

Wodonga Urban Landcare Network Inc.



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Network Bulletin #21—March 2014

Opportunities to be involved



Looking to join a local group? Our Network facilitator can introduce you to people from the Friends and Landcare groups throughout Wodonga, including Friends groups in Felltimber Creek, Lower Huon Creek and David Winterbottom Reserve, Upper House Creek, Susan Campbell and Kent McKoy Reserves, Clyde Cameron Reserve, Willow Park, Les Stone Park and Belvior Park; the Landcare groups of Huon Creek, Leneva and Castle Creek and Baranduda, Our Native Garden Nursery and the Bonegilla Rail Trail group. These are 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



Let's make plants – Free Workshop at Our Native Garden, Saturday 12th April: 1.30 to 4.30 at Bunyip Hollow. Do you have horticulture skills or a love of plants? You know you will enjoy this!!! Come with your skills and love of plants to share and to see our setup and methods. Call Jill 0418 579 331 or [email me](mailto:jill@landcarevic.net.au)



Community Gardening in the Park and Waterwatch, Sunday 13th April: 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.



Tour, Talk and Afternoon Tea with a Sustainability Education focus - Thursday 24th April: 4-5.30pm, featuring Our Native Garden Nursery. Did you know that Our Native Garden is a Not-for-Profit native plant nursery dedicated to providing educational experiences? That they work with schools and community groups, and have donated hundreds of plants to local revegetation projects? Set up for a sustainable second term with a tour of the new nursery site at Bunyip Hollow and a talk by Jill Dawson on how the Nursery can work with your school. Hear about local projects and tell us about yours, make local connections and catch up on the latest funding opportunities. Tea and cake provided! Please RSVP to Anne Stelling, WULN facilitator anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au 0428 565 195



Victorian Landcare Council Meeting - Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th May: Valley Homestead, 5537 Great Alpine Rd, Ovens. **Theme:** Victorian Landcare Community Collaboration with our CMAs. You are invited to:

Learn about the activities and progress of the VLC

- Showcase NE Landcare to delegates from across the state
- Develop the landcare relationship with the NECMA
- Gain an insight into the Voice 4 Indi community engagement

Participate in the decision making of the VLC

Accommodation: per night Single \$67 Share \$55 (includes double/three share) A subsidy of \$50 per night is available to Delegates. All meals provided free of charge to attendees. Enquiries and **RSVP by 4th**

May: Phil Horner e: philhomer@bigpond.com m: 0408 930 508



Our Native Garden Nursery in Bunyip Hollow - Our Native Garden is in the process of moving from Tawonga to Bunyip Hollow, located right next door to the new Wodonga train station, at Lot 1 Carrolls Lane. Google map details: <http://goo.gl/8e0icv>

This is the time if ever you felt like joining our fun team in doing things together please come this month and we will donate plants for your garden or to a worthy project of your choice such as Landcare, schools, community gardens, etc. Moving in and setting up working bees in April:

every wednesday 10am to 1pm - includes a spot of lunch

every saturday 1pm to 4 pm every sunday 10am to 1pm (spot of lunch included)

and special Easter Monday 10am to 2pm includes lunch and Easter eggs!!

Please contact Jill Dawson on 0418579331 for further information. Keep up to date with the move via the ONG website at <http://ournativegarden.com.au/>



North East Water seeking community input – NE Water is developing a “Customer & Community Panel” to help provide us with our customers’ views about a variety of topics. The Customer & Community Panel will in broad terms represent the customer base, including residential, commercial and industrial tradewaste customers. People of all age groups, education levels and backgrounds are encouraged to apply. An application form is available from the link below which needs to be submitted to North East Water by **4 April 2014**. For more information call the Communications Team on 1300 361 633.

