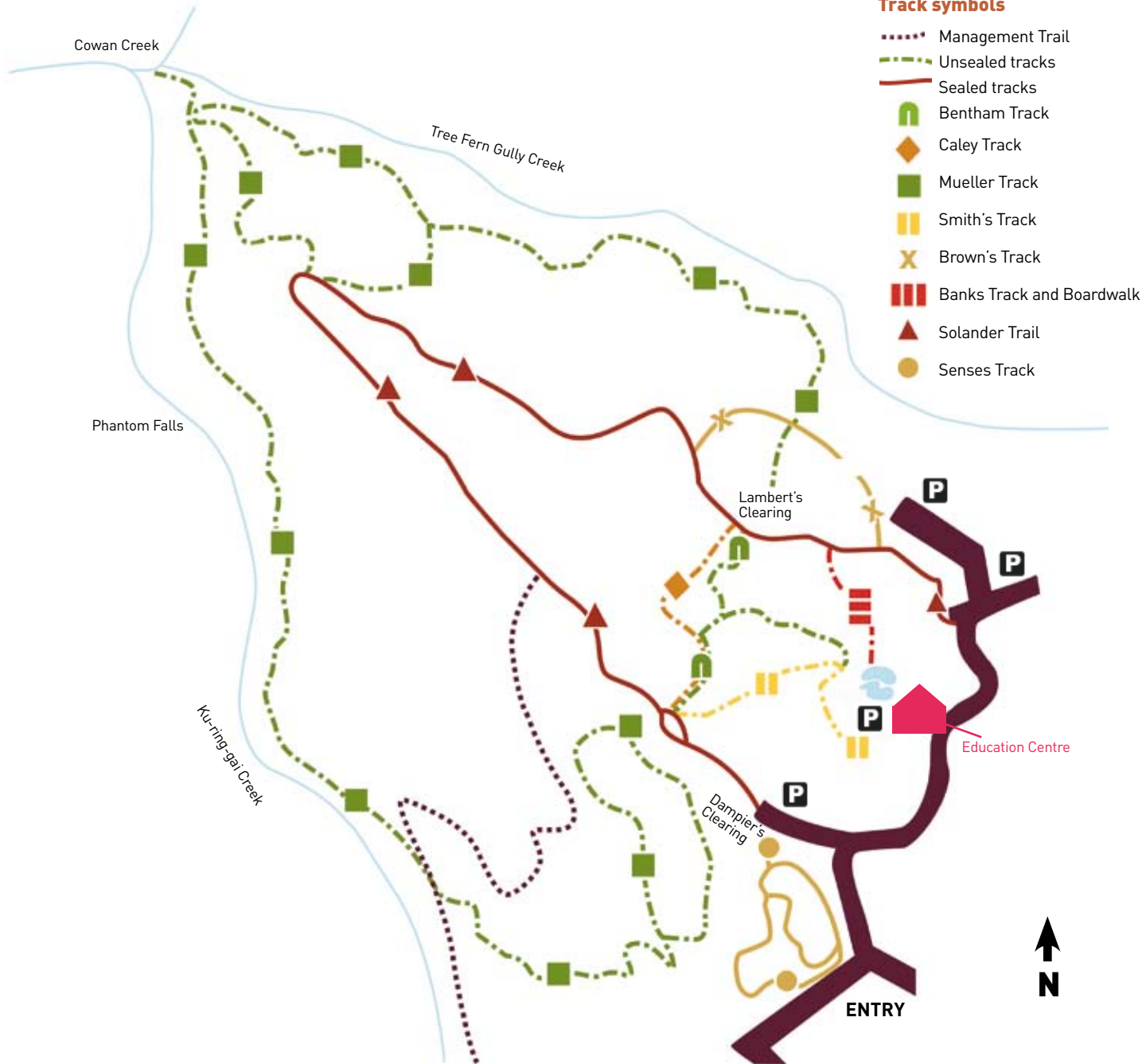


Picnic shelter



Picnic area

# Map





## Contact

### Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden

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**Education Program Bookings** 9424 0353

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**W** [www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/wildflowergarden](http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/wildflowergarden)

### Opening hours

8am - 4pm , 7 days a week

*(except Christmas Day and Good Friday)*

Entry is free

**NOTE:** No dogs (exception - guide dogs) or other pets allowed in the garden or left in parked cars.



[www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/wildflowergarden](http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/wildflowergarden)

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## Picnic areas



### Lambert's Clearing



The largest picnic area offering a shelter, toilets and children's play equipment. For a close-up look at native ferns and orchids visit the Fern House. Lambert's can be accessed from the Solander, Banks, Bentham and Caley tracks. The most direct route from the Education Centre is along the Banks Track starting at the pond boardwalk.

### Dampier's Clearing



Adjoining the Senses Track at the top of the garden is a large picnic shelter and an electric barbeque. This area is secluded, offering easy level access and a paved walking path along the Senses Track that is suitable for wheelchairs, strollers and the elderly.

