

MEDIA RELEASE

# **September is Swap-A-Weedy-Wattle month!**

Did you know that **September 1st** each year is **National Wattle Day**? Initiated as a way to celebrate our floral emblem and all things Australian, Green Skills Inc’s Albany office are adding a different twist to National Wattle Day this year.

For a limited time only during the month of September, if you remove invasive eastern states wattle species from your garden, Green Skills will give you some FREE local replacements!

Invasive eastern states wattles look beautiful, but taken together they are the worst environmental weeds in the Albany area – threatening our unique and irreplaceable bushland throughout the southern region, which is part of the only internationally recognised biodiversity hotspot in Australia.

By far the worst offender is Sydney golden wattle (*Acacia longifolia*). It’s highly invasive, grows into dense thickets which outcompete other species and exudes chemicals from its roots which inhibit the growth of other plants.

Southern Regional TAFE students have been hard at work growing local native plant seedlings as part of their studies, and as a result Green Skills is delighted to be able to offer FREE local Acacia seedlings as a replacement for invasive eastern states wattles to Albany area residents.

This initiative launches on September 1st to celebrate National Wattle Day and runs throughout September - contact the Albany Green Skills office to register your interest, seedlings will be distributed at the end of the month. Numbers of seedlings will be limited per property and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

For further information on Swap-A-Weedy-Wattle September, weedy wattle identification, removal and upcoming community events please contact:

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And check out the Weedy Wattles Action Group Albany Facebook page

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