

Date: _____ - _____ -2013



Black Swan Island

Site Induction and Sign-In Sheet

Black Swan Island is under the control of the WA Planning Commission. BPG has a license agreement to occupy a portion of the site. It is required by the insurers that all workers be they paid or volunteers be properly inducted under Occupational Safety and Health guidelines.

The following list is some of the hazards that you may come across while undertaking work on the BPG equipment at the WAPC compound.

- Vermin, including foxes, rats, and some non-native birds.
- Loose dogs.
- Snakes. There are at least two known Dugite snakes residing in the compound, one under the WAPC sea container nearest the gate, and one under the donga. They are not aggressive and will retreat if you make your presence known. Familiarize yourself with the first aid procedures (in the site folder next to the first aid kit).
- Spiders, usually Redbacks, so caution should be taken when handling equipment that has been stored for some time.
- Mosquitoes are present year around and may carry viruses such as Ross River. Insect repellent and/or mosquito nets are highly recommended.
- Black Swan Island is surrounded by water. Children must be kept under constant adult supervision to ensure they do not stray into the water area.
- There is some light, medium and heavy lifting involved in the work. Correct manual handling procedures should be used. When in doubt, ask for help from the site supervisor.
- The weld mesh trays that carry the seed pots also have some sharps on them. Also the galvanized planting frames beams may have rough edges.

All care has been taken to list all the possible hazards you could encounter while working at the compound, but being surrounded by public open space other hazards unknown to us the Bassendean Preservation Group Inc. may exist, so all caution should be taken while at the site.

Important Numbers:

Emergency (Landline)	000
From a mobile phone (no charge)	112
SMS	116

Your Site Supervisor _____

The GroCentre is at the south end of Tidewater Way in Ascot. The entrance gate is on the south side of the road just before the parking lot at the end of Tidewater Way. **First aid** advice is in the site info binder in the sea container.

Importance of Nursery Hygiene

In 2009 the Perth Region Natural Resource Management group found dieback had infected almost one-third of native trees in Perth's outer suburbs, with gardeners unwittingly spreading the disease from infected potting mix and pot plants. About 2300 of 5700 flora species in Southern WA are susceptible to dieback. The Dieback Consultative Council calls it the Biological Bulldozer. According to DEC, *P. cinnamomi* dieback is considered to be one of the major threatening processes for plant species endemic to Western Australia, with mass collapse of ecosystems and significant interference to important ecological processes as a worst outcome.

Increasingly, NIASA (Nursery Industry Accreditation Scheme) accreditation is a prerequisite to participation in revegetation schemes on public lands. Achieving compliance with industry best practice nursery hygiene was one of the drivers for BPG creating the GroCentre. BPG is already largely compliant with the basic requirements of NIASA listed below and is exploring accreditation, but the cost is likely to be a major deterrent.

To meet the minimum requirements for accreditation the nursery must feature:

- **Clean water supply or sterilized irrigation water.**
- **Clean or sterilized potting media.**
- **Clean work area & equipment.**
- **Hard floors or free-draining hard rock floors.**
- **Raised benches for plants.**
- **Clean propagation material.**
- **Quarantine area for new or suspect plants.**
- **Regular testing for Phytophthora**
- **Sterilized tools and pots**

In the meantime, it is absolutely essential that BPG ensure compliance with the above requirements in order to expect to continue to receive permission to plant on public parks and reserves.

BPG has a solar sterilizer for pots, trays and tags, and supplies of metho in spray bottles for tools and other items inconvenient for the solar sterilizer.

To help BPG meet the accreditation requirements, and to ensure that our plants are propagated to the highest possible standards, we ask that keep in mind the following when you volunteer at the GroCentre:

- a) BPG has spent the last five years refining the propagation processes to ensure a successful outcome consistent with best nursery hygiene practice. We welcome suggestions for improvements, but ask that you follow the established processes until such time as the suggestions can be evaluated for incorporation. There is usually a reason we ask you to do something a certain way, and it often has to do with maintaining nursery hygiene to prevent the spread of dieback, or to provide an outcome that experience has shown is successful. When in doubt, please ask the site supervisor.

- b) The BPG GroCentre is a facility shared with many participating members. Maintaining organisation of the multitude of supplies and tools necessary to propagate native plants is essential to keep the operation running smoothly and maintain nursery hygiene. If you do not know where an item belongs, please don't put it away. Ask the site supervisor. That way the item can be sterilized if necessary and will be there for the next use.
- c) BPG follows a rigid protocol for sterilizing and cleaning pots. The soil we purchase is certified dieback free, and is stored in sealed bags on pallet racking off the ground in the container. The trestle tables have been designed and built with easy to clean metal sheathing and are sterilized before and after use. BPG uses nursery-grade MofTT designed and built open mesh propagation frames.
- When you set a rack of plants or a stack of sterilized pots on the ground, you place at risk all these efforts taken to prevent the spread of pathogens. Treat all surfaces other than those prepared for the propagation work as contaminated. BPG's continued permission to plant on public land depends on this.
- d) Don't bring plant specimens into the GroCentre without consulting the site supervisor. Consider that at least 1/3 of Perth gardens are infected with dieback, and think about the ramifications if a dieback infestation is traced back to plants propagated and planted out by BPG.
- e) If you bring a tools, ask the site supervisor to sterilize them first, or better yet, just leave them at home and use the tools provided buy BPG. If you have a suggestion for a tool at the GroCentre, ask the site supervisor.

In summary,

- If you're not sure how to do something, or don't know where something goes, please ask the site supervisor.
- Treat all surfaces not specifically denoted as sterilized as contaminated.
- Do not allow soil, clean pots, plants, seeds tools or any other inputs to the propagation process to touch surfaces not specifically denoted as sterilized.

When in doubt please ask the site supervisor.



Volunteer Sign In Sheet
I have read and understood the above precautions:

	Name (Print)	Signature	BPG Member?	If NO, Please provide your details:	
				Address	Phone Number
1.			YES / NO		
2.			YES / NO		
3.			YES / NO		
4.			YES / NO		
5.			YES / NO		
6.			YES / NO		
7.			YES / NO		
8.			YES / NO		
9.			YES / NO		
10.			YES / NO		
11.			YES / NO		
12.			YES / NO		
13.			YES / NO		