

# Feathertail Glider Nesting Box

Congratulations! You have just purchased one of our exclusive luxury homes for the modern marsupial. Here is some information to help you get the best from your nesting box.

## POSSUMS, MARSUPIALS & PEOPLE

Melbourne is often thought of as the Possum capital of Australia. Unlike Brushtail Possums and Ringtail Possums, Feathertail Gliders are not as prominent in the suburbs. Feathertail gliders are unique as they are able to glide between trees and over short open spaces without their feet even touching the ground! These gliders tend to live in the outer suburbs of Melbourne where there is a good native tree cover, dense understorey and suitable habitat.

## ABOUT THE NESTING BOX

The Feathertail Glider nesting box is specifically designed following many years of practical trials and is suited to a range of small Australian arboreal mammals.

- These boxes are durable, aesthetically pleasing, easy to install and do not affect the growth of trees they are placed on,
- A glider nest box does not need to be cleaned out. Feathertail Gliders build and keep their nest clean and tidy,
- A glider nest box is designed, by size, to not attract bees, even if it is vacant,
- These mammals will investigate any new objects in their territory, so that they will soon find the nest box - you won't be able to hide it from them!

## MANAGING YOUR GARDEN FOR GLIDERS

These animal's diet consists of insects, nectar and tree sap. Planting a wide variety of local native plants will produce a garden that can boast flowers most times of the year. This in turn provides gliders with many sources of nectar and the insects that are attracted by the flowers. The added benefits of using local native plants are that they will also encourage native birds and butterflies to visit your garden and provide a stable food supply to help maintain your glider population all year round. During the colder months of the year when flowers and insects are scarce, gliders will resort to chewing the bark of Wattle trees and licking the sap that flows from the injury. The sap provides a good source of carbohydrates that helps see them through until flowers and insects reappear in your garden.

## WHERE DO I PUT MY NESTING BOX?

Choose an easily accessible spot away from bright lights. This may be in a tree, which is preferably evergreen and is close to other trees/shrubs. Possums prefer to avoid going to ground, particularly these gliders, that's a **danger** area.

- The box should be at least three metres from the ground and if possible amongst a dense part of the foliage.
- The entrance hole should be facing towards the east. This is because cold weather comes from the south & west, hot weather comes from the north.
- Do not approach occupied boxes, infrequent visual inspections (once a month) will not harm resident gliders.
- Once you have decided on where you would like to install the box, set the angle of the backboard and tighten the bolt. To ensure that it is secure hammer the small nail (supplied) through the back of the box into the backboard.
- Each nesting box is provided with a 4" galvanised nail and one-mudguard washer. Thread the nail through the washer and then through the backboard of the nest box. Nail it firmly to the tree. As the tree grows the box is firmly held into place by the large mudguard washer. We use nails instead of strapping because over time strapping strangles the tree, causing the tree to drop its limbs or die.

## ONE FINAL WORD

A resident glider can easily be evicted by closing the entrance to the nest box after sunset when the gliders are out and about. The nest box can then be moved to a more appropriate location.

## THE LA TROBE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

In 1967 La Trobe University set aside an area of land for research and education toward the re-establishment of Australian flora and fauna. The La Trobe Wildlife Sanctuary is now more than 30 hectares of open woodland and wetlands and supports a diversity of indigenous flora and fauna. We are now one of the leading education facilities for primary and secondary schools offering a range of education programs. We also operate an indigenous plant nursery! The La Trobe Wildlife Sanctuary also conducts day time and nocturnal tours that you can experience and get some tips on your back yard habitat projects.

**Sanctuary Opening Hours:**

Monday - Friday: 10am - 3pm  
 Sunday: 10am - 3pm  
 Nocturnal Tours: By request (see web site)

**Nursery Opening Hours:**

Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sun: 10am - 3pm

**ENQUIRIES:**

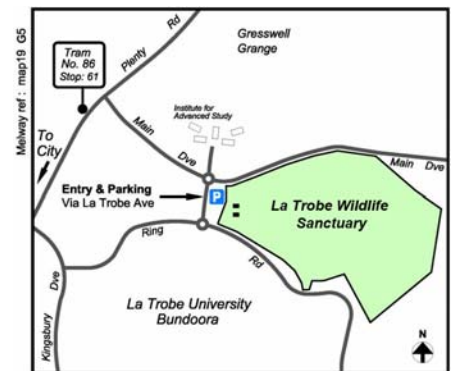
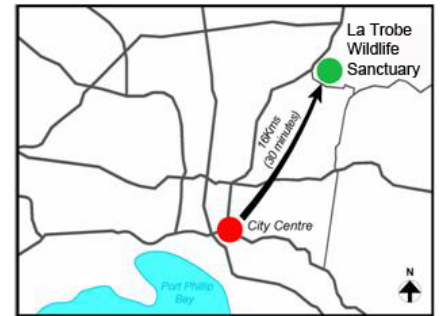
General Enquiries: (03) 9479 1206

Email: [wildlife@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:wildlife@latrobe.edu.au)

Web: [www.latrobe.edu.au/wildlife](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/wildlife)

**LOCATION:**

The La Trobe Wildlife Sanctuary, including the Indigenous plant nursery are located 16km North of Melbourne CBD. Melways Ref 19 G5... entry via La Trobe Avenue.



**Nesting Box Re-Order Form**

If you would like to order more Nesting Boxes, please complete this form and fax / post it to us, or send us an email at [nestbox@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:nestbox@latrobe.edu.au). For full listings and prices on our nesting boxes, please visit our web site or contact the La Trobe Wildlife Sanctuary.

**Name:**

**Postal Address:**

**PostCode:**

**Phone Contacts:**

**Email:**

**Credit Card details:**

**Card Type –**

<b>Number:</b>
<b>CCV:</b>
<b>Expiry Date:</b>
<b>Name on Card:</b>

<b>Product details:</b>			
<b>Type of Box:</b>	<b>Quant</b>	<b>Type of Box:</b>	<b>Quant</b>
Brushtail Possum Box		Vertical Parrot Box	
Ringtail Possum Box		Horizontal Parrot Box	
Sugar Glider Box		Duck Box	
Microbat Box		Kookaburra Box	
Feathertail Glider Box		Pardalote Box	
		Postage @ \$8.00 per box in Australia	
		<b>Total</b>	