



# Wodonga Urban Landcare Network Inc.

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## Network Bulletin #12 —May 2013

### Opportunities to be involved



**Wodonga's Creeks: Your recollections wanted** – WULN is seeking recollections and old photos from long term residents and people who grew up on the creeks of Wodonga. We would like to know what the creeks were like when you were young – did a creek run through your farm or your block? What grew along the creek, and what lived there? Please contact WULN Facilitator [Anne Stelling](mailto:Anne.Stelling@wodongaurbanlandcarenetwork.org.au) on 0428 565 195 with any information you may have on the history of our creeks.



**Friends of Les Stone Park**— a new community group is forming to take an active role in restoring House Creek in Les Stone Park and creating natural habitat throughout the park. The first activities will be an aquatic plant identification walk at the lagoon and a planting day. If you are interested in being part of this stewardship group or receiving notification of planned activities, please contact WULN Facilitator [Anne Stelling](mailto:Anne.Stelling@wodongaurbanlandcarenetwork.org.au) on 0428 565 195.



**Regional Landcare Facilitator position:** The Ovens Landcare Network, on behalf of North East Landcare, is seeking to engage a suitably qualified and highly motivated person to deliver a Regional Landcare Facilitator service to the NE region on a self-employed half-time equivalent basis over five years from July 2013 to June 2018. Please see <http://northeast.landcarevic.net.au/oln/projects/rf-project>



**North East Landcare Forum: Friday 7th June** at TAFESpace, Wodonga. Topics include future directions, using social media, sourcing funding and making Landcare fun! Hear inspiring success stories from around the country. Learn about tools and techniques for enhancing community engagement and increasing participation in Landcare. Discover new directions and broaden the scope of possibilities for your local community and group! Keynote Speaker: Alexandra Gartmann, CEO of Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal, Chair of the CSIRO Sustainable Agriculture Flagships Advisory Council, member of Australian Landcare Council. Click [HERE](#) for full program details and to register online.



**Our Native Garden Nursery volunteer day Thurs 20 June.** Come and learn about plant propagation and be a part of our unique not-for-profit native plant nursery. Ph. Jill on 0418 579 331



**Planet Ark National Tree Day (July 28) & Schools Tree Day (July 26) call for registrations-** Get Outside and Grow - Be part of the country's largest community tree planting and nature-care event. Join thousands of community groups, sport clubs, faith groups and families, in making a difference to your community, fostering a love of nature and creating positive environmental change. This year you will be part of a milestone event to plant the 20-millionth seedling since the campaign started in 1996. With your help, we can do it! Dig in and register at [treeday.planetark.org](http://treeday.planetark.org) or call 1300 88 5000 to run a tree planting event or nature-care activity at your nearby park, sports field, nature reserve, workplace or place of worship.

Contact WULN if you need help to organize a National Tree Day event in Wodonga; our member groups Friends of Willow Park and Baranduda Landcare have been running Tree Day events for years and have plenty of expertise! Contact WULN Facilitator [Anne Stelling](mailto:Anne.Stelling@wodongaurbanlandcarenetwork.org.au) on 0428 565 195.

# Learning Opportunities



**National Landcare WEBINAR Series - 'Regenerating Australia's Soil Health'** You are invited to participate in three webinars hosted by the National Landcare Facilitator in partnership with Soils for Life. Last year in a National Landcare Survey, farmers rated soil health as one of the top Landcare farming issues on their property. Australia has some of the oldest and most fragile soils on the planet and they are the cornerstone of our farming systems. All the resilience and adaptability of Australian farmers will be needed if the country is to face the challenge of producing food and fibre for growing global populations and at the same time repair and improve our landscapes. This series of webinars (internet based seminars) have been developed with farmers and others with an interest in land management in mind. They aim to help drive a national conversation around soil health, share information and ideas from leading figures such as former Governor General and Advocate for Soil Health, Michael Jeffery, leading scientists and importantly farmers from across the country who are implementing changes on their farms.

This is a great opportunity to listen to leading figures in the area of soil health and join the interactive Q & A session. These free 45 minute webinars will run over three consecutive weeks starting 22 May (still 2 left) and will allow people from all over the country to join in without having to leave home.

**Part II – Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 12:30pm** - "How do we practically regenerate our soil health?"

**Part III – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 12:30pm** - "How do we measure and extend effective practices?"

Register [here](#)



**Field Days: Native Pastures for Production and Conservation** - The day will introduce you to various native grasses, their identification, productive and conservation values, and options on when and how to graze them. Guest Speakers are Chris Mirams and Alison Elvin. Information on the Carbon Farming Initiative will also be available. No Charge.

