

Wodonga Urban Landcare Network Inc.



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Network Bulletin #29— January 2015

Opportunities to be involved



Friends of Willow Park Social Night - Friday 6th Feb: 6.15pm, German, Austrian, Australian Club, 5 McFarland Road, Wodonga. Everyone is invited to the Friends of Willow Park Social Night held each month on the Friday before Community Gardening.



Wodonga Backyard Produce Swap – Every Saturday until March 21st: 11am-12pm, Wodonga Council Offices Car Park (near the front steps). Everyone welcome. Bring along whatever produce you have to share.



Birdlife O&M Wonga Wetlands Outing – Saturday 7th Feb: Late afternoon outing to Wonga Wetlands. Meet at Wetlands gateway, Riverina H'wy (Howlong Road), 3.5 km west of Albury, at 4:00 pm



Sumsion Gardens Recycled Floating Island Artists Talk - Saturday 7th February: 11am, Sumsion Gardens lake. Art and Landcare come together! As part of the 'Halve the waste double the creativity: Regional creative recycling project' artist Susie Losch will create a floating island constructed from recycled objects and site specific plants. The island will be placed in the lake at Sumsion Gardens and become a small natural spectacle, home to local bird life and become its own eco – system within the lake. The project demonstrates the complexities of replicating nature and the creative possibilities of rubbish. People are invited to attend an artist talk on Saturday 7 February, 2015 at 11am, when the artist Susie Losch will take people through the journey of creating the island and her learning's along the way.



Community Gardening in the Park and Waterwatch, Sunday 8th Feb: 9.30-11.30 with Friends of Willow Park - Meet near the BBQ in Willow Park for a variety of gardening activities in Willow Park, including planting, mulching, weeding (and chatting)... BYO Water, sunscreen and hat. Stay for morning tea after gardening.



Albury Wodonga Field Naturalists Club Wetlands walk- Saturday 14th Feb: Meet 4pm at Wonga Wetlands car park. BYO light refreshments. Committee ph 0260 2212120



Albury Wodonga Field Naturalists Club AGM - Friday 20th Feb: commencing 7pm, Age Concern Building, Townsend Street, Albury NSW. Contribution toward supper would be appreciated. Contact Committee 0260 212120.



Yackandandah Food Swap and Seed Saving Workshop – Saturday 21st Feb: The monthly Yackandandah Community Food Swap is held on a regular third Saturday of the month 9.30 to 11am at the community garden on Railway Avenue (opposite the Courthouse and next to the swimming pool). This month's workshop is Seed Saving with community garden member Neil Padbury. Workshop starts at 10am and runs for an hour or so. Check out <http://yackandandahcg.blogspot.com.au/> for more info about the community garden.



Sumsion Gardens Botanical art workshop: Sunday, 22nd February: 3pm – 7pm, Sum-

sion Gardens lake. Art and Landcare come together! As part of the 'Halve the waste double the creativity: Regional creative recycling project' artist Susie Losch will create a floating island constructed from recycled objects and site specific plants. The island will be placed in the lake at Sumsion Gardens and become a small natural spectacle, home to local bird life and become its own eco – system within the lake. The project demonstrates the complexities of replicating nature and the creative possibilities of rubbish. People are invited to attend a Botanical Art workshop facilitated by local Artist Vicki Luke. Cost \$5.00 per participant



Albury Wodonga Field Naturalists Club Wetlands Walk - Saturday 28th Feb: Commencing 9am. Meet at the Boat Ramp, Kremur Street, West Albury NSW. Destination West Albury Wetlands. BYO morning tea. Contact Veronica 0260 212120



Clean Up Australia Day – Sunday 1st March: Clean Up Australia Day encourages all Australians to take to their local park, beach, bushland or streets and help collect rubbish. Individuals and local groups can either organise a Clean Up Site or volunteer to join an existing Site. Register a clean up site and Wodonga Council will assist with rubbish removal after your event! <http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/>



Parks Week – 9th to 15th March: Watch this space for details of a suite of Parks Week activities being planned by our local organizations, including the **Ten Thousand Tree Challenge** from the Workplaces in Open Spaces team!



Earth Hour - Saturday 28th March: 8.30-9.30p.m. Earth Hour is requesting that Landcare groups across Australia join in calling for our country to transition from fossil fuels like coal and gas to renewable energy's like wind and solar. Landcare's role is to protect, restore and sustain the productivity and value of Australia's natural environment by supporting the Earth Hour campaign you will be doing just that. You can show your support for cutting carbon pollution and tackling global warming for the sake of our food and farmers by requesting and encouraging local Landcare groups take part in Earth Hour on Saturday, March 28, 2015 from 8.30p.m.-9.30p.m. Thousands of food related events and Earth Hour dinners will be taking place around the country reminding Aussies how our food and farming is being impacted by global warming. For more information and ideas see the [Earth Hour website](#).



