

# Why Garden Responsibly?

When people **plant a garden**, they know they are doing something good for the environment – most of the time they are but sometimes the plants they choose can become invasive weeds.

**\$13.6 billion per year**

The combined cost of invasive species is a significant economic burden on Australians.

More than **207** invasive plants impact **1,257** threatened and endangered species in Australia.



**1,257**

The **six** most common weeds cover an area **three times** the size of Tasmania (20 million hectares).



**72%**

of weed species were **accidentally** introduced as garden ornamentals.

In Australia, garden plants continue to naturalise, or '**jump the garden fence**', and become invasive.



The greenlife industry in Australia contributes significantly to our community. **1,651** nurseries produce **2 billion** plants per year and employ **23,000** people. The greenlife industry is committed to creating a sustainable future.

The **Gardening Responsibly Initiative** will provide a **collaborative and proactive approach** to managing this challenge.