

Gorge-ous Views



In November 2013, thick weed occupies the slope following previous work by MCMC and Darebin Council to remove invasive trees, in particular vigorously suckering Elms.



Before mulching in October 2014, plantings will help the fenceline 'disappear' as they grow.



It's all downhill from here...

Good establishment is evident in December. The seed from the dense native grass plantings above the fence are well placed to colonise bare soil downslope as the mulch breaks down in future years.

A steep challenge



The dense weeds prevent erosion but prevent establishment of indigenous vegetation.



The bare ground between plantings on the steep slope is vulnerable to weeds. But mulching the steep slope is a daunting prospect.



Mulch blowing contractors reduced the high labour and risk of barrowing 70 cubic metres of mulch. Coarse, recycled timber mulch was chosen for its superior ability to 'hold' onto a steep slope.



Planting unites two landscapes



Planting took place in June 2014 with the help of a community planting and a group of corporate volunteers.



By October, the plantings are flowering, providing an appropriate setting for signage that describes the process of revegetation and its impact on the surrounding landscape.



Indigenous overstorey, understorey and groundstorey plants will create a wildlife-friendly interface between the 'wild' Merri Creeks and the very traditional garden landscapes of Oldis Gardens.