



Living With Wildlife

CORELLAS

About Corellas

Corellas are a cockatoo native to Australia. These medium sized birds are mostly white with a reddish pink face and short crest and tail. Their bills grow continuously and need to be maintained, when land they will chew on objects - branches, natural and built infrastructure - to control the length and condition of their bills. They reach maturity at 3-5 years of age and can live up to 50 years of age. There are two species native to the Moira region - Long-billed Corella and Little Corella

Habitat and Behaviour

Corellas dig for roots, seeds and bulbs - a favourite being Onion Grass, they also eat insects.
 Corellas mate for life. The breeding period is July-November. Flocks will return to favoured feeding sites and regularly utilise the same flight path.
 Flocks will also share feeding grounds with other flocks and their cousins; Galahs and Sulphur-crested Cockatoos.
 They keep an eye out for predators by having a couple of birds perched in a tree who warn the flock when danger is near.
 They are intelligent, mischievous and noisy.

Management

There is no ultimate answer to control management; it requires:

- planning
- persistence
- behavioural understanding
- frequency variance
- various control methods

Somewhat successful control methods include:

- limiting food access
- scaring techniques
- landscape modifications
- in extreme occasions removal as a last resort

<p>Control Actions</p>	<p>Short Term Scaring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scare kites (hawks) • fright balloons and clappers • noise generating devices - random intervals, range of sounds, source moved frequently <p>Decoy Feeding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing and attracting birds to alternate food sources • trials methods to decrease food palatability in small areas <p>Medium Term Visual Barriers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • install shade cloth or vertical screens to block line of sight <p>Long Term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • planting small trees and shrubs to reduce open spaces • topsoil enrichment to reduce dieback • installing computerised irrigation systems
<p>Council Awareness</p>	<p>Council is aware of the impacts corellas and other parrots species can make to our built and natural environment. The information supplied, in this flyer, focusses on discouraging corellas from potential impacts. Council uses some of these methods, to conserve and protect both its assets and the birds. Council also monitors for any further impacts.</p>
<p>Legislation</p>	<p>All Victorian wildlife is protected under the <i>Wildlife Act 1975</i>, it is illegal to harass or harm wildlife without authorisation. The <i>Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986</i> sets out rules to protect all animals - wild and domestic. The Victorian Government developed the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victorian Corella Strategy 2022-2032 • Guidelines for Reducing Cockatoo Damage
<p>Living With Corellas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • don't feed wildlife • reduce perching options • cover areas that are potential chewing spots • use wildlife safe fruit tree nets • Remove Onion Grass from lawns • screen lawns with shrubs and trees • replace loose roof nails with firmly fixed roofing screws • avoid fixtures with rubber seals • use metal pipe to protect exposed wiring
<p>Council Controls</p>	<p>Council occasionally receives calls from the community, regarding corella impacts to Council owned/managed infrastructure and the natural environment. But management options can be limiting. Management actions occur on a needs must basis.</p>