



Plants for the Great Lakes Area

The Great Lakes Area is a most beautiful and unique place and there is nothing quite like it anywhere else on earth. It is the geology, the resulting landscape, the vegetation that covers this landscape and the animals and humans that inhabit this place that make it unique.

We think that it would be impossible to improve the look of this place by bringing plants from further afield (and there is a real risk of introducing new environmental weeds into the area). So, this is a list of plants that grow naturally in and around the Great Lakes Area.

Trees

Local:

***Eucalyptus archeri* Alpine Cider Gum**

Endemic, small tree to ~ 10m. high. Very attractive deciduous bark with white, grey, brown and green coloured patches. Cream flowers in summer. Found in northern alpine areas above 1000 metres on wet peaty soils. Ornamental tree.

***Eucalyptus coccifera* Snow Peppermint (Snow Gum)**

Endemic, smooth barked tree up to ~ 15m high. Common dominant tree of subalpine forests. With attractive trunk bark and foliage, a very ornamental tree.

***Eucalyptus dalrympleana* Mountain White Gum**

Upright tree ~ 20-40m high with an impressive white trunk. Prefers moist deep soils. Cold hardy.

***Eucalyptus delegatensis* Gum-topped Stringybark (White-top Stringybark)**

One of our giants, usually 20-40m, up to 90m high. Dominant tree of tall eucalypt forests in fertile mountain and sub-alpine habitats. Does best on cool, moist, well drained sites. Good windbreak / shelter / timber / habitat tree.

***Eucalyptus gunnii* Cider Gum**

Endemic tree to ~20m high. Found / Occurs in very cold subalpine habitats. Withstands extreme cold and wind. Prefers moist soils. A beautifully shaped shelter / shade / habitat tree with foliage suitable for floral arrangements.

***Eucalyptus pauciflora* Cabbage Ash (Cabbage Gum)**

A very attractive spreading tree ~10-20m high with beautiful deciduous bark. Common in dry open forest in areas that are cold, windy and dry. Tolerates extreme frosts and generally harsh conditions. Prune to achieve a multi-stemmed gnarled tree.

General:

***Eucalyptus rodwayi* Black Swamp Gum**

An endemic spreading tree ~10-20m high. Found in cold, wet soaks. Very frost tolerant. A good windbreak / shelter / habitat tree.

***Eucalyptus rubida* Candlebark**

An attractive upright tree ~10-30m high. Found in open dry woodlands in the east and south-east. Tolerates dry, frosty sites. A good windbreak / shelter / habitat tree.

***Eucalyptus subcrenulata* Alpine Yellow Gum**

Endemic, single or multi stemmed tree with a very colourful deciduous bark, grows to ~ 10 – 40m. Found in the central and western sub-alpine regions. Prefers acid, moist but well drained soils. Amenity and shelter tree.

***Eucalyptus vernicosa* Varnished Gum**

Endemic, shrub or small tree ~ 3-5m. high. Tasmania's smallest eucalypt, naturally occurs on exposed alpine sites, on quartzite or sandstone bedrock, on the western mountains. Ornamental tree.

Trees for very sheltered (moist) spots:

***Atherosperma moschatum* Sassafras**

A large, aromatic, smooth barked tree to ~10m. Sassafras leaves have a distinctive sarsaparilla-like smell and taste. White flowers in spring. Prefers a moist shady position.

***Athrotaxis cupressoides* Pencil Pine**

Endemic, slow growing tree of conical shape. Frost tolerant. Requires moist, well drained soil. Full sun or part shade. Good specimen or container plant.

***Athrotaxis X laxifolia* Intermediate Pine**

Endemic, slow growing tree with attractive dark green foliage. Frost tolerant. Requires moist, well drained soil, partial shade. Good specimen or container plant.

***Athrotaxis selaginoides* King Billy Pine**

Endemic, slow growing tree with open needle-like foliage. Frost tolerant. Requires moist, well drained soil. Partial shade. Good specimen or container plant.