<http://www.newater.com.au/community/2014313110194.asp>



Landcare Group Exchange Program: The Regional Landcare Facilitators are seeking expressions of interest from landcare groups who want to visit other groups or those that are willing to host other groups within the NE region. Have you ever wondered how your landcare neighbours operate? Do they seem to be great at running events? Getting good numbers at their meetings? Do you want to share what has worked well for your group with others in the North East region? The RLF’s will assist with organising the visits. Please email Amber or Kelly and register your interest. This will be an ongoing program so please give this some thought and we may be able to match groups this year. Amber.croft@landcarevic.net.au kelly.behrens@landcarevic.net.au



National Landcare Conference - Wednesday 17th to Friday 19th. September will be held at the Crown Conference Centre in Melbourne. The three day Conference will include one day of field trips to a number of Landcare projects in Victoria and two days of compelling speakers and workshops. Themed **Celebrating our history – growing our future**, the Conference will showcase the work achieved Australia-wide since the inception of Landcare. The National Landcare Awards gala dinner will take place on September 18th at the World Heritage listed, Royal Exhibition Building and will bring together 69 nation-wide individuals and groups who won awards in the nine national categories at last year’s Landcare Awards. Further details will be available in the near future. To stay up to date with registration and program details, please visit www.landcareonline.com.au

Learning Opportunities



Secrets to Successful Groups – Free Training, Fri 4th April: 9.45am-3.30pm, Old Courthouse, Yackandandah. Do you want to reinvigorate your landcare group? Attract new members? Need to brush up on the legal duties of your committee members and improve your group's decision making? If you answered yes to ANY of these this training is essential!! The Farm Tree and Landcare Association (FLTA) has been running Secrets to Successful Groups training for a number of years - which has been very well received. If you are a committee member of a landcare group - or aspire to become one this training will be a valuable investment of your time. Topics include: Effective Decision-Making, Legal Duties of Committee Members and Volunteer Recruitment. Please book with Kelly Behrens, Regional Landcare Facilitator, North East Catchment Management Authority by March 25th Phone: 02 6043 7627 kelly.behrens@landcarevic.net.au



Know Your Soil - Free Workshop at the NEC, Friday 4th April: 10:00am - 2:00pm National Environment Centre Ettamogah Rd, Thurgoona NSW. Rob Fenton (Riverina TAFE) introduces the Soil Health Card System which teaches you to use 10 easy steps to rate your soil health. By using the soil health card system you can develop handy benchmarks for your soil. Participants will discover what makes soils healthy, learn the Soil Health Card System, and visit the NEC's Sustainable Farm & Gardens. M/Tea & Lunch Provided. Contact Elise Wenden, Holbrook Landcare Network 0401 243 470 or



EcoBlade Demonstration Field Day - 14th and 15th April: 10 am to 12 noon or 1pm to 3pm. Higgins Lane off Mt Stanley Rd, Stanley. The EcoBlade slashes and applies herbicide in one pass on woody weeds such as Gorse and Blackberries. It will be demonstrated working on heavy Gorse infestations in the Stanley area. This demonstration will enable groups to assess the potential application of this equipment in their own area. Light refreshments provided. Please bring covered shoes and hat. RSVP: David McKay 0357 286 665 or 0407 057 894 E: dmswmckay@bigpond.com



Baranduda Landcare GIS Mapping Workshop – Tuesday 15th April: 5.30-7.30pm, Trudewind Road Community Centre Wodonga. Jill Dawson will take us through the use of free mapping software available on the DEPI website that can be used to generate custom maps of "your patch" useful for a whole range of functions. This workshop is a component of BLC's Communities for Nature program and will provide training in mapping techniques using the free mapping software on the DEPI website. Enquiries to [Tony Marsh](mailto:Tony.Marsh@bigpond.com) 0417687842 [Click here for Online bookings for this event](#)



Negotiation & Conflict Resolution Workshop– Wednesday 16 April: (8:30am) for 9am start to 4pm, Euroa. You will learn about the practical application (in a Landcare context) of mediation and negotiation processes that enable parties to reach their own agreements. To be delivered by Dave Munday & Liz Brown from Future Creations
Book asap, as bookings are being done on a first-come-first-served basis. To book contact Karen Brisbane (Landcare Corporate Partnerships Facilitator) via email karenb@gbcma.vic.gov.au or phone 5820 1134



