



# Possums AND Gliders



Gardens for possums and gliders:

## Checklist

- Tall trees and dense shrubs
- Water source
- Possum nest box
- Pets should be kept inside or have restricted access to areas possums or gliders may be found
- Do not feed wildlife - it will cause serious dietary imbalance
- Please be mindful when planting trees of how they will grow and mature as this could affect the structure of your house
- If you are considering installing a nest box or artificial hollow, for your safety please seek the assistance of a professional

Whitehorse is home to Sugar Gliders, Ringtail Possums and Brushtail Possums. They are nocturnal and usually eat leaves, flowers and fruits. Sugar Gliders can also be seen eating the sap from wattle trees. Possums and Sugar Gliders are social animals and many individuals can be found sharing the same nest or hollow. Possums are sometimes regarded as a nuisance with noise and damage to households and gardens frowned upon. The possums living within Whitehorse are protected and we are lucky to have them.



## Some possum species found in Whitehorse



### Brushtail Possum

*Trichosurus vulpecula*



Body length:  
Up to 55cm



### Ringtail Possum

*Pseudocheirus peregrinus*



Body length:  
Up to 35cm



### Sugar Glider

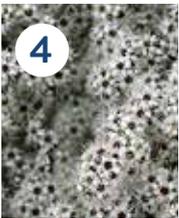
*Petaurus breviceps*



Body length:  
16-21cm

**Living with possums:** Brushtail possums usually live in tree hollows but if none are available, your nice dry roof space makes a great substitute. A nest box in a sheltered spot in your garden will provide a better alternative if a possum is living somewhere you don't want it to be. If a possum is eating one of your trees profusely, it might be easier to have that as a sacrificial tree. You might like to also consider fitting a tree collar around the trunk to prevent them climbing it. Another way to prevent or deter possums entering your property is to fit a floppy boundary fence on top of your existing fence. Just remember- the only reason the possum feels like it needs to intrude on your space is because humans have decimated their natural habitat.

## Suggested plants:

Trees	1	Silver Wattle ( <i>Acacia dealbata</i> )		
	2	Yellow Box ( <i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i> )		
Large Shrubs	3	Swamp Paperbark ( <i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i> )		
	4	Yarra Burgan ( <i>Kunzea leptospermoides</i> )		
Small-Medium Shrubs	5	Hop Wattle ( <i>Acacia stricta</i> )		
	6	Prickly Tea-tree ( <i>Leptospermum continentale</i> )		