



# Wodonga Urban Landcare Network

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## Network Bulletin #11 — April 2013

### Opportunities to be involved



**Join the Conversation: WULN is now Online!!** We have created a 'multi' site where people can access WULN projects such as the Sustainability Education Network, and where member groups can share news and group information. The new website is a place for everyone involved in Sustainability, Environment and Natural Resource Management to connect and share what's happening, what resources are available, local case studies, ideas and inspiration. The site is also a place for WULN to share Professional Development opportunities, funding opportunities and guided grant writing sessions, Landcare case studies, learning and project opportunities, local resource lists such as suppliers of plants and gear, local contacts lists for expertise in sustainability topics, Landcare groups and volunteers willing to work with local schools. Register with the new WULN website at <http://wodongaurbanlandfcarenetwork.org.au/wlsen/register/> and help begin the local conversation!



**Willow Park Biodiversity by Design project:** WULN congratulates the Friends of Willow Park on a successful application to the Communities for Nature Fund for this project. For further information on how to be involved go to [www.friendsofwillowpark.org.au/](http://www.friendsofwillowpark.org.au/)



**Felltimber Creek group:** Who's looking out for Felltimber Creek? We are! Join the new Felltimber Creek stewardship group to learn more about this beautiful creek, have a hand in planning to restore and improve the creek, get out and do some planting or weeding, meet people who share your interest, bring your skills and knowledge to bushland restoration and management, and learn skills from digital mapping to flora and fauna surveys. Contact Garry Knight to register your interest 0411 427 051 [garryknight3@bigpond.com](mailto:garryknight3@bigpond.com)



**Citizen Mentors wanted for the Building Regional Futures project - information sessions 29<sup>th</sup> April:** The Building Regional Futures project is an innovative proposal to the National Workforce Development Fund (Commonwealth Government) from AgriFood Skills Australia. The proposal offers development of new pathways to participation and employment for 200 people from backgrounds of disadvantage over two years in Albury/Wodonga. Volunteer participation in agriculture and natural resource management work would serve as the vehicle for developing skills and experience.

In recognition of the importance of mentors to support and encourage participation, the project will be strengthened by large scale recruitment of citizen-mentors. These mentors will be drawn from experienced locals, some retired, but particularly with backgrounds in farming, management and other local professions. Tertiary students will also be recruited as citizen-mentors. Albury-Wodonga Volunteer Resource Bureau will support this recruitment. The mentors will receive accredited and bespoke training based on existing modules and previous success. 100 citizen mentors will be recruited. Employers and organisations willing to support this project are invited to attend a workshop on 29 April from 10am in Albury. Individuals and organisations wishing to support citizen-mentoring are invited to attend an evening information session at Albury City Council from 6.30pm on 29 April.



**Local Landcare Conference, Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 9.30-4pm:** Celebrate at this FREE Landcare get-together presented by Eastern Murray Regional Landcare: 'Farms, Food, People and Nature: Sustainable Living – Farming, Food, Communities and the Environment'. Hothouse Theatre, Gateway Island. Featuring DAVID SUZUKI'S plenary video 'The Legacy' - a global call to arms, ALLAN CURTIS

'Bringing it Local' - group action and opportunities to improve our living, and LOCAL PRESENTERS on 3 themes: Sustainable Living, Agriculture and Environment

Details: [www.murraylandcare.com.au](http://www.murraylandcare.com.au) RSVP: Tuesday 7 May to Edwina Hayes on 02 6036 3181 [edwina-hayes@holbrooklandcare.org.au](mailto:edwina-hayes@holbrooklandcare.org.au)



**Milk Run, Sun 28th April:** Tangambalanga Lions Club invite you to walk, jog or run 5km or 10km along the High Country Rail Trail. Event supported by Murray Goulburn, Indigo Shire Council & Bonegilla Rail Trail Advisory Group. 10am Huon Reserve, High Country Rail Trail. Details: [www.parklands-alburywodonga.org.au](http://www.parklands-alburywodonga.org.au)



**National Volunteer Week Tours, Mon 13th and Fri 17th May:** Members of the general public are invited to check out some of the many volunteer projects that are underway around Albury Wodonga. Full day tour of Parklands projects including lunch. Details: [www.parklands-alburywodonga.org.au](http://www.parklands-alburywodonga.org.au)



