

Wodonga Urban Landcare Network Inc.



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Network Bulletin #41— February 2016

Opportunities to be involved



Picnic area makeover for Killara: At last! The poor old collapsing poplars at the Killara picnic area on the Kiewa will soon be replaced and the whole area given a revamp. After ten years of fighting suckers and cleaning up dead branches as the poplars near the end of their life, a partnership between the North East Catchment Management Authority and Parklands will address the issues degrading the popular picnic spot. The poplars and seedling willows along the river will be removed over the coming months. Replacement plantings with more suitable species and new picnic furniture will bring the reserve up to standard for residents and visitors to enjoy. If you would like to get involved and get your hands dirty with this project please contact Ant Packer at info@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au



Local Bushfires - How you can Help: The recent bushfires in Barnawartha and the Indigo and Leneva Valleys are very close to home for Albury and Wodonga residents and many people are wondering how they can help. At present the need is for an immediate helping hand for both the people and animals affected by the fires. Rural residents and farmers are tackling the ground work of cleaning up the burnt landscape and feeding and containing livestock. If you can help this process in any way the best place to start is with Blaze Aid. There is already a Blaze Aid camp set up at the Barnawartha Football oval. Register with Blaze Aid [here](#) or contact the Camp Co-ordinator Greg Duncan, 0437 817 330 or 0404 800 823 Email blazeaid.barnawartha@gmail.com. Meanwhile the habitat in the burnt out bush areas has been decimated and homeless and hungry wildlife will be moving into unusual areas. Please treat them kindly with temporary food and shelter if possible and refer any injured birds or animals to local Wildlife Rescue organisations such as [Murray WIRES](#). In the coming months there will be Landcare events organised to provide nest boxes for wildlife, restore bush habitat and assist landholders to establish native bush corridors across the landscape. To register your interest in participating in these types of activities or receiving notification of events, please contact Parklands at info@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au, or the Wodonga Urban Landcare Network through anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au. Meanwhile, the [Wooragee Landcare Group](#) facebook page has regular updates on ways to help and upcoming events.



Getting the Nestbox Know-how - Parklands Albury Wodonga and the Wodonga Urban Landcare Network invite people to get involved with a new Friends of the Nestboxes team. Volunteers will be working with Parklands Rangers initially to roll out several funded Nestbox projects. The aim is to develop a community knowledge base so that the local nestbox network from backyards to parks and bush reserves is always viable, even when funded projects move on. Parklands Albury Wodonga Rangers and partners have a wealth of skills and knowledge to share on all things Nestbox, while the group will be supported with governance and volunteer insurance as part of the Wodonga Urban Landcare Network. Joining the Friends team might see you counting tree hollows or making nestboxes, identifying suitable sites or up a ladder installing boxes, mapping installed boxes with GPS or checking who is living where. There are organising roles like gathering materials for nestboxes or coordinating construction and installation, community roles like fundraising or spreading the word about nestboxes and how people can help, citizen science roles like uploading data to the Atlas of Living Australia. There is plenty to learn, plenty of knowledge to share and many different ways to contribute. If you, your school or your workplace would like to join the team please contact Wodonga Urban Landcare Network facilitator Anne Stelling at anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au or Anthea Packer at info@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au.



Fishy Trail Run transformed into the Riverina Lightning – Parklands Albury Wodonga have begun organising the 2016 Riverina Trail Running Series with renowned endurance athlete, coach and blogger Brendan Murray starting as Events Development Ranger. This role recognises the growing importance of social media in promotion and engagement with participants when trying to grow the

trail running series. Recently launched are the new event specific website www.riverinatrails.org/ and Facebook page www.facebook.com/Riverinaendurance.