***Eucryphia lucida* Leatherwood**

An endemic small tree to ~ 8m. Masses of fragrant, white flowers in summer. Prefers a moist, well drained position. Shade or partial sun. Good specimen tree or screen plant. Good nectar producer. We also have **Ballerina** and **Pink Cloud** both forms have soft pink flowers.

***Nothofagus cunninghamii* Myrtle**

Evergreen tall tree. Decorative small deep green toothed leaves, bronze when young. Prefers moist well drained soil, partial shade. Good specimen / container tree.

***Phyllocladus aspleniifolius* Celery Top Pine**

Endemic slow growing tree with attractive foliage. Prefers a moist, well drained, semi-shaded position. Suitable container plant.

Tall Shrubs

Local:

***Hakea epiglottis* Beaked Hakea**

Endemic, small shrub to ~ 3m high. Found in moist heaths and open forest from the coast to the central plateau. Flowers yellow - cream in spring / summer. Adaptable to a wide range of sites. Attracts nectar and insect eating birds.

***Hakea lissosperma* Needle Bush**

A very rigid shrub to ~ 3m., with needle like leaves. Delicate white flowers in summer followed by prominent fruits. Requires good drainage. A striking ornamental shrub.

***Pittosporum bicolor* Cheese-Wood**

A large shrub or small tree to ~ 4 - 8m. high. Small yellow and crimson, bell shaped flowers in spring and early summer. Prefers moist well drained soil and a shady position. Good hedge plant.

***Leptospermum lanigerum* Woolly Tea Tree**

A hardy, medium to large shrub. Masses of white flowers in spring. Prefers moist to wet soil, frost tolerant, full or filtered sun. Good screen / shelter shrub.

General:

***Allocasuarina monilifera* Necklace She-oak**

A dense, fine foliated shrub ~ 1-3m. Found in a wide range of habitats from coastal to alpine heaths. Requires a well drained location in full sun or semi shade. Good screen/windbreak shrub. Attracts seed eating birds.

***Allocasuarina zephyrea* Western She-oak**

Endemic, open spreading shrub to ~ 3m. Attractive, fine foliage. Prefers moist to wet but well drained sites. Decorative landscape plant.

***Banksia marginata* Silver Banksia**

Shrub or small tree ~ 3-10m x 2-5m. Attractive foliage, yellow flowers from spring to early winter. Adapted to winter wet / summer dry conditions, frost tolerant. Significant nectar producer.

***Callistemon viridiflorus* Green Bottlebrush**

Endemic bushy shrub ~1-3m x 1-2m with attractive foliage and lemon-green bottlebrush flowers in spring to summer. Prefers moist positions. Tolerates periodic waterlogging, wind, frost, full sun or partial shade. Good screen, shelter shrub, bird attractor.

***Melaleuca squamea* Swamp Melaleuca**

An erect growing shrub to ~ 3m.high. Masses of short Bottlebrush-like purple/pink flowers in spring/summer. Prefers moist to wet conditions. Full sun or partial shade. Good screen plant / nectar producer.

Shrubs for sheltered (moist) spots:

***Prostanthera lasianthos* Christmas Bush**

Attractive, evergreen shrub to ~ 5m. high. White / mauve flowers in summer. Requires moist well drained soil and a shady position.

***Tasmannia lanceolata* Mountain Pepper**

Dense shrub to ~ 3m. Dark green leaves on red stems. Cream flowers in spring, black fruits on female plants. Moist, well drained, semi-shaded position. Good specimen shrub. Can be touchy.

***Telopea truncata* Waratah**

Endemic, shrub ~ 3-5m x 2-3m. Large red flowers in late spring. Prefers moist, well drained, semi-shaded position. Attractive specimen shrub or container plant. Can be touchy.

Small Shrubs

Local:

***Baeckea gunniana* Mountain Baeckea**

An aromatic spreading alpine shrub ~ 0.3m x 1m. Heath like leaves and small white flowers in summer. Prefers a cool, moist, well drained, sunny position. Good rockery plant.