**WULN Quarterly Gathering, Wed 15th May:** Hosted by Baranduda Landcare Group at Frayne College, Baranduda. 5.30pm for shared dinner and 'show and tell' of Baranduda Landcare/Frayne projects. Meeting 7-9pm. Learn and be inspired by the 9 Friends / Steward Groups and get support for your own park project through the Wodonga Urban Landcare Network. RSVP to WULN Secretary Jude Moore [secretary@wodongaurbanlandcarenetwork.org.au](mailto:secretary@wodongaurbanlandcarenetwork.org.au) or 0428565195



**Hume Charity Evening Wed 15th May:** Hume Building Society invites you to an exclusive advanced screening of the powerful documentary, Chasing Ice. Winner of over 30 awards worldwide, Chasing Ice is the story of one man's mission to change the tide of history by gathering undeniable evidence of our changing planet. Guest speaker Dr. Johnathan Howard, Head of School for Environmental Science, CSU will discuss climate change at a local level. All profits from the evening will go to [Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre](http://www.wirraminna.org.au), a local organisation dedicated to teaching thousands of children about our environment for the future.

Tickets \$30pp. Seats are limited, RSVP Wednesday 8 May 2013 including your method of payment to Anna Gill 02 6051 3366 or [marketing@humebuild.com.au](mailto:marketing@humebuild.com.au)



**Baranduda Landcare Group Nestbox Monitoring - Sunday 19th May:** 1.00pm – 3.00pm: All welcome. Meet at Jamieson Drive Reserve at Baranduda. Details at [wodongaurbanlandcarenetwork.org.au/blc/](http://wodongaurbanlandcarenetwork.org.au/blc/)



**AWMA Trail Running Series Race 2, Sun 19th May:** Members of the general public are invited to participate in this series which is being organized in partnership with the Albury Wodonga Military Area. Explore Federation Hill on the family 3km event or the challenging 13km with lots of altitude gain. On line registrations encouraged. Details: [www.parklands-alburywodonga.org.au](http://www.parklands-alburywodonga.org.au)



**Full Moon Cycle / Sandy Ck Bridge Dinner, Sat 25th May:** Join the High Country Harvest Festival by cycling by the light of the full moon from Huon Reserve to dine under the chilly stars on the Sandy Creek Bridge. 1950's tucker. Fundraiser for the Bonegilla and Tallangatta Rail Trail Advisory Groups. Details: [www.parklands-alburywodonga.org.au](http://www.parklands-alburywodonga.org.au)



**Annual Wodonga 'Transform-a-thon': Leneva Weed Blitz and Planting Day, Sunday 26th May:** An opportunity for young people to learn about environmental weeds and planting using indigenous plants, link in with local community environment groups, and raise funds for their Scout groups. 10am-12.30pm, followed by BBQ lunch. This is a WULN project and members are encouraged to attend and assist with supervision. Please contact [Anne](mailto:Anne) on 0428 565 195

## Learning Opportunities



**Mt Big Ben Eucalyptus identification field trip, Sunday 5th May:** 2.00pm – 5.00pm. Would you like to gain a basic understanding of how to identify our many and varied Eucalyptus species? Glenda Datson from Baranduda Landcare Group will lead this Field Trip to Mt Big Ben. Glenda is an Envi-

ronmental Horticulturist and has a wealth of knowledge to share. We will also look at vegetation classes and discuss seed collection techniques. Meet at corner of Mt Big Ben Lane and Dederang/Yackandandah Rd, Glen Creek. Please wear sturdy boots, hat and sunscreen. All participants will receive a copy of Costerman's Field Guide, *Trees of Victoria and Adjoining areas*. Limited places. **Bookings essential**, please contact Belinda Peace 0407 227 814 [belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au](mailto:belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au)



**How to Organise a National Tree Day event:** Would your group like to organise a National Tree Day event but you don't know how to go about it? FOWP invites interested WULN member groups to join our small National Tree Day sub committee. This will be an opportunity for your group to plan and organise your own event but do so with the help and support of others. If your group would like to take up this opportunity please contact Jenni Huber - [secretary@friendsofwillowpark.org.au](mailto:secretary@friendsofwillowpark.org.au)



**How to become a stallholder at a farmers' market:** Do you grow, raise, catch, forage or make fabulous food? Not sure how to get your product to market? The Victorian Farmers' Market Association (VFMA) is holding their next series of workshops for producers interested in becoming stallholders at Farmers' Markets throughout 2013. Pre-Application Workshop (\$30.00), New stallholder Workshop (\$50.00) including lunch. Workshop dates include 20th March Broadford, 20th June Melbourne, **15th August Wodonga**, 21<sup>st</sup> November Seymour. Other venues further afield also available. Bookings Ph.03 9020 8035 or email [tristan@vicfarmersmarkets.org.au](mailto:tristan@vicfarmersmarkets.org.au)