Building a Local Food Future forum - Friday 1st May: Save the date! The North East Regional Landcare Facilitators in partnership with Healthy Together Wodonga are hosting a forum in Wodonga on Friday 1st May. The forum will cover a wide range of topics relating to food security, including sustainable long-term food production, food access for all & growing a local food economy. Julian Cribb, author of "The Coming Famine", will be a keynote speaker.



Local Food Network North East and Riverina: Meetings in 2015 will be held bi-monthly on the 4th Thursday commencing Jan 22, 11am to 1:30pm with the room booked until 2:30 for networking. Dates: Jan 22, March 26, May 28, July 22, Sept 24, Nov 26. All meetings will be held in the basement meeting room at Gateway Health – 155 High St Wodonga. Enter via the reception area and go downstairs past Dental Health – the meeting room is to the left of Dental Health reception. All Welcome. Further information contact Anna Mackinlay 02 6024 5792, Anna.MacKinlay@gatewayhealth.org.au



Squirrel Glider Urban Nest Box Project - Thurgoona and Splitters Creek: Do you live in a built up area of Thurgoona or Splitters Creek, NSW? Do you want to help conserve local Squirrel Gliders, a native animal threatened with extinction? Does your property have a large tree that is within safe gliding distance (approx 40m) to gum trees in a neighbouring park, reserve, or roadside? If you answered YES to the above questions you may be eligible to receive a FREE nest box to be installed on your property. Take part in this unique conservation program involving installation of 100 nest boxes in backyards around Thurgoona and Splitters Creek, known Squirrel Glider habitat. These specially designed nest boxes will compliment tree hollows, their preferred but scarce habitat. The project closing date is mid-May 2015 or when the nest boxes are fully allocated. To find out more background to the program and to fill out the Expression of interest (EOI) form visit <http://www.alburyconservationco.org.au/projects/squirrel-glider-urban-ne...> Contact: Sam Niedra, Project co-ordinator - sam@nct.org.au, M 0448 806 256



Workplaces in Open Spaces – Linking workplace volunteers to local outdoor projects:

Workplaces in Open Spaces is an initiative that has been jointly created by Wodonga Urban Landcare Network, Parklands Albury Wodonga, Wodonga Council, Healthy Together Wodonga (Wodonga Council and Gateway Health) and Be Active (VicHealth). The program engages workplaces to improve Wodonga's open spaces and encourage employee health and well-being. By doing this, the partners believe they can help to create friendly, usable spaces that enhance civic pride and community ownership.

The activities that workplaces can participate in range from tree planting and landscaping to installing small infrastructure and equipment. They can be undertaken in a timeframe and on a scale to suit the workplace and its employees. Projects can either be a short-term or long-term arrangement where a company might build a relationship with a particular open space over a period of time.

Workplaces can select the open space they would like to volunteer in, or one can be matched to them depending on their needs and requirements. For more information see the [WiOS web-page](#) or contact Wodonga Council's volunteer co-ordinator on (02) 6022 9300.



Our Native Garden Nursery – Wednesday and Sunday sessions:

ONG has now moved to the Wodonga Transfer Station and is a hive of activity as propagating beds are set up and seedling production gets underway for Autumn planting. Community members are most welcome to get involved with volunteer workshops running Wednesdays 10am-2pm and Sundays 10.30-1pm. Volunteers learn about native seed collecting, production horticulture and nursery management with Australian native plants, and share in the benefits of dyl plant growing. Groups and schools are welcome to book in for these free workshops and have a portion of the seedlings they produce donated to the project of their choice. Please contact Our Native Garden on 0418579331 for further information. Keep up to date via the ONG website at <http://ournativegarden.com.au/>



Turning over a new leaf in 2015?

Looking to make a useful contribution? WULN can introduce you to the Friends and Landcare groups throughout Wodonga; all community run groups consisting of people with an interest in improving our local environment. No expertise necessary, just interest and willingness to learn and participate, as and when you can. For further information please contact Anne Stelling, WULN facilitator anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au 0428 565 195

Learning Opportunities



Threatened freshwater fish video conference - Thursday 5th Feb: 9.45 am - finish 12.00

pm. Speakers include Nick Whiterod - Aquasave / Nature Glenelg Trust, Zeb Tonkin - Arthur Rylah Institute and Iain Ellis Murray - Darling Freshwater Research Centre. Videoconference locations include: Ararat, Bairnsdale, Ballarat, Benalla, Bendigo, Colac, Geelong, Hamilton, Heywood / Portland, Horsham, Irymple / Mildura, Melbourne, Orbost, Traralgon, Warrnambool, Wodonga, Yarram. To register or for more details go to http://www.swiff.net.au/cb_pages/new_agenda_items.php