Mountain Range to Wetlands Photographic Competition – Monday 1st February: To celebrate the beauty of North East Victoria and Wooragee in particular, Wooragee Landcare would like to invite adults, primary and secondary students to participate in a photographic competition. There will be separate sections for primary school, secondary school and adult competitors. Subject categories are Landscape, Biodiversity (Flora and Fauna) and Human Interest (eg farming, people enjoying the outdoors). There will be a special prize for photos taken in the Wooragee Valley. Prize money in each section is First \$100, Second \$75, Third \$50. Entries close 15 August 2016. Entry fee of \$2 per photo. Winners announced in September 2016. For further information contact Maureen Cooper at 03 57281311 or brigadoon.99@bigpond.com



NE Regional Sustainability Alliance (NERSA) Bi-monthly meeting – Monday 8th February, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, at Indigo Shire Offices, Mayday Hills Beechworth. The North East Regional Sustainability Alliance (NERSA) is a network of community sustainability groups which acts collaboratively with communities, agencies and organisations across the region. Meetings are held every two months in Beechworth. Anyone is welcome to attend.



WATCH meeting – Tuesday 9th February, 6.00 to 7.30, location, in central Albury, to be advised: WATCH (Wodonga & Albury Toward Climate Health) is a non-partisan climate advocacy group that meets every second month in central Albury. If you want to do something about climate change, you can. We offer plenty of opportunities to take positive action. Find out more by attending one of our friendly meetings. See also: watch.id.au. Please RSVP to Lizette on 60 59 4185, to be advised of venue.



Sunset Ride to Ludlows Reserve – Saturday 20th February: Help us celebrate the upgrade of the surface of the High Country Rail Trail from Ludlows to Huon Reserve and the completion of the Kiewa River boardwalk by taking part in a twilight ride along the High Country Rail Trail, ending with a picnic at Ludlows Reserve. This ride has no official starting time or location. Riders are encouraged to join the High Country Rail Trail at any location and travel to Ludlows Reserve arriving between 6.30pm and 7pm. There are many other locations where participants can join the trail between Wodonga, Baranduda and Tallangatta. A variety of off road bike paths through Wodonga as well as on road links to the High Country Rail Trail are possible along Thomas Mitchell Drive, Brockley Street, Pearce Street and White Box Rise. Access is also available at Whytes Road, Gullifer Lane, Pollards Road and Mahers Road but parking at these locations is limited. Bookings essential. Further details and registration at <http://www.highcountryrailtrail.org.au/>



Repair Café – Saturday 20th February, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm, at Wodonga Senior Citizens Centre, Havelock Street, Wodonga: Do you have a broken household item you'd like fixed but need a hand to do so? Then this is your big opportunity. Our Repair Café is a **free** meeting place to bring along broken household items such as furniture, clothing, battery-operated appliances and bikes and learn how to fix them with the help of experienced, volunteer repairers. You can also bring along small, blunt garden tools like secateurs and we'll show you how to sharpen them. The first Repair Café session, held in November 2015, was a great success - 33 items were brought in and 76% got fixed. Repair Cafes are a great way to save money, bypass landfill, extend the life of belongings and learn the art of repair. Toss it? No way. You can repair it at the Repair Café. No need to register, just come along with your broken item and we'll do our best. Repair Café Albury-Wodonga is proudly supported by Halve Waste. For more information see: <http://ecoportal.net.au/event/repair-cafe-2/> Two more sessions will be held on Friday 18 March, 1.00-4.00pm and Saturday 30 April, 10.00am-1.00pm.



Yack Community Garden – Food Swap – Open to all: Saturday 20th February, 9:30 am - 11:30 am, at Yackandandah Community Garden: Our regular monthly food swap – open to everyone of all ages. Everything edible welcome. People bring chooks, ducks, seeds, veg, eggs, fruit, magazines, books, tools, equipment, honey – you name it! If it's to do with gardening, self-sufficiency, DIY, permaculture and growing things generally, it can go on the produce table. Love to see you there.... This is usually run in conjunction with a workshop which starts at 10.30 a.m. Gold coin donation welcome!