## Opportunities to have your say



**How can the North East CMA support Landcare into the future?** The North East CMA would like to include your ideas and knowledge in a Regional Landcare Support Plan that it is currently being developed. The CMA is undertaking a series of local (kitchen) conversations with Landcare and related group representatives until the end of April 2013. You are invited to book a conversation so that they can learn more about the needs and priorities of your Landcare group/s and local community that surrounds it. They would also like to know what you consider important for the future of your group. Please help the CMA to support Landcare to achieve what it aspires to achieve. For full details on booking a conversation, or contributing your views go to: [www.yoursaynecma.com.au](http://www.yoursaynecma.com.au).



**Paid to Pollute campaign:** This campaign aims to cut fossil fuel subsidies in the lead up to the federal budget. Led by Environment Victoria, campaign leaders are asking individuals to sign a petition and groups to sign a Joint Statement, to present to parliament within the week. Almost 2,000 people have signed the petition in the past week, and more and more groups have signed onto the Joint Statement including GetUp, The Australia Institute, the Public Health Association of Australia, and numerous local community and environment organisations - 27 in total. The Joint Statement is on the website - <http://paidtopollute.org.au/ptp-joint-statement>



**National Landcare Awards:** Nominations for the 2013 Victorian Landcare Awards are now open until 30 June 2013. There are 12 Landcare Awards' categories in Victoria in 2013, which are:

- Individual Landcarer Award
- Landcare Facilitator or Coordinator Award
- Innovation in Sustainable Farm Practices Award (plus 10 regional Innovation in Sustainable Farm Practices Awards – i.e. one Award for each CMA region)
- Partnerships with Landcare Award
- Junior Landcare Team Award
- Westpac Agribusiness Innovative Young Landcare Leader Award
- Indigenous Land Management Award
- Coastcare Award
- Qantas Landcare Innovative Community Group Award
- Landcare Network Award (VIC category only)
- Dr. Sidney Plowman Travel and Study Award (VIC category only)
- Heather Mitchell Memorial Fellowship (VIC category only)

Winners of the nine national award categories will go forward as Victoria's nominees at the biennial National Landcare Awards, which will take place in 2014. The Victorian Landcare Awards are a great oppor-

tunity for individual Landcarers, groups, networks, and schools etc to gain recognition for their hard work. For more information please visit <http://www.landcarevic.net.au/> or contact the 2013 Victorian Landcare Awards Coordinator (tel: 9637 9956 or email [cel.hub@dse.vic.gov.au](mailto:cel.hub@dse.vic.gov.au)).

## Resources



**Keith Ward presentation:** If you missed Keith Ward's excellent presentation on the Barmah Millewa Forest presented by the Murray Darling Freshwater Research Centre, here it is on Youtube. This is the sort of seminar that can only be given by someone who has had the privilege of working on one site for 23 years; Great photographs, great graphs, and great insights into an amazing place. Go to: <http://youtu.be/9oRPSrhRoS0>



**Eco Living Trailer available:** The Eco Living Trailer is a mobile display of all things about home sustainability. Wangaratta Council is the proud owner of the Eco Living Sustainability Education Trailer which is available for events around north east of Victoria. Powered by a stand-alone solar PV system, the Eco Living Trailer can be set up anywhere for any event. The trailer focuses on ways people can reduce electricity bills, conserve water and reduce waste in their household. New products and technologies such as LED lighting, retrofit window insulation, water heating systems, solar energy systems are just some of the information people will be able to find on the trailer. The Eco Living Trailer is interactive with hands-on displays, a TV with connection to the internet and BBQ for community events. There are plenty of attractions for children also such as; solar toys, themed temporary tattoos, a sustainability demonstration house with interactive props and free give-aways!

