

Wodonga Urban Landcare Network Inc.



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Opportunities to be involved



Community Gardening in the Park and Waterwatch, Sunday 18th May: 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.



Free Community Screening 'Hooked on Growth' – Baranduda, Tuesday 6th May, 7.30pm. Baranduda Landcare presents a free community Movie Night featuring the screening of the documentary Growth Busters - Hooked on Growth. View the trailer at: <http://vimeo.com/30647439> This must-see community screening questions the cultural (or at least political) myth: 'Growth = Prosperity'. It challenges whether our perpetual growth economic system is sustainable, highlights the problem of over population and identifies possible solutions for a sustainable civilisation. Another couple of short (mini <5 min long) environmental films will also be screened. Bring along a friend – everyone is welcome..... share the awareness. We'll even provide a cuppa and biscuits. Baranduda Community Centre Sage Crt, Baranduda.



Wodonga Volunteer Fair – Saturday 17th May: 9.30-12.30 at The Cube, Wodonga. Wodonga Council is hosting a Volunteer Fair to celebrate 25 years of National Volunteer Week and to thank volunteers. There will be live music, a free bbq and information stalls. This is a great opportunity to come along and check out opportunities to be involved with local groups, and also for community organisations to host a stall to promote their services and recruit new volunteers. Information stalls are free but places are limited. To register your interest please contact Mayssa Powel at mpowell@wodonga.vic.gov.au or 60229275



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, and 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: philhorner@bigpond.com m: 0408 930 508



Wodonga Urban Landcare Network Quarterly Gathering – Wednesday 21st May: 6-9pm, Venue TBA. Take the opportunity to catch up with what's been happening in Wodonga's parks and reserves and what's in the pipeline. A brief report from each WULN member group, a guided tour around the host site and a shared dinner. This is the time to keep our Network on track with discussion of progress, upcoming activities and projects, so come along, enjoy some like minded company and add your voice. RSVP to WULN Secretary Garry Knight secretary@wodongaurbanlandcarenetwork.org.au or facilitator Anne Stelling 0428 565 195 anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au



National Tree Day – 25th and 27th July: National Tree Day is coming up! Do you want to be involved? WULN can help you plan a planting event or link up with groups running a Tree Day plant-

ing. Please contact WULN facilitator Anne Stelling on 0428 565 195 or anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au. National Tree Day aims to inspire, educate and recruit Australians to actively care for our unique land and create future generations of committed environmental custodians. Planet Ark's National Tree Day and Schools Tree Day provide all Australians with an opportunity to do something positive for the environment and reconnect with nature. Planet Ark works with councils, schools and community groups to help hundreds of thousands of Australians plant over 1 million native trees, shrubs and grasses at more than 4000 Tree Day events. In 2014, National Tree Day will be on Sunday 27th July & Schools Tree Day Friday 25th July. Further information can be found on the Planet Ark website: <http://treeday.planetark.org/about/>



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



Food Security and the Murray Darling Basin Conference, Albury, November 19-21: Recognised as the 'food bowl of Australia', the Murray Darling Basin (MDB) is where the bulk of Australia's food is produced. While the MDB is critical to Australia's future food security, its farmers, communities and environments are under considerable stress. The broad aim of this conference is to promote dialogue, debate and collaboration on the complex food security challenges facing the MDB, but also to provide policy-relevant insights which can contribute to the development of more sustainable, resilient and socially just food systems for the Murray Darling Basin. The conference will be relevant to a wide range of people including: federal and state government agencies and politicians; farming organisations; natural resource management organisations; irrigation organisations; academics/researchers; local government representatives; agribusiness; community food coalitions; food activists; and food relief organisations. Details are provided on the conference website: <http://www.foodsecuritymdb.wordpress.com>

Learning Opportunities



Baranduda Landcare Weeds and Grasses Field Day – Saturday 3rd May: 9am- 4pm, Baranduda Community Centre Sage Crt, Baranduda. Presented by Sue Brunskill . Book online at <http://northeast.landcarevic.net.au/baranduda/events/baranduda-landcare-weeds-and-grasses-field-day>



Pythons and other Woodland Critters – Talgarno, Friday 2nd May: 9.30am – 12.30. Learn about the habitat and behaviours of pythons and other woodland critters in their natural environment. RSVP to Simon Feillafe, 0417 655 462 simon.feillafe@necma.vic.gov.au by 30th April. For further info see <http://northeast.landcarevic.net.au/>



Birds and Bats in Woodlands – Baranduda, Saturday 10th May: 4.30 Woodland Bird Discovery Walk with Sean Dooley, 6pm dinner, 7pm Bats and other Creatures of the Night with Lindy Lumsden. No cost, plus free BBQ dinner. Presented by the North East CMA and Trust for Nature. RSVP to Simon Feillafe, 0417 655 462 simon.feillafe@necma.vic.gov.au by 8th May. For further info see <http://northeast.landcarevic.net.au/>



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 Parklands 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



Landmates Crews available: Landmate crews are small groups of prisoners from Beechworth Corrections Centre (BCC), under the supervision of an experienced Officer (Industry Officer) which undertake community and environmental related works on private and public land to assist Landcare and community groups to achieve environmental improvements.