City2City Run/Walk – Sunday 21st February: Hume Bank's City to City Run from Queen Elizabeth II Square on Dean Street, Albury to the Water Tower on High Street Wodonga with celebrations to continue over the road at The Cube Wodonga. All proceeds raised by the 2016 Hume Bank City2City Run Walk support Albury Wodonga Health and this year funds raised will be directed to the North

East Border Mental Health Service. Further information on the [City2City](#) site.



Local Food Network Dates 2016: The Local Food Network is a platform to share information, resources and improve partnerships to strengthen and sustain thriving local food systems in North East Victoria, NSW Riverina and surrounds. It recognises that a thriving local food system benefits producers, and the local economy and improves access to healthy foods for all community groups. We are a network that is open to all interested individuals and organisations. We meet bi-monthly at Gateway Health, 155 High St Wodonga on the fourth Thursday of the month from 11am to 1:30pm. New members are welcome. Dates for Meetings in 2016 are as follows:

- Thursday, February 25;
- Thursday, April 28;
- Thursday, June 30;
- Thursday, August 25; and,
- Thursday, October 20.



Lake Hume Cycle Challenge – Saturday 27th February at Noreuil Park: the Rotary Club of Lake Hume / Bellbridge's Lake Hume Cycle Challenge raises funds for the Albury-Wodonga Regional Cancer Centre. Now in its 16th year, this event has grown to become a major attraction for riders. There's a ride for everyone with 4 distance options, so bring along family members and riding mates to also join in. Check out the ride video on their new website: [Lake Hume Cycle Challenge](#). There will be some new aspects to the Event this year so keep informed in the lead up to the Event via the [Lake Hume Cycle Facebook](#) page



Clean Up Australia – Wodonga – Sunday 6th March: 9-11am, Jack Perry Park, White Box Rise. Wodonga Council invite you to join us to help clean up, fix up and conserve the environment. Meet at the Main Gate on Axford Boulevard, off Victoria Cross Parade at 9am. Further Enquiries to Kellie Miller kmiller@wodonga.vic.gov.au



Environment East Gippsland - Forests Forever Easter Ecology Camp – Friday to Monday 25- 28 March 2016. At Goongerah between the Snowy River and Errinundra National Parks. Every Easter for the past 30 years Environment East Gippsland has been showing people the best of East Gippsland's beautiful and complex forests as part of its Forests Forever ecology camps. These forests are some of the most ancient and beautiful forests in the world. They protect the soil, store carbon and produce clean water in abundance. They also provide critical habitat for endangered species. Over four days people can spotlight for nightlife, sample hearty home made soups, learn the history of the ongoing fight to save these forests and how they can help. A range of guided short and longer drives and walks into the forests are led by experts in forest conservation, wildlife and rainforests. Be awed by the beauty and complexity of these magnificent old forests and be outraged by their destruction. Participants camp on the Brodribb River surrounded by peppermint and manna gums. Full weekend \$75 for adults (\$50 concession & teens), One day only \$35 (\$25 concession & teens), Under 13s free.

Bookings essential. Information: [<forestsforever@eastgippsland.net.au>](mailto:forestsforever@eastgippsland.net.au) (preferred) or 03 5154 0145

<http://www.eastgippsland.net.au/forestsforever>



Movie Night – Black Hole Feature Documentary – Wednesday 30th March, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm at Regent Cinema, Albury: This riveting exposé documents the ongoing battle to save the last of an endangered woodland forest from being cleared to build one of the largest open cut coal mines in Australia. The Leard State Forest is considered a national biodiversity hotspot, and the mine would turn 3500 hectares of this forest into an open-cut coal pit. A four year battle has raged between Whitehaven Coal and an unlikely alliance of farmers, grandparents, war veterans, doctors, religious leaders, and environmentalists in one of the most sustained campaigns of non-violent civil disobedience in Australia.



