

Wildlife thrives at Gracemere Lagoon

The site is recognised for its **abundance of waterfowl** and **migratory birds** with over 44 species recorded including some sea birds that occasionally visit.

Featured here are just some of the local animals.



Photo courtesy John Augusteyn

Salmon striped frog (*Limnodynastes salmini*) is brown-grey with dark spots and 3 pink-orange strips down the back. It spends lots of time underground and surfaces after rain where it hides under logs, bark and stones. The population of this frog has reduced in Australia over the past 50yrs.



Photo courtesy Ken Rutherford

Black swan (*Cygnus atratus*) is a large bird that eats leaves and the shoots of aquatic plants. You may see them flying in long lines.

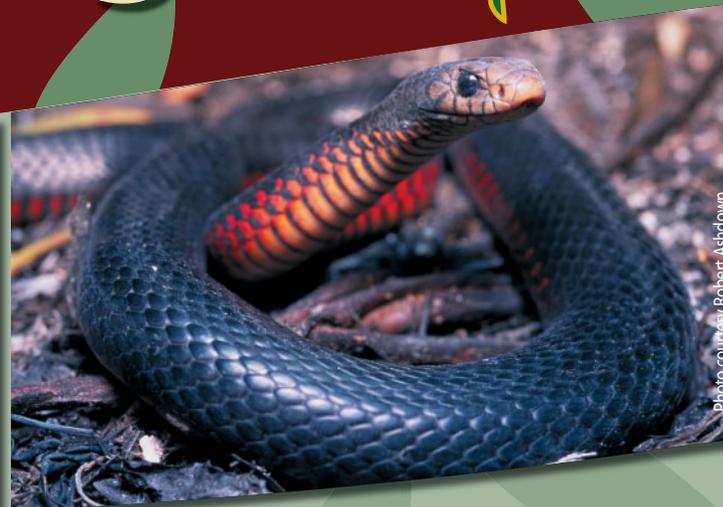


Photo courtesy Robert Ashdown

Red-bellied black snake (*Pseudechis porphyriacus*) is a venomous and dangerous land based snake. It is black with a red-pink belly and grows to about 1.5 metres. They feed on frogs, reptiles and small mammals.



Photo courtesy Craig Latta AFCC/BA Inc

Krefft's turtle (*Emydura macquarii krefftii*) can be found basking on a log by the edge of the lagoon or nearby creeks. Note the yellow stripe down the turtle's cheek.



Photo courtesy Allan Briggs

Little black cormorant (*Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*) is a slender bird that is dark and glossy. It feeds on fish and crustaceans by diving into the water. Watch for them flying in a 'V' formation.



Photo courtesy John Augusteyn

Spotted grass frog (*Limnodynastes tasmaniensis*) has olive green blotches on its back and may have a yellow-white stripe down the middle of its back. It likes to hide in floating vegetation and in dry times it shelters under rocks, logs or cracks in the ground.



Photo courtesy John Augusteyn

Ornate Burrowing Frog (*Limnodynastes ornatus*) varies from dark brown to pale grey with dark irregular markings with a light patch behind its eyes. It has small warts on the skin. Usually active after rain otherwise found in burrows.



Photo courtesy Ken Rutherford

Eastern grey kangaroo (*Macropus giganteus*) live in small mobs and are often found resting in the shade during the day and feeding at night. It eats grass, leaves and shoots of small trees. There are plenty of kangaroos and wallabies in the reserve.



Photo courtesy Allan Briggs

Plumed whistling-duck (*Dendrocygna eytoni*) can be identified by its long upswept buff plumes and a shrill whistling voice. It feeds on grasses mostly at night and rests in flocks by water during the day.

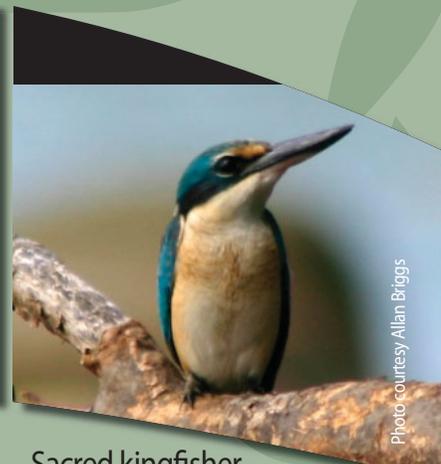


Photo courtesy Allan Briggs

Sacred kingfisher (*Todiramphus sanctus*) has a green head and back, a black stripe through the eye, blue wings and tail and buff underparts. It feeds on reptiles, insects and fish. They are usually alone unless it is breeding season.

Restoration project jointly supported by



For further information, please contact Fitzroy River and Coastal Catchments Inc. (www.frcc.org.au)