

Covenant benefits

- Contribution toward perpetual protection of natural values at local, state, national and international level.
- Exemption from land tax (for the area under covenant), subject to meeting requirements of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.
- Rate rebates in some council areas.
- Develop a deeper knowledge of your environment and improved land management skills.
- Salinity and erosion protection by retaining remnant native vegetation.
- Access to expert advice from a Conservation Program Officer within the Private Land Conservation Program, NRE Tas.
- Potential conservation project grants/funding.
- Knowing that you have protected your land for future generations.



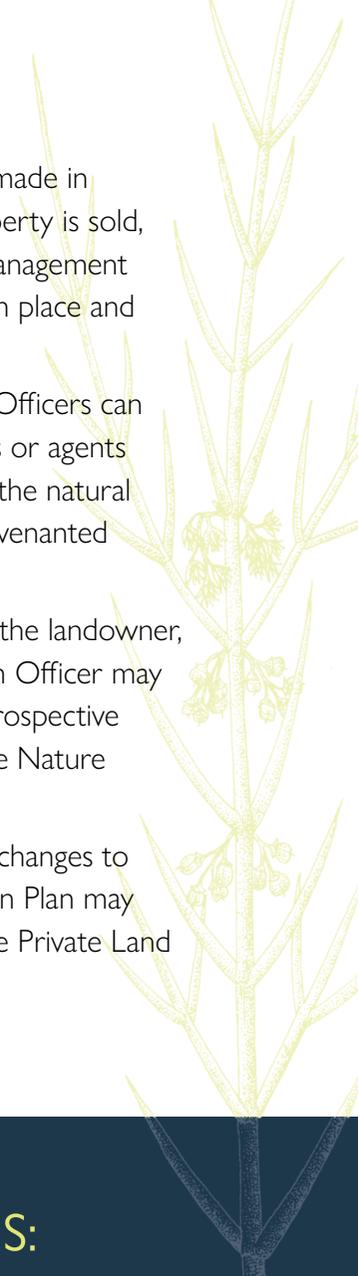
Buying/selling

Because covenants are made in perpetuity, when a property is sold, the covenant (and its management requirements) remains in place and binds any future owner.

Conservation Program Officers can provide potential buyers or agents with information about the natural values of a particular covenanted property.

With the permission of the landowner, a Conservation Program Officer may provide an agent or a prospective buyer with a copy of the Nature Conservation Plan.

In some circumstances, changes to the Nature Conservation Plan may be agreed upon with the Private Land Conservation Program.



Private Land Conservation Program (PLCP)



CONTACT US:

PrivateLandConservation.Enquiries@nre.tas.gov.au

<https://nre.tas.gov.au/conservation/conservation-on-private-land/private-land-conservation-program>

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Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania



What is a covenant?

A conservation covenant under Tasmania's *Nature Conservation Act 2002* is an effective way of protecting Tasmania's unique natural values on private land.

A covenant is a legal agreement attached to the title of a property that binds current and future owners to protect the natural values in perpetuity.

Covenants give peace of mind that important environmental values, such as native flora and fauna, natural wetlands, ecological communities and geo-conservation areas, will be safeguarded for future generations.

Covenanted areas contribute to both the National and Tasmanian Reserve Systems.



Want to establish a covenant?

The Private Land Conservation Program (PLCP) at NRE Tas maintains a register of expressions of interest for new voluntary conservation covenants and assesses these requests as resources allow.

Priority is generally given to areas of greater than 10 ha with high conservation value, such as properties containing threatened species and communities.

A Nature Conservation Plan is developed for each covenant by PLCP in consultation with the landowner. This plan outlines activities allowed on covenanted land.

Once a covenant is established, PLCP provides landowners with expert advice on their land's natural values and how to care for these values, and potential funding opportunities (e.g. for weed control or fencing).

If you would like to express your interest in establishing a conservation covenant, please provide: an address and/or title reference, contact information, and a brief description of what you know about the natural values on your land and email to:

PrivateLandConservation.Enquiries@nre.tas.gov.au

Is your property between 2-10 ha in size? You can still make a commitment to care for it!

Register your property with the Tasmanian Land Conservancy's Land for Wildlife scheme:

<https://tasland.org.au/programs/land-for-wildlife/>

Landowner responsibilities

Conservation covenants provide for the long-term protection and management of important natural values within the reserved area.

Covenant landowners have a legal obligation to abide by the terms of the covenant agreement.

Often there are responsibilities to ensure the natural values are maintained. These are set out in the Nature Conservation Plan and the covenant agreement.

Advice on these responsibilities is provided by PLCP, NRE Tas.

Some restricted activities can be approved by the relevant state Minister. These are detailed in the covenant documents and may include: planned burns, firewood collection, camp sites, fencing, stock shelter/grazing, walking tracks, the release of rehabilitated wildlife.