11th Lake Bolac Eel Festival – Friday to Sunday 8th to 10th April: The festival theme for 2016 will be Aboriginal Land Management. Bill Gammage and Bruce Pascoe are keynote speakers. The Lake Bolac Eel Festival is a family-friendly music and art festival highlighting the environment and celebrating Indigenous culture. For information: <http://www.eelfestival.org.au/>



Volunteer Track Ranger Program - This program will run on Mount Bogong, Mount Feathertop, the Alpine Crossing between Falls Creek and Mount Hotham and possibly Mount Buffalo.

from 10 to 14 March 2016, and Easter, from 24 to 28 March 2016. You will need strong experience in remote area hiking and camping, high level of fitness, positive attitude, strong communication and interpersonal skills, a valid first aid certificate and must be willing to camp out for a minimum of 3 nights in remote Alpine areas. Volunteers may apply as couples or singles, in which case you will be paired up with a second track ranger to ensure safety. Volunteers must be fully self-sufficient. Download the Volunteer Track Ranger Role Description. To express interest or for further information email Iris Curran at mail-to:iris.curran@parks.vic.gov.au or phone 13 1963.

Learning Opportunities



Species on the Move International Conference – 9th to 12th February, Tasmania:

The global redistribution of our planets' species is widely recognised as a fingerprint of climate change, however, the mechanisms that underpin such range shifts are poorly understood. Additionally, the pervasiveness of range shifts, from poles to the equator, and depths of oceans to tops of mountains, provides us with unique opportunity to advance our theory of biogeography, evolutionary ecology and macroecology. We see this conference targeting scientists and natural resource managers working in the disciplines of global change, biogeography and evolution, and relevant in contexts of natural resource management, biodiversity management and conservation, and theoretical ecology. Species responses to climate change is a rapidly evolving research field, however, much of our progress is being made in independent research areas: e.g. understanding the process vs responding to the implications, terrestrial vs marine ecosystems, global meta-analyses vs in depth species-specific approaches. This interdisciplinary conference would develop connections between these parallel streams, and across temporal and spatial scales. If you or your organisation/society would like to help shape this exciting conference, please contact Dr Gretta Pecl (Gretta.Pecl@utas.edu.au) or Professor Stephen Williams (Stephen.Williams@jcu.edu.au) for more information. For more information visit [Species on the Move](#)



Permaculture Design Certificate Course – 25th February to 11th June at the Yackandandah Community Centre.

Mainly Thursday evenings with some weekends included. Cost \$640 per head. This course is designed for people who would like to lead a more organic and environmentally economical life style, with information and practical demonstration on ethics and design principles, seeds, fruit trees, rotation planting, orchards, edible food forest, companion planting, soils, hot compost, raised beds, worm farms, swales, drains, dams, tanks, storage, energy efficient housing, non toxic furnishing and products, AND lots more. It is being offered at an extremely low price when compared to others. The cost saving benefit to you has been made possible by asking local people with specialty knowledge, experience and passion to speak and pass on their local insight. The tutors have a combined experience in Permaculture of over 70 years which includes teaching, demonstrating and practical hands plus designing for themselves and other people's properties. They have undergone the pitfalls and the successes of permaculture, and have the knowledge and the know how to help and instruct you. For more information or to book, phone Karen on 0412605615, or email Susan at susanh0421@gmail.com.



Alpine Valleys Community Leadership Program

- This is a seven-day program and covers community leadership, conflict resolution, governance, community capacity and resilience and trends in the NRM sector. It includes a two-day field trip looking at community leadership first hand. This is an excellent opportunity to increase your networks across the regions as well as your ability to lead in the community and to become more confident in your everyday life. By being part of this course you will have a great opportunity to meet people working in Agriculture, Landcare and other Natural Resource Management areas. This year the program is open to applicants in the Goulburn, Broken and North East CMA regions and is being delivered by the AVCLP in partnership with Goulburn Murray Community Leadership. It will run over seven sessions from March to June 2016, each 2 - 3 weeks apart. The cost of the program is \$200 plus GST. This cost covers your catering at all sessions, the two-day field trip and all course resources. Applications for the program close on Friday 12 February 2016 - places are limited. For further information and to enrol, please contact: Kelly Behrens, Sustainable Agriculture Project Officer, North East Catchment Management Authority. Phone: 02 6043 7627 M: 0427 351 411 or Kelly.behrens@necma.vic.gov.au. This project is supported by the North East and Goulburn Broken CMA's through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.