The Eco Living Trailer is accompanied by the Rural City of Wangaratta's Sustainability Education Officer who is very experienced at answering a wide range of queries. Hire rates and travel costs are applicable to locations outside of the Rural City of Wangaratta municipality which cover staff hours and trailer maintenance. Please contact the Sustainability Education Officer to discuss your needs and receive a quotation: Emma Avery (Fuchsen), Sustainability Education Officer, Rural City of Wangaratta, 03 5722 0755 [e.fuchsen@wangaratta.vic.gov.au](mailto:e.fuchsen@wangaratta.vic.gov.au)



**Landcare Notes:** There are 49 Landcare (information) Notes available as pdfs online via the Victorian Landcare Gateway website. These Landcare Notes cover topics such as establishing Landcare groups, planning, communication, project management, committee function and roles, keeping and managing financial records, and recruiting and retaining volunteers. The vast majority of these Notes were finalised in 2010. See the link on the Landcare Gateway for all the Landcare Notes <http://www.landcarevic.net.au/resources/for-groups/notes>



**New Department:** On Wednesday 9 April, 2013, the State Government announced changes to the Victorian Public Service that included DSE and DPI forming one new department by 1 July 2013 - the **Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI)**. The new department includes from the former department of Sustainability and Environment the following functions: Land and Fire; Regional Services, natural resources and environment; capital projects, desalination; water. Includes from the former Department of Primary Industries the following functions: agriculture, productivity and industry development; regulation and compliance, fisheries and game; business services. Co-ordinating Minister: Minister for Agriculture and Food Security (the Hon Peter Walsh) Other Ministers: Minister for Environment and Climate Change. Visit [www.premier.vic.gov.au](http://www.premier.vic.gov.au) for more information.



**Australian Government Climate Commission report 'The Critical Decade':** Key messages are:

1. There is no doubt that the climate is changing. The evidence is overwhelming and clear.
2. We are already seeing the social, economic and environmental impacts of a changing climate.
3. It is beyond reasonable doubt that human activities – the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation – are triggering the changes we are witnessing in the global climate.
4. This is the critical decade. Decisions we make from now to 2020 will determine the severity of climate change our children and grandchildren experience.

Read more here [http://climatecommission.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/The-Critical-Decade\\_Key-messages\\_RB-v2.pdf](http://climatecommission.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/The-Critical-Decade_Key-messages_RB-v2.pdf)



**Waterwatch clip - Measuring Turbidity:** Please see the link below to the youtube video put together at the last annual Waterwatch meeting. The method used in this clip is the universal method used throughout the State for measuring turbidity. It will be a good refresher for those of you that monitor turbidity and should provide some handy tips for when you are out monitoring next. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iit-VFfzp5M>

## Funding Opportunities



**Federal Community Environment Grants now open:** This program is part of the Australian Government's Caring for our Country initiative. The 2013-14 Community Environment Grants round will provide funding of up to \$50,000 to local community groups to help them take action to conserve and protect their natural environment.

Applications are open to existing and emerging community groups, including Indigenous organisations, to undertake on-ground activities and projects that will increase the skills and capacity of their communities to protect the natural environment. Applications close at midnight on Wednesday 8 May 2013. If you require any further information please visit [www.nrm.gov.au](http://www.nrm.gov.au) or phone 1800 552 008. For application forms and guidelines go to: <http://nrm.gov.au/funding/environment/ceg/index.html>



**Federal Carbon Farming Futures - Action on the Ground grants now open:** Action on the Ground is a component of the carbon tax funded package and it involves grants for on farm trials and demonstrations of carbon related practices. It is not for pure research (that is funded through 'Filling the Research Gap') but projects should link in with research that is already taking place. The broad areas that will be considered are Sequestration in vegetation, Sequestration in soils, CO<sub>2</sub> emission avoidance, Methane emission avoidance and Nitrous Oxide emission avoidance. Applications close at 5pm (AEST) Thursday 23 May 2013. Details are available on the DAFF website at [www.daff.gov.au/actionontheground](http://www.daff.gov.au/actionontheground).

## 4 Good Reasons to join WULN!

1

We can help your group access *Ideas and Resources* to inspire the community, find new members and start new projects.

2

We can extend our governance structure to *Support Your Group* with public liability insurance, managing finances and administration, planning, project management, evaluation and reporting.

3

We can provide a *Central repository and linkage point* for finding local information, people to help, finding funding for projects, bulk purchasing opportunities, lobbying, taking concerted action, etc.

4

Together we can *Work on the Bigger Picture*; planning for environmental activities that link across the whole of Wodonga.

Our Network is comprised of and managed by Wodonga based volunteer community groups who pay an annual membership fee. Individuals are also welcome to join our mailing list and register with our Website, at no cost. See our contact details on page 1.