Managing Equines on Small Farms workshop - Sunday 27th April: 9am-3pm, Burrumbuttock Hall. Do you own a small farm? Do you have horses or other farm animals? You are invited to attend a FREE one day workshop. Hosted by Nationally acclaimed author and expert on horse property management, Stuart Myers from Equiculture will deliver a seminar on how to develop a sustainable property that benefits you and the environment including;

- Horse Grazing Characteristics
- Pasture Management and Improvement
- Innovative Property Design and Planning
- Vegetation Management
- Small farms and Biodiversity
- Practical solutions for problems faced by horse owners

RSVP essential for catering purposes. Lunch, morning and afternoon tea provided.
To book in or for enquiries, contact Barb on 0427 820 761 or barb@chenoweth.net.au



Historic Survey Trees - Monday 28th April: 7.30 pm, Corowa Civic Centre, Corowa.
Corowa District Landcare is assisting Dr Peter Spooner from Charles Sturt University in a study of historic survey trees. During land settlement in the late 1800s, government surveyors had the enormous task of subdividing the country into allotments, connecting these with a system of roads and reserves. To mark out boundaries, a large tree was often 'blazed' at the corner of each allotment, which involved removing the bark with an axe, and marking the blaze with chiselled inscriptions of a government arrow, and numeric's relating to the block number. Many such trees date back to the 1860s when squatters still controlled the lands, and the first settlers arrived to stake out land claims.
Historic survey trees serve as one of the few remaining physical legacies of early European land settlement history. Given the age of many of these trees (200+ years), and their connection to our heritage, it is important to survey and document the remaining survey trees before they succumb to the ravages of time. Peter will speak about his research to locate survey trees in the district and discuss how these trees provide a tangible link to the settlement history of the region at the next Corowa District Landcare General Meeting, 7.30 pm, Monday 28th of April, Corowa Civic Centre, Corowa. RSVP Delwyn Clifton 6033 8963 or corowalandcare@bigpond.com



Bush Restoration Workshop - Fellimber Creek, Wodonga, Sunday 11th May: 9.30 – 12, followed by a free BBQ lunch. Come along, get out into nature, meet like-minded people and learn about bush restoration techniques at this hands-on workshop, delivered by Rangers from Parkslands Albury-Wodonga.

The day will kick off with participants meeting in the top (southern) Wodonga TAFE carpark (near the L.E.A.P Centre) on Moorefield Park Drive. Rangers will showcase a section of the creek that has been re-stored to good health. Then participants will be guided south down the creek to look at a section of creek that needs bush restoration works to control the weeds and allow native species to recolonise the creek.

The day will focus on giving participants the skills to identify common native species and invasive weeds impacting on the area, as well as providing hands on experience in controlling weeds using a variety of methods. Rangers will also discuss methods to select suitable species to help re-establish native plants in highly modified areas of the creek. Wear long trousers and old clothes so you are able to safely try out the various tools of the trade. Gloves and tools will be supplied (bring your own garden gloves if you have them). To RSVP for the day, or to notify us about special dietary requirements for catering purposes, please contact Kelly Behrens on 02 6043 7627 or email: kelly.behrens@landcarevic.net.au

Resources & Inspiration



Need more volunteers? – Wodonga Urban Landcare Network is working with Gateway Community Health and the City of Wodonga on the 'Workplaces in Open Spaces' project, which will link volunteers from local workplaces with opportunities to help out in our local parks and reserves. If you have a working bee, planting day or other event planned for 2014, and could use some extra hands, please contact WULN with dates and details. Your event will be listed as an opportunity and potential volunteers invited to join you. Please contact WULN Facilitator Anne Stelling 0428 565 195 anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au



North East Landcare Report Card 2012-13: The North East CMA is pleased to provide the Landcare in North East Victoria Report Card for the 2012-2013 year. This report summarises the achievements of Landcare and related community groups across the North East region. This report has been prepared by the North East CMA to assist in promoting the extent of activity and contributions by Landcare. These achievements by the 50 Landcare and related community groups and 5 Networks in the region include:

- Held over 80 community events, including training, workshops, field days
- Involved over 2500 participants in these events
- Secured 48 projects grants for on ground environmental works
- Secured over \$1.4 Million in total in grants

Community contributed an estimated \$2-3M of in-kind time and funds to match these projects. See [the report](#) for more information.