4-month Social Change 101 Alpine/Indigo Region Program

provides a unique opportunity for up to 14 individuals to gain the skills and networks needed to develop a social venture. Running from July – October 2016, it is designed for socially minded, entrepreneurial individuals looking to develop an idea or grow a social venture or those innovating from within an established organi-

sation, including NGO managers and decision makers, who are looking to transform a specific program within their organisation. The program is designed to benefit communities affected by the 2009 Victorian bushfires, and is specifically for people living in the Alpine / Indigo region. If you are, then please [register your interest here](#). You can also contact our Student Services Team: studentservices@sse.org.au



Link Festival: 7th to 8th March 2016 Melbourne & 11th March, Sydney: Link Festival is the premier event for anyone interested in design, technology and social change and it brings together Australia's leading and emerging social innovators and future makers. Now an annual event, past Link Festivals featured an international line-up of speakers including Bunker Roy from the Barefoot College in India, an organisation training illiterate women in developing nations to become solar engineers; Australia's Father Bob McGuire; Antarctic adventurer and sustainability advocate Tim Jarvis. Link Festival is led by Engineers Without Borders and Wildwon. At Link you will experience hands-on workshops, immersive sessions, create genuine connections and hear from inspiring speakers. Everyone who attends will leave equipped with the knowledge and networks necessary to apply their skills to solving real world challenges. After the last year's sellout event, we're excited to announce in addition to the main event in Melbourne, Link Festival is going on tour to Sydney in 2016. Check out the details for The Sydney Session [here](#). For more information visit [Link Festival](#).



Wind Industry Forum 2016 - 17 March, Melbourne: The Clean Energy Council's third annual Wind Industry Forum brings wind industry specialists together to share their knowledge and work towards technical excellence in the local industry. The Forum is Australia's only technical event for the wind industry. Aimed at the hundreds of Australians who design, plan, build and operate our wind farms, the event brings together experts from a range of fields to share ideas and continually improve our industry. Come along to speak or hear about electrical connection, turbine design innovations, planning rules, noise and wind measurement techniques and more. For more information visit [2016 Wind Industry Forum](#). We are calling for industry experts who are interested in speaking at the 2016 Wind Industry Forum. If there is a particular topic or project you would like to share at the event please complete our [call for speakers form](#). For more information visit [2016 Wind Industry Forum](#)



Solar Energy Exhibition & Conference 2016 – 4th to 5th May: Melbourne Exhibition Centre. The 54th annual Australian Solar Council industry conference & exhibition is a showcase of the people, projects and products that are driving solar and storage to new heights of innovation and excellence. Brought to you by the peak solar and storage bodies, the Australian Solar Council and Australian Energy Storage Council, Solar Energy 2016 brings together the leading speakers, trainers, researchers and industry movers and shakers in a 2-day event that promises to satisfy anyone involved in the solar sector. <http://www.solarexpo.com.au/about-solar-2016-exhibition-conference/>



Solar Storage Exhibition and Conference — 1st and 2nd June: Australian Technology Park, Sydney. The event will focus on the energy storage industry at all levels – from utility scale to residential solutions as well as the emerging electric vehicle markets. The exhibition will be free to attend, and will include some of world's leading companies. For more information visit [Australian Energy Storage Conference and Exhibition](#)