***Bauera rubiodes* Wiry Bauera**

A wiry dense shrub with long spreading branches ~ 1m x 1.5m. Attractive pink or white flowers in spring and summer. Prefers a moist to wet and lightly shaded position. A reliable understory shrub. We have a white, a pink and a double pink form

***Bellendenia montana* Mountain Rocket**

Endemic, broad shrub to ~ 0.5 – 1 m. White flowers in clusters held above the foliage in spring – summer. Slow growing, requires a cool moist, well drained spot, partial shade. A challenge to grow but a very attractive garden / container plant.

***Boronia citriodora* Lemon Scented Boronia**

A low growing alpine shrub to ~ 50cm high. Highly aromatic, lemon scented foliage with pink flowers in spring. Prefers a cool, moist but sunny position. Good rockery plant.

***Coprosma nitida* Mountain Currant**

A stout, prickly shrub to ~ 2m. Common in subalpine woodland. Female plants with masses of orange berries in autumn. Prefers a moist well drained site, full sun or partial shade. Attractive landscape plant and good bird habitat.

***Diselma archerii* Cheshunt Pine**

Endemic, slow growing conifer to ~ 1m high and wide in 10 years, with weeping branch tips. Found in alpine coniferous heath. Requires a well drained, moist, sunny position. Good plant for the rock garden.

***Epacris gunnii* Gunn's Heath**

Endemic small shrub to ~ 1m. Commonly found in wet heathlands. White flowers in spring. Prefers a moist spot in partial shade or full sun. Prune after flowering to promote bushy growth. Suitable container plant. Good bird attractor.

***Epacris petrophila* Alpine Rock Heath**

Small shrub to ~ 50cm high. Found in alpine heaths. White flowers in Summer. Requires moist, well drained soil. Full sun to partial shade, frost tolerant. Good rockery or container plant. Bird attractor.

***Epacris serpyllifolia* Alpine Heath**

Endemic, shrub to ~ 50cm high and wide. Common in alpine heaths. White flowers in late spring to summer. Prefers a cool moist well drained location in full sun to semi-shade. Good rock garden and container plant. Bird attractor.

***Hakea microcarpa* Tiny Devil Hakea**

Small hardy shrub to ~ 2m with spiky leaves. Small white flowers in summer. Found in open forest from lowland to alpine regions. Tolerates frost and sites that are very wet in winter and very dry in summer. Good bird habitat.

***Leptecophylla juniperina* ssp. *parvifolia* Mountain Pinkberry**

(syn. *Cyathodes parvifolia*)

Endemic, dense prickly shrub to ~ 1m high. White flowers in spring followed by pink – red berries. Prefers moist well drained soil, partial shade. Attractive garden feature or container plant.

***Leptospermum rupestre* Mountain Tea-Tree**

Endemic, rock hugging, prostrate shrub, ~ 0.3-1m x 1m. White flowers in summer. Prefers moist well drained sunny position, tolerates snow and frost.

Small shrubs continued....

***Leucopogon montanus* Snow Beardheath**

A small slow growing alpine shrub to ~50cm. White flowers in summer followed by red berries. Requires a well drained location in full sun. Good container / rockery plant.

***Melaleuca gibbosa* Small Leaved Melaleuca**

A hardy, dense low shrub to ~ 2m high. Lilac mauve flowers in spring. Tolerates periodic wet and dry conditions. Frost hardy. Full sun to partial shade. Good screen / shelter shrub.

***Olearia algida* Alpine Daisy Bush**

Spreading shrub ~ 50cm. Attractive scale like grey-green leaves. White daisy flowers in summer. Prefers a moist well drained site. Interesting foliage.

***Olearia ledifolia* Rock Daisy Bush**

Endemic, compact shrub to ~ 50cm. Young growth rusty brown, covered with white daisy flowers in spring/summer. Prefers a moist well drained spot in full sun and acid soil.

***Olearia obcordata* Heartleaf Daisybush**

Endemic, much branched upright shrub ~ 0.5 – 1 m high. Striking leaf colour / texture, white daisy flowers in spring. Moist well drained, sunny spot, acid soil. Regular pruning to maintain shape.