**Rosewhite - Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June**, 1.00pm-4.00pm, Rosewhite Public Hall. Funded by NECMA and Mudgegonga and District Landcare Group. Afternoon Tea provided & finish with cheese & nibbles. RSVP: 30<sup>th</sup> May 2013 for organizing and catering purposes to Cindy Lucas (03) 5753 4529

Email: [trevor-cindy@wn.com.au](mailto:trevor-cindy@wn.com.au)

**Springhurst - Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June**, 9.00am- 2pm, Morning Tea & Lunch provided. RSVP: 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2013 for organizing and catering purposes to Tony Ransom <mailto:aeransom@bigpond.com> 0428 256 365



**Farm Planning Course: Friday 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> June**, 9am-4pm, Department of Environment & Primary Industries, 1 McKoy St, Wodonga. The FarmPlan21 Farm Planning course is designed to help you plan your farming future. Learn more about your property's assets and capabilities and take the time to plan your paddock layout, stock water systems and grazing management for your farming enterprise. The course is run in a friendly group environment by a Farm Planning Officer, along with invited speakers.

The course includes: An aerial photo of your property • Discussion with experts • Practical exercises • Course materials and notes • Optional individual property visit with a FarmPlan21 team member.

Topics include • Your farm future • Land use capabilities • Farm water supply management • Understanding your soils • Property improvement planning • Developing management strategies and plans • Computer based mapping • Grazing • Biodiversity and native vegetation • Invasive plants and animals

Cost: \$300.00 per property

RSVP: Friday 7 June 2012 to Kylie Scanlon, Farm Planning Officer, (02) 6071 5318 or [ky-](mailto:kylie.e.scanlon@dpi.vic.gov.au)  
[lie.e.scanlon@dpi.vic.gov.au](mailto:kylie.e.scanlon@dpi.vic.gov.au)



**"In Safe Hands" Toolkit Workshop Tuesday June 18:** 9am – 1pm (includes morning tea), Albury Library Museum, Cnr Swift and Kiewa Streets. "In Safe Hands" is a Safety Management System designed for community groups in practical conservation. The content and processes have been adapted from Conservation Volunteers Australia's own system which is based on our 30 years of knowledge and experience in managing volunteers in practical conservation.

The toolkit has been updated in 2013 and includes reference to recent changes in legislation. Workshops for Landcare and other community groups in NSW have been made possible through funding from the NSW Government's Landcare Support Program. There is no cost to workshop participants. Conservation Volunteers will conduct training in the practical use of the In Safe Hands Toolkit. Please register to attend by emailing Jai Cooper - NSW Trainer, Conservation Volunteers [jai.cooper](mailto:jai.cooper)



**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



**Wodonga's Creeks: Your recollections wanted** – WULN is seeking recollections and old photos from long term residents and people who grew up on the creeks of Wodonga. We would like to know what the creeks were like when you were young – did a creek run through your farm or your block? What grew along the creek, and what lived there? Please contact WULN Facilitator [Anne Stelling](#) on 0428 565 195 with any information you may have on the history of our creeks.



**OzGreen Eco Warrior Award: Call for nominations**—The RED Carpet Youth Awards are now open for nominations. Young people aged 14 to 24 who live, work, study or volunteer in Wodonga can be nominated in a range of categories. The Eco Warrior category is for a young person or group who is committed to living a sustainable lifestyle, is an advocate for positive change and is passionate about the conservation of the natural environment. This may be demonstrated through any of the following:

Conserving the diversity of native plants, animals and natural ecosystems;

An active member of an environmental group or organisation;

Involvement in a specific environmental project;

Encourages responsible management of resources or waste;

Restoration or rehabilitation of environments; or

Increasing community understanding of environmental issues or innovations and influencing people's behaviour.

Applications close **Friday 7 June** and you can get more info including an info package and online application form at: [wodonga.vic.gov.au/rca-2013](http://wodonga.vic.gov.au/rca-2013)



**Landmate program—a disappearing resource?** It appears at this stage that the two Beechworth Landmate crews are not going to be funded after the end of this financial year.

Landmate has been hugely important in completing environmental works on private property and on public land for landholders, Landcare and a range of community groups and not for profit organisations. Landmate provides valuable training and an important link with community for clients participating in the program. Landmate has also directly assisted many communities in fire and flood recovery works.

The Landmate program has been of tremendous assistance to municipal units, Landcare groups, individual landholders, post emergency (fire & flood recovery) units with limited labour resources available, to carry out their programs for over a decade and any loss or reduction to the program will be felt in the extreme. The program was also of great assistance to many during the relatively recent Fire Recovery Programs for which it was highly commended and the recipient of both state and civic awards.

If you would like to see the Landmate program continue please talk or write to your local member asap. Your member will have an email address and phone number on their website.



**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 opportunity 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



**A Secretary's Satchel – Guide for Secretaries of Victorian Incorporated Associations**, produced by the Public Litigation Clearing House. A comprehensive guide for all secretaries of incorporated groups under the revised Rules of Association. Go to [pilch](#)



**Free Permaculture books to download:** <http://www.green-shopping.co.uk/ebooks/free-ebooks.html>



**Kitchen Garden Foundation Website:** The latest on kitchen gardens including professional development training and public workshops <http://www.kitchengardenfoundation.org.au/>



**North East Regional Catchment Strategy 2013:** The North East Regional Catchment Strategy is a blueprint for the management of natural resources over the 2013 to 2018 period and beyond. The strategy itself will be uploaded once it has been gazetted. The North East RCS Summary and User Guide is now available on the CMA website This document outlines the logic behind the Regional Catchment Strategy construct and summarises the content. <http://www.necma.vic.gov.au/ResourceLibrary/StrategiesPlans/>



**Native Vegetation regulation reforms:** The Minister for Environment and Climate Change, the Hon Ryan Smith MP, has announced reforms to Victoria's native vegetation permitted clearing regulations. The reform package including regulatory documents, guidance material and information tools are now available at [www.depi.vic.gov.au/nativevegetation](http://www.depi.vic.gov.au/nativevegetation). More detailed maps will be made available in the [Biodiversity Interactive Map](#) in the coming weeks. The reforms will commence in September 2013 following amendments to the Victoria Planning Provisions. Further information about the reforms will be available in coming months.