Templates for Landcare Fliers: A series of 8 templates have been created for use by Landcare groups in the North East. These templates are designed to make it easier for you to create professional-style fliers for your local Landcare events. The templates are in Word format and all content can be edited, re-arranged or re-sized to suit your needs. Additional images or text boxes can also be inserted. Remember to add your own group logo if you have one! Find them on the [Landcare Gateway](#)



Weeds of National Significance – Great new Resources: Manuals and filmclips have been finalised by NSW OEH and DPI and DPIPWE Tasmania over the last few months –and are now freely available on the WoNS and agency websites below.

Asparagus Weed - Clips contain wonderful, clear footage of identification characteristics, root systems and control techniques. Access at www.weeds.org.au/wons/asparagusweeds

Asparagus Weeds Management Manual - 120 pages (limited hard copies available) <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/pestsweeds/AsparagusWeeds.htm>

African boxthorn – Management manual (www.weeds.org.au/wons/africanboxthorn) or at the DPIPWE link below

Sea spurge – 6 page Weed Management Guide can be found on the DPIPWE website: <http://dripwe.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds/weed-publications-and-resources/weed-links-and-resources>

Water hyacinth – Management Modules are available at <http://www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/waterhyacinth/> or on the NSW DPI website <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/weeds/profiles/water-hyacinth/water-hyacinth-control-modules>

The Broom Management Manual should be available by the end of June on the www.weeds.org.au/

wons/brooms and the OEH <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/pestsweeds/Brooms.htm> pages. It will be only be available in an electronic version.



BowerBird and Atlas of Living Australia: After the recent [Woomargama Bioblitz](#) event, the data was uploaded into the national biodiversity aggregator, the [Atlas of Living Australia](#). A new website, [BowerBird.org.au](#), developed by Museum Victoria, offers us all the chance to have our sightings of flora and fauna identified by experts and potentially added to the Atlas of Living Australia. After creating a free account, you can upload photos, a description and the location of what you've seen. You can identify the species yourself or ask for assistance from the many experts involved with the site. Details in Karen Retra's *Living Lightly* article: <http://www.ecoportal.net.au/living-lightly/record-your-flora-and-fauna-sightings-bowerbirdorgau>



Native bees: Dr Ken Walker's recent talks on native bees captivated and challenged those present to think beyond European honey bees, and to appreciate the many adaptations and co-evolution of the 2,000 or so native bee species with Australian native plant species. More details on Karen's blog: <http://littlehouseonthehill.squarespace.com/home/dr-ken-walker-on-tour.html> And here's a recent post on native bees having a scuffle! <http://littlehouseonthehill.squarespace.com/home/native-bee-scuffle-a-special-sight.html>

Funding Opportunities



2014 Communities for Nature Small Grants Funding Opportunity is now open. Applications can be submitted online and will close at 4:00pm on **Friday 11 April** 2014. These small grants support practical action by community groups, schools, and volunteer organisations to deliver measurable environmental outcomes through on-ground works, providing one year grants of up to \$10,000 (GST inclusive). Projects that will be completed by 30 June 2015 are eligible for funding.

Projects are expected to address local environmental issues such as:

- Biodiversity and habitat preservation such as tree planting (preservation of areas known for their biodiversity and habitat values), or
- Threatened species recovery, or
- Sustainable management of native wildlife, or
- Cleaning up waterways (creeks, wetlands, streams, rivers and seas), or
- Control of weeds and pest animals

More information can be found in the Guidelines and Frequently Asked Questions are found online at <http://www.depi.vic.gov.au/environment-and-wildlife/community-programs/communities-for-nature-grants> or ring the Grants Information Line **1300 366 356** between 8:30am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday.

