

Kangaroo Hot Spots

Watch for kangaroos when driving past any natural area. The following locations are hot spots.

Fairbairn Avenue	Woodcock Drive
Majura Road	Monaro Highway
Hindmarsh Drive	Long Gully Road
Mugga Lane	Yamba Drive
Tharwa Drive	Athllon Drive
Limestone Avenue	Tuggeranong Parkway
Sulwood Drive	Tharwa Drive
William Hovell Drive	Erindale Drive
Antill Street	

Kangaroos And Research

Kangaroos in the ACT are the subject of considerable research including fertility control, kangaroo abundance, population dynamics and the effects of grazing on grassland and woodland biodiversity. GPS tracking collars have been fitted to some kangaroos to investigate their home range and movements in the urban environment. This research will help the ACT Government to make evidence-based decisions about future kangaroo control programs and about reducing the risk of motor vehicle collisions with kangaroos.



Kangaroo grazing exclosures are part of the research.

Please do not interfere with research sites. If you see a dead or injured collared kangaroo, phone Canberra Connect on 13 22 81.



A kangaroo being fitted with a GPS tracking collar.



Kangaroos at the Belconnen Naval Transmitting Station fitted with identification collars and ear tags as part of fertility control research.

Further Information

Report all accidents involving injured wildlife to:
Canberra Connect: 13 22 81 (24 hours)
Wildlife Rangers: Ph: 6207 2113 (northside)
Ph: 6207 2087 (southside)

For more information on research supported by the ACT Government, search for 'kangaroos' at www.tams.act.gov.au

Call the RSPCA for advice:
(02) 6287 8113 (BH) or 0413 495 031 (AH)

Living with Kangaroos



Eastern Grey Kangaroo and pouch young



Healthy Parks
Healthy People



One of the benefits of living in Canberra is its natural environment setting and the associated native wildlife. Canberra has often been called the 'Bush Capital' because it has so many urban reserves. It also qualifies as the 'kangaroo capital'—compared to any other city, Canberra has a lot of Eastern Grey Kangaroos. Creating a sustainable 'Bush Capital' means being aware of and understanding how to live alongside our local wildlife. We may encounter kangaroos on our roads, while walking in a park or nature reserve and sometimes even in our own back yards.

Kangaroos And Grassy Ecosystems

Kangaroos are an essential part of grassland and grassy woodland habitats, along with a host of other not so obvious animals. They eat grasses and forbs (non-woody flowering plants). Depending on how much food is available, a kangaroo can eat between 70 and 300kg (dry weight) of living pasture per year.

In some situations, increased numbers of kangaroos can be harmful to other animals and plants and sometimes even the kangaroos themselves. Sustained heavy grazing by large numbers of kangaroos can threaten the smaller, not-so-obvious reptiles and insects that rely on adequate grass cover in order to survive. In some areas, kangaroo populations must be controlled to ensure that grazing is kept to a moderate level. This will help to protect endangered and vulnerable grassland species such as the Striped Legless Lizard,



The Perunga Grasshopper and the Slender Onion Orchid.

the Grassland Earless Dragon, the Perunga Grasshopper, the Coorooboorama Raspy Cricket and several orchid and lily species.

Kangaroos And Cars

Early morning, dusk and at night are peak times for kangaroos crossing roads, especially in winter and spring and either side of a full moon. After a long dry period, kangaroos tend to graze closer to road verges where runoff from roads increases green pick. The most effective way of avoiding a collision with a kangaroo is:

- Slow down if you see a kangaroo on or beside the road and also when driving past parks and reserves.
- Be aware of what is on the roadside as well as on the road ahead. Avoid 'tunnel vision.'
- Kangaroos often travel together. If a kangaroo crosses the road, it is likely there are more following.
- Don't swerve to miss a kangaroo. By swerving, you risk hitting oncoming cars or running off the road.
- Appoint a passenger as a kangaroo 'spotter'.

Hit A Kangaroo?

If you are unfortunate enough to injure a kangaroo, treat it with caution, respect and care. It may be dangerous so approach carefully or not at all. Sometimes a kangaroo is too badly injured to hop away from an accident—these animals are assessed by a ranger and if necessary, humanely euthenased.

Report all accidents involving injured wildlife to:

Canberra Connect: 13 22 81 (24 hours)

Wildlife Rangers Ph: 6207 2113 (northside)

Ph: 6207 2087 (southside)

Be sure to explain the animal's condition and its exact location. Remember all accidents involving a motor vehicle should be reported to the police on 131 444.

Dogs And Kangaroos

The kangaroos and wallabies (Eastern Grey Kangaroo, Wallaroo, Red-necked Wallaby and Swamp Wallaby) that live in and around Canberra are generally quiet and cryptic, but can be easily alarmed by a dog close by, especially one off the lead. Harassment by dogs can trigger mobs of frightened kangaroos towards nearby roads. Stressed and disoriented kangaroos can also end up in suburban backyards where they can damage property and injure themselves. Some kangaroos, especially large males, will defend themselves, their offspring or their mates against dogs that harass them. It is important to keep your dog on a lead at all times.