**Fish Habitat Network:** Find out all about fish habitat; what fish need where, how to provide it, and where to find information, help and funding: <http://www.fishhabitatnetwork.com.au/>



**Our Native Garden nursery specials:** weed buster Native Geranium, drought buster Wallaby Grass. Open 10am to 3.30pm Sundays at Tawonga on Google map. Wodonga Farmers market and Yack market. ph 0418 579 331

## Funding Opportunities



**National Australia Bank Schools First Awards** - Applications are now open to all schools within Australia for grants of \$5,000 to \$200,000 to provide students with resources, knowledge and expertise to face the challenges of the twenty-first century through community partnerships. This year, themes are based on areas that schools around Australia are already engaged in within their communities and address a variety of student needs. The themes include: Living sustainably/ Being active and well/Caring for your community/ Embracing diversity/ Asia ready/ Work ready/ Entrepreneurial spirit/ Open. These eight themes can also be used as 'thought starters' across the Seed Funding and Student Award

categories to help you and your students think about the different ways that students needs can be met by partnering with the community. For more detailed information on the themes [click here](#) Applications close **28-Jun-2013** Please note that WULN would be very happy to discuss a partnership with any Wodonga school seeking funds for environmental works through this grant.



**The Bjarne K Dahl Trust Small Grants Program** - Applications **open 22<sup>nd</sup> July** to not-for-profit groups for grants of up to \$15,000. The principal purpose of this program is the protection and enhancement of eucalypts as a significant aspect of the natural environment and the provision of information or education about eucalypts. Through small grants the Trust will provide support to individuals, organisations and the community for the undertaking of eucalypt education, promotion, cultivation, establishment and conservation activities. Projects need to be aligned to the objects of the Trust which are the establishment, cultivation, promotion and conservation of eucalypts, and education of the public in the establishment, cultivation and conservation of eucalypts. Closes **01-Sep-2013**



**Expressions of Interest sought for WULN project** – WULN intends to apply for Dahl Trust funding for a project based on planting groundcover plants to support local venerable Eucalypt specimens in the Wodonga municipality. The project would identify old Eucalypts in need of supportive ecosystems, ie specimens standing alone in parks, reserves and school grounds, provide assessment of required support, plants and mulch to intensively plant the area. If you have suitable specimens and would be interested in participating in this project please contact WULN Facilitator [Anne Stelling](#) on 0428 565 195.



**2013 Coles Junior Landcare School Garden Grant** - Applications are now open to schools and not-for-profit groups for grants of up to \$1000. Since 2008 Coles has been providing School Garden Grants to schools and youth groups to help create gardens in their grounds or community, such as bush tucker gardens, water wise gardens or veggie gardens. Activities supported include Bush Tucker gardens, Vegetable gardens, Composting and green waste recycling activities, Awareness raising of food miles through growing your own produce, Waterwise and Carbon gardening activities, Purchase of kids gardening equipment (gloves, shovels etc) up to the value of \$500. Round closes 02-Aug-2013. Apply at: [www.juniorlandcare.com.au/](http://www.juniorlandcare.com.au/)



**Richmond Landcare Grant** - Richmond Football Club and Landcare are once again offering a grant to support Landcare groups to achieve positive outcomes for sustainable landscapes, healthy waterways and connected communities. The grant of up to \$5000 (+GST) is available to a Landcare group or Landcare Network operating in Victoria, or an organisation that is linked or sponsored by Landcare. It's a great opportunity to get a meaningful project off the ground, and also aims to engage young people, who are the next generation of Landcarers. To find out more about the grant, or to check if you're eligible, view the guidelines and application forms on the [Richmond Football Club website](#). Closes 4pm on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

Wodonga Urban Landcare Network would love to talk with any local community group or school about working together on a Richmond Grant project! Please contact WULN Facilitator [Anne Stelling](#) on 0428 565 195.

## The WULN Mission:

WULN supports, inspires and brings together a network of active steward groups that work effectively and co-operatively with all stakeholders to enhance and protect the environment of the Wodonga municipality.

We exist to: promote appreciation and awareness of our environment ~ support the growth and sustainability of member groups ~ facilitate partnerships and a whole-of community approach ~ act as a catalyst for change ~ facilitate landscape scale plans and projects ~ broker opportunities for environmental benefit ~ plan strategically together for broader outcomes ~ advocate for member groups and the environment.

