

SUBURBAN GARDEN

LANDSCAPING FOR BUSHFIRE:
GARDEN DESIGN & PLANT SELECTION



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NATIVE SHRUBS

Alyogyne huegelii (Lilac Hibiscus)
Banksia blechnifolia (Creeping Banksia)
Eremophila maculata (Emu Bush)
Philotheca 'Bournda Beauty' (Waxflower)

CLIPPED HEDGES

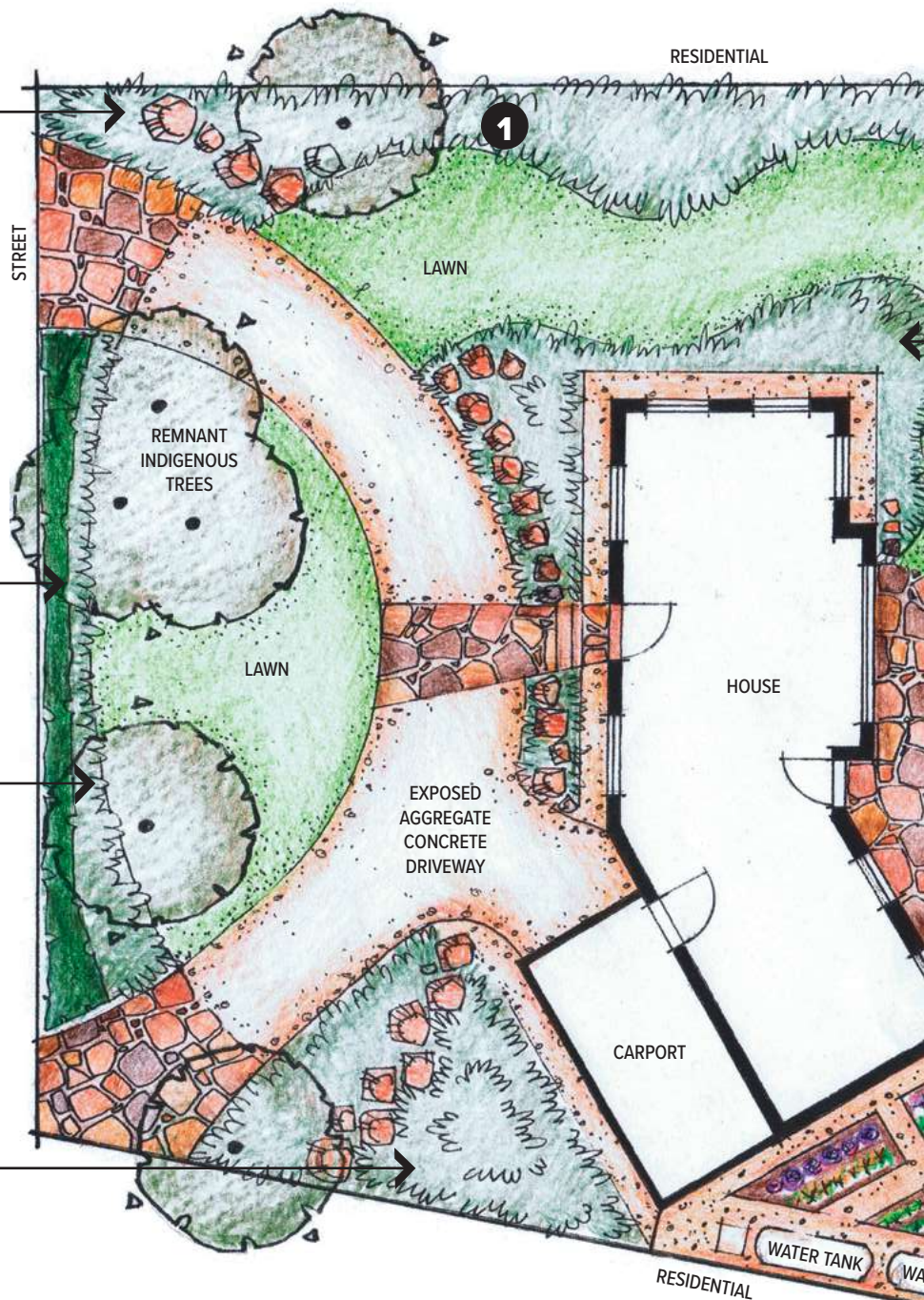
Acacia acinacea (Gold Dust Wattle)
Syzygium francisii 'Little Gem' (Dwarf Lily Pilly)
Westringia fruticosa (Native Rosemary)

NATIVE PERENNIALS

Brachyscome multifida (Cut-leaf Daisy)
Chrysocephalum apiculatum
(Common Everlasting)
Dampiera linearis (Common Dampiera)
Scaevola albida 'Mauve Clusters' (Fan Flower)

NATIVE SHRUBS

Banksia blechnifolia (Creeping Banksia)
Correa pulchella (Salmon Correa)
Crocea exalata (Small Crowea)
Eremophila maculata (Emu Bush)