The aim of this program is also to provide Corrections Victoria and the prisoners involved in these crews the opportunity to provide a positive contribution back into the local community. This program aims to provide these prisoners with opportunities to learn new skills and develop and/or maintain a work ethic that will assist their reintegration back into society on release.

Requests for work are invited from Landcare groups and other environmental organisations. For further information or to discuss your proposed works please contact WULN facilitator Anne Stelling on 0428 565 195 or anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au Providing the proposal meets the program criteria, a booking request can then be submitted to the Department of Justice.



“Weeds of Baranduda”: Baranduda Landcare Group has developed a comprehensive website resource that includes identification and control techniques. Find it at: <http://wodongaurbanlandcarenetwork.org.au/blc/weeds-of-baranduda/table-of-contents/>



DIY Biodiversity Audit using the great Audit tool developed for schools by the Department of Primary Industries. This is one of many useful tools and curriculum materials available at http://www.landlearn.net.au/resources/bio_up_close.htm



Victorian Landcare and Catchment Management Magazine is now online. Issue 60 (autumn 2014) of the Victorian Landcare and Catchment Management magazine is a feature on Landcare support, with stories from Landcare group and network facilitators from across the state, which provide insights into their work. These stories illustrate the important role that facilitators and coordinators play building and maintaining the momentum of Landcare activity across Victoria. Find this and past issues at <http://www.landcarevic.net.au/resources/magazine/vic/current-issue>



Birds of Paradise: an amazing clip to enjoy <https://www.youtube.com/embed/REP4S0uqEOc>

Funding Opportunities



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)



Green Army Applications Open: Do you have a project that will make a real difference to the environment and your local community? If so, why not become a project sponsor and host a Green Army project. Applications for Green Army projects are now open and will **close Friday 9 May 2014**. Projects involve teams of 10 (up to nine Participants and one Team Supervisor) engaged for a period of 20-26 weeks to deliver a suite of activities that support environmental and heritage conservation outcomes. Projects may be carried out across urban, regional and remote Australia on public land, Indigenous-held lands, or private land where there is a clear community and environmental and heritage benefit. Further Information available at <http://www.environment.gov.au/cleaner-environment/clean-land/green-army>



The Bjarne K Dahl Trust Small Grants Program: is open **until May 5th**. The Trust will provide support to individuals, organisations and the community for the undertaking of eucalypt education, promotion, cultivation, establishment and conservation activities. Grants will be capped at \$15,000 and will generally be made for up to a 12-month period. Successful applicants will be notified in June 2014. Applications for round two will open in July 2014. Projects need to be aligned to the objects of the Trust which are: The establishment, cultivation, promotion and conservation of eucalypts. Education of the public in the establishment, cultivation and conservation of eucalypts. Application methods: Online Website: <http://dahltrust.org.au/grants/> Application: <http://dahltrust.org.au/grants/apply/>

Opportunities to have your say



Nominations now open: Premier's Sustainability Awards - close @ 5pm on Monday 2 June 2014. Categories include

- **Community** - Leadership, commitment and excellence in delivery of sustainable projects or programs which have demonstrated widespread benefits for Victorian communities.
- **Education** - Development and delivery of educational programs and institutional practices that address and contribute to a more sustainable Victoria for current and future generations.
- **Environmental Protection** - Leadership, commitment and excellence by a business in the protection of the environment.
- **Infrastructure and Buildings** - Excellence in contribution to innovative design, construction/delivery and/or operation of sustainable infrastructure and buildings; whether it is a new structure or re-imagining of existing form.
- **Innovative Products or Services** - Outstanding innovation in products and/or services that reduce environmental impact from a lifecycle perspective.
- **Large Business** - Outstanding achievements by a large business in adopting and implementing sustainability principles.
- **Small and Medium Enterprises (SME)** - Outstanding achievements in small-medium business for their adoption of sustainable measures and minimising their environmental footprint.

Tourism - Excellence in sustainable tourism which contributes to the understanding, appreciation, and conservation of Victoria's natural landscapes, ecology and local cultural heritage and/or provides tourism services through sustainable and efficient practices.

In addition to these awards, the Premier will personally select two overall winners: the Premier's Regional Recognition Award and the Premier's Recognition Award. For further information on award categories, entry and judging process, [email here](#). To enter, simply download an [Entry Kit](#) and you're on your way!



Call for Submissions for the Review of the Renewable Energy Target (RET)

The Expert Panel conducting the Review of the Renewable Energy Target (RET) has called for submissions on issues relevant to the review. A short paper to assist the preparation of submissions can be found [here](#).

Submissions can be lodged [here](#).

This Call for Submissions closes on Friday 16 May 2014.