



Volunteers working for conservation

NOMINATIONS FOR FRIENDS OF PARKS AND NATURE INC. AWARDS 2025

The Friends of Parks and Nature Board continues to recognise the incredible contribution of its member groups across the State. These volunteers provide support to the management of SA parks and non-government reserves and parks, and the precious biodiversity they contain.

With the support of DEW, the Friends of Parks and Nature Board are now seeking nominations for five awards to recognise **outstanding group achievements** in five different categories.

All Friends of Parks and Nature groups contribute to making and keeping this State's parks system great, either with one-off activities or through ongoing working bees. The awards program is an opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge the exemplary contributions groups have made in the past year.

"The awards program is important in recognising the significant contribution our members make to their communities and the environment as a whole. Not only do these awards draw attention to the award recipients, they draw attention to the effort made by all Friends of Parks volunteers without whom our natural and cultural heritage would be the poorer". - Duncan MacKenzie, Friends of Parks and Nature President.

Awards will be presented in the following categories:

1. **Nature Foundation Habitat Restoration and Protection Award**
Projects/activities that protect/restore/monitor native plant communities and associated eco-systems, including but not limited to, pest plant control, re-vegetation, bush care etc.
2. **Wildlife Protection and Recovery Award**
Projects/activities that protect/restore/monitor native wildlife communities and their associated eco-systems.
3. **Innovation Award**
A new/different method/approach to activities that have an on-park biodiversity management outcome.
4. **Cultural and Structural Heritage Award**
Projects/activities that are aimed at preserving/renovating/restoring/protecting/interpreting cultural and/or structural heritage and assets on park.
5. **Adelaide Airport Community Engagement Award**
Projects/activities that reflect communicating/interpreting/educating aspects of the South Australian parks and reserves to the SA community.

How does the Awards Program work?

Anybody can nominate a Friends of Parks and Nature member group for an award – including nominating your own group. You will need to provide the relevant information and details of why/who you are nominating in the nomination form attached.

The awards are sponsored by Friends of Parks and Nature Inc., Nature Foundation, Adelaide Airport, and DEW with further sponsors to be confirmed. The gold winners in each category will receive a certificate and \$1,000.

Due to the high standard of nominations received in previous years, the Board has agreed to award a runner up 'special commendation' in each category. The recipients will receive a certificate and \$500.

Awards presentation

The presentation of the awards will be made at the 2025 Friends of Parks and Nature Awards Dinner, to be held on Saturday 30th August, 2025 from 6pm – 10pm at Adelaide Pavilion - Veale Gardens, Adelaide. Dinner booking details and tickets to be released shortly.

Judging Criteria

Nominations will be judged by the Friends of Parks and Nature Awards Committee, made up of Board members and DEW staff.

Please note:-

It is important that each application provides details of the work done and/or completed and the actual outcomes. Generalisations don't help the application as the Awards committee judges specific project and/or activity results.

The Awards committee does its very best to assess each application on its merits contained in the application, so the more detail of outcomes provided the better.

The committee therefore will be looking for actual evidence pertinent to the category the application is being submitted under i.e.

- The short to long-term impact/benefit of the project/activity (to the category)

Please also note that the Awards Committee will only judge one application per category, not the same application submitted under multiple categories so please choose the category you wish to submit your application under carefully.

Nominations close at 5pm Thursday July 31st 2025.

Please follow this link to nominate [2025 Friends of Parks and Nature Awards Nominations](#)

Please supply any relevant supporting documentation including photographs to DEWVolunteers@sa.gov.au

For more information, please contact Pam Smith, Friends of Parks and Nature Secretary, 08 8115 5629 DEWVolunteers@sa.gov.au