**Please contact WULN to discuss a partnership if appropriate.*



The M A Ingram Trust Grants – Grants of up to \$5000 to fund the preservation and education, research and increase of knowledge with respect to the origin, history, habits, life and use, and the scientific benefits if any, of indigenous Australian (especially Victorian) mammals and birds, and the flora providing their food, cover, etc., and the relationship of one or more to the other. When funds are limited, the Trustees may have a preference for applications funding equipment essential for field-based research. Applications close **15th April**. **Applications by Email**. For guidelines go to: http://www.statetrustees.com.au/uploads/content/142-MA_Ingram_Trust_Guidelines_Application_Form.pdf



The Northern Eco-Connections project supports landholders to improve and protect native vegetation on private land, focusing on improving connections and linkages across the diverse landscapes of northern Victorian. The project is being delivered through a conservation tender process, with landholders submitting bids for work they wish to undertake to improve native vegetation on their properties. For more information go to: <http://www.northernecoconnections.vic.gov.au>



Nuffield Scholarships: We are proud to announce the opening of the 2015 round of farming scholarships. We are offering 25 scholarships to practicing farmers and farm managers, which includes a Contemporary Scholars Conference, Global Focus Program and individual study. Applications open on Tuesday, 1st April and close on Monday, 30th June 2014. Please actively encourage friends,

neighbours and other primary producers in your network to apply to ensure that we maintain a very high standard of applicants. For further information see

http://www.nuffieldinternational.org/db/attachments/532bd213f3ca0_140321NuffieldAustralia2015ScholarshipBrochure_FINAL.pdf



2014 Coles Junior Landcare Garden Grants: Since 2008 the Coles Junior Landcare Garden Grants program has been providing grants of up to \$1,000 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. These programs encourage students to learn about the environment through “outdoor learning” and interaction in developing their own school gardens. All schools, kindergartens, daycare centres, and youth groups (e.g. Scouts) are eligible to apply for a Coles Junior Landcare Garden grant. Next round of grants closes on Friday, May 2nd at 5pm. Application Form [click here](#) to download the .docx version (latest Microsoft Office compatible) then click “save” to use the form. [click here](#) to download the .doc version (Microsoft Office 97-2003 compatible) then click “save” to use the form. Guidelines and Criteria ([click here download](#)). Reporting Template ([click here download](#) and click “save” to use the template)

Opportunities to have your say



Nominations are open: Future Leaders Environment Awards 2014 - Future Leaders is a philanthropic initiative about leadership and our future. It seeks to involve, inform and inspire.

www.futureleaders.com.au

The Future Leaders Environment Award recognises Year 12 students who have shown strong environmental leadership and initiative. Australian secondary schools are invited to nominate Year 12 students for the Award. In 2014, the award winners will receive a Fellowship to participate in an Earthwatch Expedition in Australia, see www.earthwatch.org

Nominations should include detailed information about the student's environmental leadership activities. This should be in the form of a letter on school letterhead and include two references. Please send all nominations by 1 July 2014 to helen@futureleaders.com.au

WULN: Our Mission

The Wodonga Urban Landcare Network 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.

- WULN is a network of Wodonga based community organizations including Landcare, Friends and stewardship groups with an environmental focus. Our Vision is of a biodiverse, connected and sustainable landscape, supported by an integrated, whole-of -community approach.
- WULN is a member of the Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development — Murray Darling. The RCE-MD has a unique strategic approach that integrates research, education, training and community engagement projects and collaborations
- WULN is a member of the Farm, Tree and Landcare Association of Victoria. The Farm Tree & Landcare Association (FTLA) is an independent incorporated association governed by its members. The FTLA has evolved to cater for groups and individuals involved in Landcare and similar land management and conservation activities.