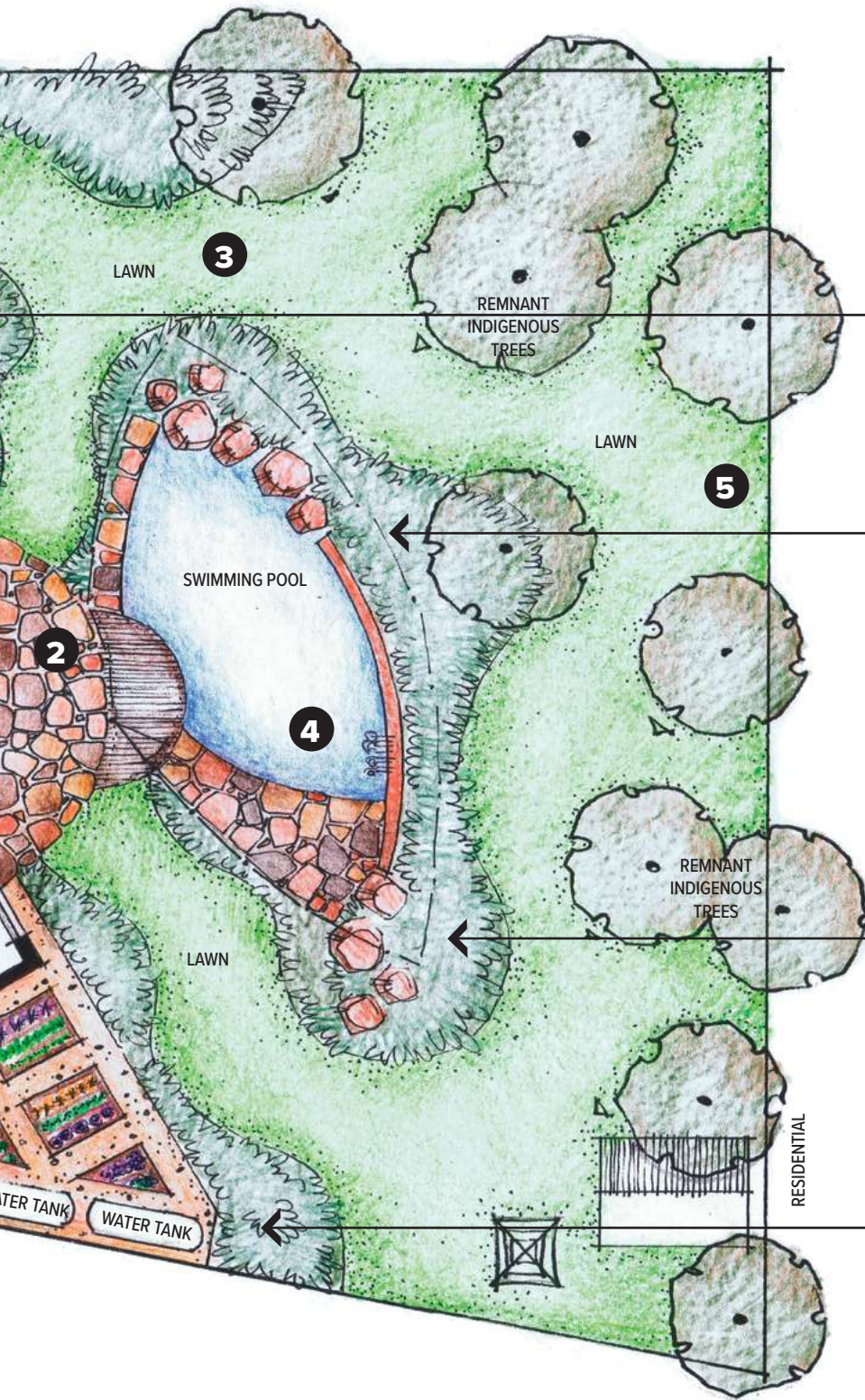


1

Avoid planting shrubs under trees. Instead use groundcovers with low flammability and low-growing succulents under trees to provide maximum separation between fuel at the ground level and the tree canopy.

2

Use decorative paving and gravel around the house to keep plants away from windows, doors and other vulnerable parts of the building.



**MOST LIKELY
FIRE DIRECTION**



HERBACEOUS PLANTS

- Aloe x spinosissimum*
- Chrysocephalum apiculatum* (Common Everlasting)
- Nepeta x faassenii* (Catmint)

ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS AND GRASSES

- Festuca glauca* (Blue Fescue)
- Cotinus 'Grace'* (Smoke Bush)
- Doryanthes excelsa* (Gynea Lily)

ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS AND GRASSES

- Doryanthes excelsa* (Gynea Lily)
- Euphorbia characias subsp. wulfenii* (Wulfen Spurge)
- Senecio vira-vira* (Dusty Miller)
- Festuca glauca* (Blue Fescue)

HERBACEOUS PLANTS

- Aloe x spinosissimum* (Spider Aloe)
- Chrysocephalum apiculatum* (Common Everlasting)
- Coreopsis 'Moonbeam'*
- Dianthus caryophyllus* (Pinks)

3

Use lawn areas to provide separation between garden beds. This breaks up the continuity of vegetation in the garden to prevent fuel corridors.

4

Locate landscaping features with low flammability such as pools, tennis courts or maintained lawn between the house and the most likely direction of a bushfire.

5

Clump trees to create at least two metres distance between tree canopies. This helps prevent fire spreading from tree to tree.

The location and arrangement of vegetation within a garden has a greater impact on how a bushfire will spread than the flammability of individual plants.

Use these four principles when designing your garden to reduce the risk of the garden contributing to house loss in a bushfire.

- **create defensible space**
- **remove flammable objects from around the house**
- **break up fuel continuity**
- **carefully select, locate and maintain trees**

Remember, a holistic approach to bushfire preparation is critical. While garden design and maintenance can improve the chances of a house surviving a bushfire, do not rely on these in isolation. In bushfire risk areas, on **Extreme** and **Catastrophic** days leaving early is always the safest option.

For more detail and to use CFA's online Plant Selection Key visit **cfa.vic.gov.au/plants** or or call the VicEmergency Hotline on **1800 226 226**