***Orites revoluta* Revolute Orites**

Endemic, spreading shrub to ~ 1.5 m high. Short spires of creamy white flowers in spring. Attractive rusty coloured young growth. Needs a cool, moist but well drained site.

***Oxylobium ellipticum* Golden Rosemary**

A dense shrub to ~ 1.5m high. Commonly found in wet and sub-alpine forests. Golden yellow flowers in spring / summer. Prefers a moist well drained location. Full sun or semi-shade.

***Ozothamnus antennaria* Sticky Everlastingbush**

Endemic, fast growing, spreading shrub to ~ 2 m high. Prolific display of creamy white flower-heads in late spring / summer. Prefers free drainage and some afternoon shade.

***Ozothamnus ericifolius* Heathy Everlastingbush**

Endemic, dense upright shrub to ~ 2m. Aromatic grey green foliage, profuse heads of cream flowers in spring – summer. Found in heath on the Central Plateau. Needs a moist well drained spot with ample sunlight. Liked by butterflies.

***Ozothamnus hookeri* Scaly Everlasting Bush**

Upright, dense shrub ~ 0.5 – 1m high. Attractive scaly foliage and dense heads of tiny flowers in late spring. Moist, well drained, sunny spot. Prune to maintain shape. Great foliage for the garden and the vase.

***Ozothamnus rodwayi* var. *rodwayi* Alpine Everlastingbush**

Endemic, small rounded shrub to ~ 50cm high. Dense heads of cream-white flowers in spring contrasting with grey blue foliage. Moist, well drained soil, full sun. Attractive shrubbery, rockery or container plant.

***Richea acerosa* Slender Candleheath**

Endemic, erect shrub to ~ 80cm high with upright prickly leaves. Creamy-white flowers in small heads tipping the branches in spring / summer. Prefers a moist well-drained soil, full sun or light shade.

***Richea scoparia* Scoparia**

Endemic, slow growing, dense prickly shrub ~ 0.5 – 2m high. Striking spikes of white, gold, pink or red flowers in spring – summer. Found in moist / wet alpine heaths. Needs a drained but moist / cool root-run. Full sun or part shade. Spectacular in the garden or container.

Small shrubs continued.....

General:

***Almaleea subumbellata* Wiry Bushpea**

Erect, slender shrub to ~ 1m. Clusters of golden yellow pea flowers in spring. Moist, well drained soil, full sun to part shade. Prune to maintain bushy plant.

***Aotus ericoides* Golden Pea**

Small shrub to ~ 1m. Masses of golden yellow pea flowers with red centres in spring. Found in heath lands. Likes a sunny, moist, well drained spot. Very showy.

***Bossiaea riparia* River Bossiaea**

An upright shrub to ~ 2m. Commonly found along river banks. Yellow/orange pea flowers in spring. Requires a moist, well drained location. Dappled shade or partial sun.

***Correa lawrenceana* Mountain Correa**

Upright shrub to ~ 2m high. An understory plant of open and dry forests. Pale green tubular flowers in autumn and spring. Prefers a semi-shaded position. Excellent bird attractor.

***Cyathodes straminea* Small-leaved Cheeseberry**

Slow growing, broad, much-branched shrub to ~ 1m. Found in sub-alpine heath. White flowers in spring followed by red berries. Full sun or part shade, well drained peaty soil. Excellent for the rock garden or as a container plant.

***Grevillea australis* Honey Grevillea**

Tasmania's only Grevillea. This upright form grows to ~ 2m high. Found along river margins and in open forests. Delicate white flowers in spring. Prefers a moist, well drained sunny position. Tolerates frost. Good bird attractor.

For sheltered / moist spots

***Gaultheria hispida* Snow Berry**

Endemic shrub ~ 1m with attractive foliage and snow-white berries in late summer. Requires cool, moist, well-drained acidic soil and good shade. Good fernery, rainforest, container plant.

