NATURE'S VALLEY
CONSERVANCY / ULONDOLOZO / BEWAREA

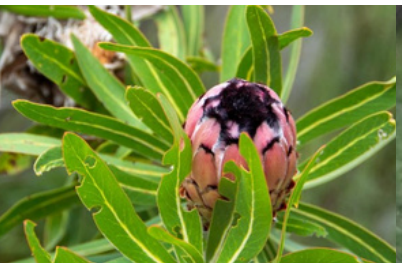
Indigenous Versus Exotic

We envisage a restored relationship between plants, insects, birds and people, through a collaborative indigenous plant corridor, that enhances and connects urban spaces so that communities and nature can thrive together.

Gardens planted with exotic plants can be resource-intensive and high maintenance, requiring frequent watering (especially in the Cape water-scarce areas), weeding and fertilisation (impact on the Groot River lagoon). Invasive alien species rapidly out-compete indigenous plants. It is an offence to have certain of these aliens on your property. Therefore, obtain advice on which species are to be controlled. Embrace the eco-conscious movement of planting indigenous for a garden that's kind to the earth and you.

A few reasons why to plant indigenous:

- Indigenous plants are hardy, even in drought
  - Once established, indigenous plants can eventually maintain themselves in poor soils with less or little water. Therefore, indigenous varieties are water saving. Find out which indigenous plants are also drought-resistant.
- The sweet smell of home
  - The added benefit of indigenous plants is their wonderful natural perfume. With careful garden planning, one can enjoy a fragrant garden throughout the year. Some of our favourites are freesias, scented agapanthus, night-scented gladioli, the wild honeysuckle tree, sweet salvias, traveller's joy, jasmine and the lemon-scented pelargonium.
- Indigenous plants make for practical gardening
  - Use indigenous greenery to block out sound, buildings and therefore transform your garden into a haven for wild animals and a tranquil place for your soul.
- They attract a lively community of birds and wildlife
  - Many indigenous plant species attract birds and wildlife with your colourful flowers, scent, fruit and insect life. This will allow for the natural pollination and life cycles to flourish. See the link to which indigenous plants are bird-friendly.
- Some indigenous plants can be used for medicinal purposes
  - Certain varieties are renowned for their medicinal properties by local tribes who have been using them as natural medicine for thousands of years. Tap into your local roots and learn which plants have medicinal properties and can be rubbed over your skin as a salve, brewed with your tea as a cold and flu remedy, or ground with other herbs as relief for all manner of ailments.
- Will allow for less fencing
  - Planting certain indigenous plants that are not edible by wild animals will encourage a village with less fencing and have the benefit of allowing free access across the conservancy to wild animals.






Going forward:

- To assist in the creation of an Indigenous Garden network that reconnects people with their place, purpose and pride in our natural heritage.
- To facilitate the movement of animals and insects across Nature's Valley environmentally and indigenous gardens which contribute to increased ecological function and biological diversity.
- To facilitate collaboration and cohesion between the various homeowners.
- To empower people from all walks of life to become environmental stewards and participate in restoring, preserving and connecting Nature's Valley precious biodiversity.

Have your property assessed by NVT for the following:

- Invasive alien plants.
- Indigenous plants.
  - How would the owner like to benefit? Butterflies, birds etc. this will influence replanting of new plants.
- Soil type.
- Possible creation of natural corridors with neighbours.
- Is your garden fenced (1. No, 2. Semi 3. Fully enclosed).
- Any prized plants.
- Create a new updated garden design with the help of NVT.

Local nurseries:

Phyl Martin Park in Nature's Valley: 044 531 6820

Redford Nursery: Richard 083 700 8612

Simply Green: Kerry 044 534 8554

Booklet on Invasive Plants and control methods



Plant Native

Choose your garden








Useful websites:

https://www.fynboslife.com/

https://archive.org/details/growfynbosplants00unse/page/n1/mode/2up

www.theindigenousgardener.co.za

https://www.fynboscorridors.org/

https://www.capecontours.co.za/designing-with-fynbos/

