Squirrel Glider Urban Nest Box Project

> BACKGROUND



100 nest boxes are being purpose built for Squirrel Glider (Petaurus norfolcensis) habitat to be supplied to eligible urban residents of Thurgoona and Splitters Creek, NSW.

The program will provide potential homes for Squirrel Gliders in urban areas, raise local community awareness about the animal's ecology and threats, and provide a genuine opportunity for residents to help conserve a local threatened species.

WHY

The Squirrel Glider is a native gliding possum that is a NSW-listed threatened species, meaning that they are on the slippery slope to extinction. Luckily they are currently found in healthy numbers in Thurgoona and Splitters Creek, meaning that these locations are critical to their long term survival in the wild.

Squirrel Gliders rely on hollow-bearing trees for nesting and raising their young. Sadly, these are in diminished supply, hence nest boxes are providing additional habitat as well as help to determine the distribution of the species. Many of the 400+ existing nest boxes around Thurgoona are found on public land (e.g. Albury Environmental Land) or other sites not frequented by the broader public (e.g. Thurgoona Golf Club, Charles Sturt University, National Environment Centre). This project seeks to complement the existing network of nest boxes in the region.

WHEN

The project will run from November 2014 to May 2015.

WHO is behind the project:

The project is being managed by Albury Conservation Company on behalf of the Slopes to Summit (S2S) partnership. Funding has been provided by the NSW Government's Environmental Trust through the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative (GER) 2014/15 grants program. Thurgoona Men's Shed has been engaged to construct the nest boxes.

WHO is eligible to participate?

The target audience of the project are residents of Thurgoona and Splitter's Creek. The focus is backyards and front yards of smaller residential properties, however urban parks, schools, nature strips, child care centres are a few examples of other sites that may be eligible to apply.

Priority will be given to applications demonstrating the following:

- The property is in close proximity to previous Squirrel Glider sightings (refer to the priority zone maps at alburyconservationco.org.au)
- The property contains a tree suitable for housing a nest box (preferably a gum tree / Eucalyptus)
- The nest box will be within 40m of other gum trees / Eucalyptus
- The property is located in an area marked 'high' or 'medium' on the priority zone maps
- Neighbours working together (e.g. Landcare/Bushcare project)
- Participants who can voluntarily commit to the program for minimum 12 months (under agreement with Albury Conservation Company).

What if I own a dog or cat? You are still potentially eligible. The boxes will be placed on trees where access by cats and dogs is eliminated or greatly restricted. What if I rent? You are still potentially eligible, however the property owner's approval is required. Like to be involved but couldn't put up a nestbox? The project will include installation of the nestbox if requested at no cost to you.

HOW is the project being rolled out?

The project will consist of the following phases:

- 1. Applications open November 2014 to March 2015
- 2. Assessment of applications December 2014 to April 2015
- 3. Construction of nest boxes November 2014 to April 2015
- 4. Supply/install nest boxes to approved participants January 2015 to May 2015.

What is the cost?

Participation in the project is FREE. This includes a nest box and installation, as required.

Project co-ordinator:



Project sponsors:









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> EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

1. Name: 2. Email: 3. Residential address (number, street & town)	7. Are you prepared to enter an agreement with Albury Conservation Company outlining conditions of participating in the project, in relation to health and safety, management and maintenance of the nest box, and assistance with monitoring the nest box for Squirrel Gliders? Yes No
4. Is this the address where the nest box will be placed? Yes No (if you answered no please provide address below)	ONLINE MAPS For Thurgoona and Splitters Creek priority zone nest box maps visit: alburyconservationco.org.au and follow the links.
5. Are you the owner of the property? Yes No (if you answered no, permission of the owner must be obtained). 6. In relation to the proposed nest box site: a) Have you seen Squirrel Gliders at your property before? Yes No Unsure b) Is your property in close proximity to previous Squirrel Glider sightings (refer to the maps on website)? Yes No Unsure	Albury Conservation Cons Welcome to Albury Individually defined interests, and your and the second of the second
c) Does it contain a tree suitable for housing a nest box (preferably a gum tree / Eucalyptus)? Yes No Unsure d) Is it within 40m of other gum trees / Eucalyptus Yes No Unsure	SENDING YOUR FORM Please complete and return your expression of interest form to the Albury Conservation Company: Email: sam@nct.org.au
e) Is it in an area marked 'high' or 'medium' (refer to the maps on website) ? Yes No Unsure	Post: PO Box 789 Albury NSW 2640 If you have any queries about this form please call Sam Niedra on 0448 806 256.