***Tetradthea pilosa* Black Eyed Susan**

An understorey shrub to ~ 60cm high. Attractive mauve or purple flowers in spring. Prefers well drained soil and partial shade.

Small Plants & Ground Covers

Groundcovers:

***Grevillea australis* var. *alpina* Alpine Grevillea**

Tasmania's only *Grevillea*, this alpine form is prostrate ~ 0.3m x 1m. Delicate white flowers in spring. Prefers a moist, well drained position in full sun. Tolerates frost. Good rockery plant.

***Hibbertia procumbens* Spreading Guinea Flower**

A dense prostrate ground cover ~ 0.2m x 1m with fine spreading woody stems and bright yellow flowers in spring and summer. A heath plant preferring a well drained, weed free position. Good rockery or ground cover plant.

***Leptospermum rupestre* Mountain Tea-Tree**

Endemic, rock hugging, prostrate shrub, ~ 0.3-1m x 1m. White flowers in summer. Prefers a moist well drained sunny position, tolerates snow and frost.

***Microcachrys tetragona* Creeping Strawberry Pine**

Endemic, prostrate conifer, spreading to ~1m. Prefers a moist, well drained, sunny position. Good rockery or container plant.

***Pentachondra pumila* Carpet Pentachondra or Carpet Frillyheath**

Endemic, prostrate spreading shrub. White flowers in spring – summer followed by red fruits. Found in alpine vegetation above the treeline. Requires acid, moist but well drained soil and ample sunlight. Good rockery plant.

***Podocarpus lawrencei* Mountain Plum Pine**

Slow growing, spreading conifer. This form is found as a prostrate shrub in alpine heaths. Attractive male cones or female succulent red fruits. Prefers a moist well drained position. Tolerates considerable shade. Good rock garden and container plant.

Other small plants:

***Brachyscome spathulata* ssp. *spathulata* Blue Daisy**

A perennial herb with flower stems to ~ 20cm high. Mauve / white flowers from spring to autumn. Requires a moist position in full sun or semi shade.

***Coprosma perpusilla* Orange Matcurrant**

Shiny green mat forming shrub that takes root from its branches. Orange fruits on female plants. Attractive ground cover for rockery or container.

***Cotula alpina* Alpine Buttons**

Perennial prostrate herb, spreading to ~ 0.5 m. Flat deeply lobed leaves, yellow flower 'buttons' on short upright stems. Best in moist soil and full sun or light shade. Great little alpine plant for the rockery or in a container.

***Gaultheria lanceolata* Lanceleaf Waxberry**

Endemic, dwarf shrub to ~20cm often self layering. White flowers in late spring followed by masses of pink berries. Requires well drained acidic soil and a moist, semi-shaded position. Frost and snow tolerant. Good container / rockery plant.

***Gaultheria tasmanica* Tasmanian Waxberry**

Endemic, mat shrub 5 – 10cm high, spreading. White flowers in late spring followed by vivid red berries. Requires moist, well drained acidic soil, sunny to semi shaded position. Frost and snow tolerant. Good container / rockery plant.

***Gunnera cordifolia* Heart Leaved Gunnera**

Endemic plant of sub-alpine stream verges and swamps. Red berries in summer. Requires permanently moist soil high in organic matter. Partial shade. Suitable for pond edges and containers.

***Helichrysum scorpioides* Creeping Everlasting**

Spreading multi-stemmed perennial to ~ 30cm. Yellow flowers in spring/summer. Found in heathland, grassland and open forests. Prefers a well drained location. Full sun or semi-shade. Remove spent flower heads to promote flowering. Good rockery plant.

***Herpolirion novae-zelandiae* Sky Lily**

Dwarf perennial lily to ~ 6cm tall, spreading by rhizomes. Lilac-mauve flowers in spring – summer. Prefers a moist position in full sun. Attractive rockery plant.

***Muehlenbeckia axillaris* Mountain Muehlenbeckia**

Very hardy, dense, matting plant. Found in sub-alpine habitats. Requires a well drained location in full sun or semi shade. Hardy to frost and snow. Responds well to pruning. Good ground cover, rockery plant.