8th Australian Stream Management Conference – Sunday, 31st July to Wednesday, 3rd August: this will be held in the Blue Mountains, New South Wales and is being convened by the River Basin Management Society with support from the Integrated Catchment Management Foundation. The 2016 event will provide the opportunity to discuss recent developments and challenges in stream management, in the context of experiences from the last two decades and beyond. Focus areas will include the role of physical interventions, catchment and riparian management, environmental flows, community expectations from stream systems, drought and flood recovery policy, and monitoring and evaluation programs. Further information about 8ASM will be provided shortly. However, in the meantime, if you would like to express your interest in submitting a Conference Paper or becoming a Conference supporter, please contact GEMS Event Management on +61 2 9744 5252 or email lbarker@gemspl.com.au.

Resources & Inspiration



Talking Wild Trout videos now available: 10 key presentations from the 'Talking Wild Trout' Conference in November at Mansfield are now available via the link below. The conference showcased learnings from the first year of a three year project, which is investigating wild trout populations across Victoria. Some really interesting research results around replacing native plants on stream banks. <https://t.e2ma.net/click/be46q/v91t6h/vd99yd>



Hot off the press - Updated Regional Bushlands Map: Parklands Albury Wodonga is pleased to advise that the popular A2 brochure of the regional bushlands (Woomargana to Albury Wodonga to Tangambalanga to Shelley) has been updated and printed. Download low resolution copies from our website: [Regional Bushlands](#) or [High Country Rail Trail](#). Hard copies will be available at the Albury and Wodonga Visitor Information Centres and Parklands Albury Wodonga from mid January 2016.



Regional Riparian Action Plan launched: Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water, Lisa Neville, has launched the Regional Riparian Action Plan, a new five-year plan to improve the health of Victoria's rivers, wetlands and estuaries. This plan outlines priority riparian management outcomes to be achieved across regional Victoria from 2015-16 to 2019-20. The plan aims to accelerate on-ground riparian work, such as stock management fencing, revegetation, weed management and the provision of off-stream stock watering infrastructure. It also has new initiatives to improve the management of riparian land. The action plan was developed in consultation with key stakeholders including catchment management authorities, Traditional Owners, Victorian Landcare Council, Environment Victoria, Victorian National Parks Association, and the Victorian Farmers Federation. See <http://delwp.vic.gov.au/regional-riparian-action-plan> for more details and to download a copy the action plan.



New SEED unit - Rubbish - YOU are the difference: This unit takes students through past practice in regards to rubbish disposal in order to develop an appreciation and understanding of present practices including organics collections and recycling of e-waste. It also challenges students to think about what they will do in the future. Linked to AusVELS, this unit is appropriate for years 5 through to 10. Find it on the [SEED website](#)



AWA Water Educators Kit v1 - Linked to the Australian Curriculum, this kit gives many lesson plans which cover the water cycle, catchments, water sources, treatment of drinking water, treatment of waste water, water management, water uses and using water wisely. Very easy to follow. Click on the link: [AWA Water Educators Kit v1 \(678 KB\)](#)

Funding Opportunities



Community Impact Grants program: The Community Impact Grants program aims to empower community organisations and individuals to grow ideas in an innovative and creative way, as well as looking to improve the city. An individual can apply for a grant for less than \$500 by telling the council about your idea. Community organisations, workplaces and individuals auspiced by a community organisation can apply for grants ranging from \$500 to \$5000. The grant program links to the outcomes and key priorities in the Council Plan. The program provides funding to support projects/events relating to Building stronger communities; Environmental sustainability; Community events; and Arts and culture.