Turtle Information Session at Kergunyah Hall - Friday 6th Feb

Kergunyah will be hosting a Turtle Information session with a guest speaker from the voluntary association "Turtles Australia". We will kick off with a BBQ at 7.00pm. This will be followed by an information session. This will be an opportunity to learn about the biology of freshwater turtles, identification, threats and how to enhance and protect their habitat.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL – RSVP by 4th Feb. to Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814

belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au

For more information about Turtles Australia, go to: <http://www.turtlesaustralia.org.au/>



Alpine Valleys Landcare Leadership Program:

The North East Regional Landcare Facilitator Project has invested in bringing the Alpine Valleys Community Landcare Leadership Program to you in 2015. As a result of the success of the initial Community Landcare Leadership Program, delivered by Alpine Valleys Community Leadership Program in 2013-14, a second program will be delivered in 2015. The Community Landcare Leadership Program will consist of 7 full day sessions of skills workshops with high profile guest speakers between February and June 2015.

Applications are now open for participants from the Landcare, agribusiness and natural resource management sectors in North East Victoria and Southern NSW. Please consider supporting someone from your Landcare group to attend this valuable program. Applications close on 5th Feb. For further information or to apply please contact Anne Shaw on 0417 221 010 or leaders@avclp.org.au. www.avclp.org.au

Resources & Inspiration



North East Local Produce Guide: The new North East Local Produce Guide is OUT NOW!

More than 90 local growers are featured in the book, which aims to connect consumers, farmers and local retailers, to support local agricultural production and more sustainable, self-supporting food systems. You can get your hands on a copy for just \$5 from produce outlets across the region – check the list of stockists on the website: www.nelocalproduce.com.au



Gardening Collective visit to Corowa Community Garden: The 'snapshot' from the Hume Murray Community Gardening Collective visit to the Corowa Tree of Life Community Garden in December is now available via the Healthy Together Wodonga website:

<http://www.wodonga.vic.gov.au/community-services/healthy-together-wodonga/news-projects/hmcgc.asp>



Landcare in the curriculum: Landcare Australia and the Primary Industries Education Foundation have produced Junior Landcare resources to link in with the Australian Curriculum. The curriculum resources include full lessons comprising engaging and easy-to-understand teaching and learning sequences aimed at primary schools. These resources are available via the Junior Landcare website:

www.juniorlandcare.com.au



Broom management manual is now available to assist those managing these Weeds of National Significance (WoNS). The manual contains information on biology, ecology and effective control of the brooms listed as WoNS, and highlights other new and emerging broom weed threats. It also includes advice on planning, holistic management, restoration and monitoring, as well as case studies that provide real examples of the successes and challenges of broom weed control. It is freely available on the WoNS broom page <http://www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/brooms/>



Getting Started Decision Tree There are several important decisions that need to be made along the pathway to starting a not-for-profit. The FTLA's new Decision Tree is designed to help groups in the early stages of getting started recognise the different decisions and milestones along the way, and directs groups to relevant resources for each of these decisions. Take a look at the new [Decision Tree](#).



Not-for-profit Law has updated a number of resources with the assistance of our member law firms, including:

[Unincorporated groups](#)

[Compulsory winding up](#)

[Fundraising foundations and charitable trusts](#)

[State tax exemptions](#)

[Volunteer civil liability protection](#)

[Negligence](#)

[Criminal conduct inside your organisation](#)

[Using mediation to resolve conflict and disputes, and](#)

[Protecting your assets under the new Personal Properties Securities Register.](#)



Landcare conference and awards evaluation report: Feedback gathered on last year's National Landcare Conference and Awards, which took place in Melbourne in September, has

been distilled into an evaluation report, which can be downloaded at http://www.landcareonline.com.au/?page_id=15004.



Carbon farming initiative review: The Climate Change Authority released its review of the Carbon Farming Initiative. Go to <http://www.climatechangeauthority.gov.au/node/271> to read the report



Coal Seam Gas: The Victorian Government has released the interim report of the community and stakeholder engagement program for onshore natural gas (commonly known as coal seam gas). This report provides an overview of the engagement activities and details some of the themes to have emerged from the consultation to date. The engagement program will continue with three meetings of the community panels to be convened before the delivery of the final report to Government. Both the interim and final reports will be inputs into the Parliamentary Inquiry into onshore natural gas to be established in 2015. [Interim report on the community and stakeholder engagement program for onshore natural gas](#)



Recreational Fishing Brochure: The North East CMA wants to work effectively with Recreational Fishers and other interested people to continue to build on aquatic habitat and fishing opportunities in the region. One way to build on this is to assist groups to apply for funding or grants that are available. This brochure will assist you with applying for a Recreational Fishing Licence Grants. The information included will help you with the application process and ensure all components are well addressed and clearly articulated in your application. Click here for the [Recreational Fishing Grants Program brochure](#).