***Planocarpa petiolaris* Eastern Whorled Cheeseberry**

Endemic, slow growing compact shrub to ~ 50cm high. Found in alpine heath. White flowers in spring followed by red berries. Full sun or part shade, well drained peaty soil. Excellent for the rock garden or as a container plant.

***Senecio pinnatifolius* Variable Groundsel**

Herbaceous perennial to ~ 50cm. Masses of yellow daisy flowers in summer. Full sun or dappled shade. Free draining soils. Responds well to regular pruning.

***Stylidium graminifolium* Trigger Plant**

An attractive tufted perennial bearing pink flowers on long stems in spring and summer. Prefers a well drained sunny position. Tolerates frost. Suitable for rockeries, borders and general understorey. Can be short lived.

***Trachymene humilis* Alpine Trachymene**

Small rosette plant bearing dense heads of creamy white to pink flowers in summer. Common in alpine grasslands. Prefers a moist sunny spot. Suits the alpine, rock or tub garden.

***Velleia montana* Mountain Velleia**

A prostrate perennial herb with small yellow flowers in summer. Needs a sunny damp spot. Rockery plant.

***Xerochrysum subundulatum* Orange Everlasting**

Herbaceous perennial, flowering stems to ~ 20cm. Large, golden-yellow everlasting daisy flowers in summer. Very hardy plants that need full sun and good drainage.

Grasses, Lilies, Sedges & other 'Tufties'

For dry places

***Poa labillardierei* Tussock Grass**

Tussock-forming greyish blue green grass to ~ 80cm. Very hardy, fast growing tussock for ornamental and re-vegetation purposes. Butterfly host plant.

***Poa gunnii* Snow Grass**

Tussock forming blue green grass ~ 30cm. Flowers in spring / summer. Very hardy, fast growing tussock for ornamental and re-vegetation purposes

For moist places

***Dianella tasmanica* Southern Flax Lily**

Spreading perennial to ~ 60cm high. Delicate blue flowers in summer followed by purple/blue berries in autumn.. Prefers a cool, damp, shady position.

***Blandfordia punicea* Christmas Bells**

Endemic, perennial with strap leaves and orange – red bell flowers on stems to 60cm. Needs acid moist well drained soil. A challenge to grow. Best in a pot.

***Diplarrena latifolia* Western Flag-Iris**

Endemic broad leafed tussock to ~ 50cm. Stunning white flowers with purple and yellow markings in spring. Requires a moist well drained location. Full sun or partial shade. Suitable container plant.

***Baloskion australe* Southern Cord-Rush**

Reed-like, spreading plant to ~0.5m high. Young stems red, turning blue-green with attractive rusty brown seed heads. Common in wet peaty heaths and marshes. Good for the bog garden, pond verges or in a container.

***Hierochloa redolens* Sweet Holygrass**

Perennial tufting broad-leaved grass, dark green leaves to ~ 0.5 m, flowering stems to 1 m tall bearing pendulous grey-brown seed heads, aromatic. Prefers moist soil and part shade. Ornamental grass as a single clump or for mass plantings.

For wet places:

***Austrofestuca hookeriana* Swamp Fescue**

Perennial tussock grass with coarse bright green foliage to ~ 30cm, flowering stems ~ 0.9 m tall sporting nodding spike-like seed heads that age to a straw gold colour. Best in a moist spot with light shade. Good soil stabiliser.

***Empodisma minus* Spreading Roperush**

Attractive dense spreading rush to ~ 0.5m but may scramble higher over its neighbours. Fine dark-green segmented stems. Requires moist/boggy acid soil and full sun or light shade.

***Gymnoschoenus sphaerocephalus* Button Grass**

Tussock forming grass up to ~ 1m in diameter. White flowers on long arching stems in summer followed by round, dark brown seed bearing "buttons". Requires a moist to wet location. Frost hardy. Interesting foliage plant also suitable for containers.