All events, activities and projects must be held in the Wodonga municipality. See more at: <http://www.wodonga.vic.gov.au/about-us/grants-funds/cigp.asp#sthash.V8HynfKY.dpuf>



Victorian Litter Plan - Litter Innovation Fund: Round 1 grants now open: The Victorian Litter Innovation Fund provides support for the Victorian community, including government, business, not-for-profit organisations, social enterprises and schools, to fund innovative approaches that prevent and reduce the impact of litter and illegal dumping. Organisations are eligible to apply for grants of up to \$20,000 for innovative solutions to litter and illegal dumping that are delivered through a partnership approach. Projects must have at least three or more of the following seven elements of the Victorian Litter Action Alliance (VLAA) best practice model for litter prevention: Education, Infrastructure, Enforcement, Incentives, Working together, Good communication, Monitoring and evaluation. The Fund is a \$700,000 package, and grants will be offered over two grant rounds. Each grant round will involve a two stage application process. If you have any enquiries about the Litter Innovation Fund please email grants.enquiries@sustainability.vic.gov.au and quote "Litter Innovation Fund" or phone 1300 363 744 and ask to speak to a grants representative.



Fisheries Victoria - Recreational Fishing Grants Large Grants Program: Submissions are now open. Submissions close 5:00PM 29 February 2016 This program provides funding for projects in one or more of the following project areas:

- recreational fishing access and facilities;
- recreational fisheries' sustainability and habitat improvement;
- recreational fisheries-related education, information and training; and
- recreational fisheries research.

Further Information go to [Fisheries Victoria](#)

Opportunities to have your say



Victorian Landcare and Catchment Management Magazine : Invitation to contribute. The Autumn 2016 issue will feature stories on invasive plants and animals and the editorial team are interested in hearing the experiences of Friends, Landcare Groups and Networks and Landholders working on these challenging issues. Contributions are welcomed and can be sent to Carrie Tiffany <editorviclandcare@gmail.com> by Friday 5 Feb 2016.



Public comment sought on impact of rabbits: The Australian Government's Minister for the Environment has released the draft *Threat abatement plan for competition and land degradation by rabbits* for public comment. Also released is an associated background document. See the Department of Environment's [website](#) for more information and the submission guidelines. Note - the public comment period closes on **16 March 2016**.



Victorian Cycling Strategy - seeking submissions: The Victorian Government is committed on delivering projects and programs that focus on safety and increase cycling participation in Victoria. The Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources is leading an update of the Victorian Cycling Strategy and developing a new Cycling Action Plan. The Department is seeking your views on how to strengthen the following key elements: encouraging cycling participation, improving cyclists safety, promoting the health benefits of cycling, highlighting the environmental benefits of cycling, growing cycle tourism in regional Victoria, and planning networks and prioritising investment. For more information or to register for a workshop, visit economicdevelopment.vic.gov.au/cycling-strategy or email cycling.strategy@ecodev.vic.gov.au

2015: the year in review from the Wodonga Urban Landcare Network

Membership: 16 Friends and Landcare groups based in Wodonga-

3117 local people involved in Landcare

Events: Planting days - regular working bees – park maintenance – woody weeding - group meetings – site inspections – films – park runs – guided walks – plant propagation – information nights – community BBQs – water watch – park clean ups – social nights – workshops/training – launches – working with students – nursery construction -

500 events held, with 11066 participants

Planting & Weeding: Jayfields Nursery – Sandy Creek Trees – Park Lane Nursery – Our Native Garden – Wodonga Plant Farm – Wodonga Council -

57,465 plants planted on approx. 53ha - 94ha weeds treated

Training: **92 on-the-job training activities or workshops held**

Funding: Communities for Nature Grants (Birdscaping the Wodonga Rail Trail, Gateway Island Grasslands, Schools Ecosystems Plantings, Ground Ready Revegetation, Middle Creek) - Victorian Landcare Grants (Middle Creek willow removal, WULN capacity building, group maintenance) - 20 Million Trees - Green Army x 3 teams – Local Landscape Enhancement Grants (David Winterbottom Park, Willow Park) – Wodonga Council Neighbourhood Power and Innovations grants (David Winterbottom Park, Our Native Garden) -

21 applications submitted - 17 projects funded

Grants to the value of \$154,960 plus 3 Green Army teams

On-ground projects: **32 separate on-ground projects in Wodonga throughout the year**

