

# The Grove Library, WA



The Grove Library Exterior. Image credit: The Grove Library

## Library Service Overview

[The Grove Library](#) is jointly managed by the towns of Mosman Park and Cottesloe, and the Shire of Peppermint Grove in Western Australia. It is located on the First Nations land of the Whadjuk Nyoongar people.

## Policy on Environment and Sustainability

The sustainability practices of the library are guided by their owning council. The following resources detail the initiatives of the council, including the library.

- [Sustainability efforts by the Shire of Peppermint Grove](#)
- [Environment & Sustainability initiatives by the Town of Cottesloe](#)
- [Sustainability efforts by the Town of Mosman Park](#)

## Program/initiative/infrastructure Summary

The Grove Library notes its commitment to sustainability in its Vision Statement: 'Confident, connected communities leading the way in learning and sustainable living'. The Grove considers itself to have a special mission to educate the broader community about sustainability. In the library's events calendar, they have a category of events labelled 'Environmental Sustainability and 2021 events across the year'. These have included: 'Make New and Mend Saturdays', a crafting group reusing items and sponsored by Earth Carer Volunteers, 'Ace your Bulk Shopping' a Waste Watchers Workshop, 'WESROC: Native Verge Conversion Workshop', a community education event about converting verges into native gardens.

The Grove acquires and maintains a showcase collection of books and magazines on environmental issues and sustainable living, and these are identified with a green 'spot' on the spine. These resources are frequently highlighted when the Grove hosts green-themed activities and events. The Grove also regularly incorporates green themes in children's programming like a Halloween event themed as 'Hallowgreen'.

The Grove Library was one of the first public buildings in Australia to incorporate a wide range of environmentally sustainable initiatives such as the responsible demolition of existing buildings that allowed 80% of demolition materials to be salvaged. The design team had initially designed a 'basic' green building, but as the design developed through phases of consultation with stakeholders and user groups, the decision was taken to include as many green initiatives as possible.

The library building includes a climate sensitive design, with renewable energy generation and energy and water efficiency measures. The library includes environmentally friendly furnishings and fittings made from materials with low volatile organic compound emissions and purchased from suppliers with strong green credentials. To avoid the use of plastic at library events, plates, cups, glasses, knives, and forks are kept in commercial quantities. The gardens surrounding the building include a storm water treatment system including rain gardens, sensory gardens, and shade gardens. Some food plants are included in the plantings, and a green wall garden is included as a demonstration of a vertical landscape.