

STATE BUDGET

2021-22

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND WATER HON DAVID SPEIRS MP MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 22 June 2021

The environment prioritised under the Marshall Liberal Government

The Marshall Liberal Government is continuing to invest significant amounts in South Australia's environment, waste management and heritage in the State Budget 2021-22 to improve conservation, boost nature-based tourism and create jobs across the state.

South Australia's recycling industry will receive its biggest ever investment with more than \$16 million worth of State Government funding unlocking eight new projects worth \$111 million.

The projects which include new recycling facilities in both the northern and southern suburbs will dramatically boost the state's ability to process waste in the wake of the bans on the export of unprocessed waste plastic, paper and cardboard, glass and tyres and create hundreds of jobs.

Heritage protection will receive an \$8.1 million injection to preserve and revitalise historical sites across South Australia including one of the state's most well-known buildings – Ayers House.

The successful SA Heritage Grants program will be extended with an extra \$1.5 million over three years. The Marshall Liberal Government's first three rounds of the SA Heritage Grants program, as well as separate investment in State Government-owned sites, has unlocked around \$8.9 million of conservation work and economic activity across the state.

Tens of thousands of trees will be planted across South Australia to help reduce suburban temperatures, increase air quality and improve liveability with a \$5.5 million extension of the popular *Greener Neighbourhoods* program.

The program has already seen 16 projects receive funding in the first two rounds resulting in nearly 10,000 trees and shrubs being planted across metropolitan Adelaide.

"South Australians love and cherish our natural environment which is why the Marshall Liberal Government is investing significant amounts to improve conservation, enhance our reputation as a world-class eco-tourism destination and create jobs across the state," Minister for Environment and Water David Speirs said.

"The State Budget 2021-22 builds on the work we have already done to protect our environment for future generations, attract more visitors and support regional communities.

"South Australia has always been a nation leader when it comes to waste management, but this investment will turbocharge our recycling industry which is not only good for the environment but good for the economy.

"The eight new projects across South Australia will significantly improve our ability to process our own waste, reducing the amount sent to landfill and creating hundreds of jobs.

STATE BUDGET

2021-22

“Heritage was an afterthought by the previous government and our \$8.1 million injection in this Budget will preserve and revitalise heritage assets across the state including one of our most well-known historic buildings – Ayers House.

“Heritage restoration not only protects the state’s history, but it is also good for the economy with works creating jobs and activated sites boosting tourism.

“By putting an extra \$5.5 million into an extended *Greener Neighbourhoods* program and by partnering with local councils to make this money go even further, we will see a significant increase in the number of greening projects across South Australia resulting in tens of thousands of extra trees being planted.

“Urban greening is an example of practical action to tackle climate change and provides important benefits for physical and mental health and wellbeing and improves the liveability of our suburbs.

“This new funding is on top of the significant investment the Marshall Liberal Government is already delivering for the environment including our *Parks 2025* program to conserve and revitalise our open spaces across the state, saving Glenthorne Farm from property developers and creating South Australia’s second metropolitan national park, opening up our reservoirs for recreational access, increasing our number of park rangers and boosting nature-based tourism just to name a few.

“This is in stark contrast to the former Labor Government who slashed the environment budget during their 16 years in charge.”