Funding Opportunities



City of Wodonga Neighbourhood Power Program: Encourages groups of people within a neighbourhood to identify projects or activities they would like to see happen that would make their neighbourhood a better place. Projects may be supported by a matching grant from the Neighbourhood Power Matching Fund, or there is a category for young neighbours. A matching grant is a partnership between the City of Wodonga and the neighbourhood group that supports community building projects by providing a cash match to community contributions of volunteer time, professional services, materials and/or cash. Based on a model practiced successfully in the city of Seattle in the United States, Neighbourhood Power helps to provide an environment where people can develop and strengthen the neighbourhoods in which they live. Contact the Neighbourhood Power co-ordinator dmackinlay@wodonga.vic.gov.au (02) 6022 9300. Project examples and further information can be found at: <http://www.wodonga.vic.gov.au/community-services/neighbourhood-power/neighbourhood-power.asp#sthash.hIUaHZWR.dpuf>



City of Wodonga Financial Assistance To Community Groups Fund: This fund is aimed at community groups, clubs and organisations to undertake community projects that will benefit Wodonga and its residents. Grants awarded are to a maximum of \$1500.

A part of the application process is to discuss your project idea with the fund co-ordinator. The fund co-ordinator can be contacted on (02) 6022 9300.

Please read the [guidelines](#) and [application form](#) in detail before applying.

Applications for the current round close at 5pm on Monday, March 16, 2015.

See more at: <http://www.wodonga.vic.gov.au/about-us/grants-funds/fin-assist-comm-groups.asp#sthash.gn4R0sVo.dpuf>



Pozible Crowdfunding: Don't forget that if you have a great idea for your local group you can also try Crowdfunding it! The Landcare & Environment Collection provides a platform for independent crowdfunding campaigns of landcare, environment and community groups across Australia and around the world. For more information see [Pozible Crowdfunding: Landcare & Environment Collection](#)

Opportunities to have your say



Invasive animals crc survey: Do you have views about how to improve the laws, funding arrangements and program management of other aspects of invasive species management? The Invasive Animals CRC really wants to hear from you, as part of a program targeting reform of invasive species institutions. A brief report (33 pages) based on available information has been prepared that sets out some initial ideas. The report can be found [here](#). However your ideas may be quite different from how we are thinking, and it is important that we hear from you. Comments or ideas can be provided by clicking [here](#). The feedback survey will be kept open until February.



Landcare hero honour roll: last chance - closes end jan. Nominate that special landcarer who has been implementing great practices over last 20-25 years. To nominate and see current nominees go to: <http://landcarelife.com/honour-roll/>. All you need is a photo of the nominee – no larger than 2MB, in JPEG or PNG format, a maximum 200 word description of the nominee's involvement in Landcare, and details of one referee/nominator who can vouch for the nominee's involvement in Landcare (this could be you). Everyone on the Honour Roll will receive a personalised certificate and special edition Landcare 25 lapel pin.



Farm Table Survey: Holbrook local girl Airlie Trescowthick is collecting information and seeking to develop “an accessible online platform to share knowledge across the Australian agricultural industry”. Airlie would appreciate anyone who has time to fill out her survey by Friday 30th January. Please refer to the survey at the following link [The Farm Table Survey](#).



Community Photographic Survey: The NSW State Government is currently undertaking 6 landscape assessment projects covering large parts of regional Victoria. Planisphere have been commissioned to undertake the study for the Upper Murray region. Planisphere are currently conducting a [Community Photographic Survey](#) to understand which landscapes within the Upper Murray Region are considered to be important, and people's values about the landscape, and invite you to submit your photos of the landscapes of your region and respond to the survey questions. The outcomes of these studies will help to inform planning scheme policy and assist with planning decision making by identifying landscapes of importance and broadly considering measures to adequately protect and manage these landscapes in the future. There are a number of links below where you will more information about the projects and a link to an interactive online form where you can submit comments and photographs. For information about all of the projects: <http://www.dtpli.vic.gov.au/landscapestudies>. For information about the Upper Murray landscape assessment: <http://www.dtpli.vic.gov.au/planning/plans-and-policies/rural-and-regional-planning/landscapestudies/upper-murray-landscape-assessment-study>.

Virtual Volunteer Needed for 2015!

We are in need of a volunteer to help pull the information together for our monthly Bulletin. You will need to have a computer with Internet access and be able to use Microsoft Word. A clear template is already made. All information can be forwarded to you via email, and there is room for you to search and suggest items yourself if you like.

This takes about 4 to 6 hours each month. Your help would be so greatly appreciated, and you will certainly know what's on locally!

If you are interested or would like to try this for a 'trial' period, please contact me and we can discuss what is involved: Anne Stelling, WULN Facilitator, 0428 565 195
Anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au