



Wodonga Urban Landcare Network Inc.

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Network Bulletin #17 — Oct/Nov 2013

Opportunities to be involved



Friends of Willow Park AGM – Monday 4th November: 7.30pm, Belvoir School, Bowman Court Wodonga



Ovens Landcare Network presents 'Landscape Scale Projects' - Thursday 7th November: 7.30-9.30pm, Chiltern Senior Citizens Hall, Conness Street Chiltern. The OLN will be hosting an evening for all groups to attend and catch up on regional activities and events. Speaker for the night will be Stephen Routledge, a local NRM provocateur, who will present on recent developments in creating a landscape scale project under the auspices of the Norman Wettenhall Foundation. This project is aimed at involving the community in environment projects pertinent to the region and to each of the communities themselves. A multiyear program with significant funding, this is a major opportunity for the Ovens, King, Indigo basin environment movement and the land.



Community Gardening in the Park and Waterwatch, Sunday 10th November, 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.



Volunteers Day at Our Native Garden Nursery – Thurs 21st November: Have FUN (bring a joke) FOOD, learn about growing plants AND take some home! Centrelink approved activity, transport from Alb Wodonga available. Phone Jill Dawson 0418 579 331



Wooragee School Sustainability projects tour – Tuesday 19th November: 4 - 5.30pm, Wooragee School, Beechworth Rd, Wooragee. Join local educators to find out what's happening around the traps (local projects and funding opportunities), share afternoon tea and come for a guided tour of Wooragee School's acclaimed Landcare and kitchen garden projects including the Bush tucker garden, Kitchen gardens and orchard plantings, Frog Bog and creek area. This is the **final Quarterly Gathering for 2013 of the Wodonga Sustainability Education Network. All are welcome!** RSVP to WULN facilitator Anne Stelling 0428 565 195 anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au



General Meeting of the Wodonga Urban Landcare Network – Wednesday 20th November: 6-9pm, Belvoir Park Wodonga. You are invited to join the Committee of the Wodonga Urban Landcare Network for our fourth and final gathering for the year. Share what's been happening on your 'patch', participate in the business of the Network and appreciate the work of our hosts Friends of Belvoir Park. Bring your own picnic gear: drinks, plates, chair etc and a salad to share. Meet at the BBQ area off Huon St. **RSVP by Fri 15/11** to WULN facilitator Anne Stelling 0428 565 195 anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au

Learning Opportunities



Using Wordpress to interact on the Web - Tuesday 5th November: 5.30-7pm with Tony Marsh, Trudewind Rd Neighbourhood House, Trudewind Rd, Wodonga. A WULN workshop, free for community members. This will suit those new to contributing to the Web and to Wordpress. Tony has built the WULN Website using Wordpress and will show us how to upload content (blog posts, photos, articles etc), manage web pages using Wordpress, and navigate the WULN site. As long as you have (or have access to) a computer with Internet connection you can manage a page for your group within the site, add things to the WULN site and interact with others. RSVP to WULN facilitator Anne Stelling 0428 565 195 anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au



'Talks, Walks and Gawks' with Dr Ken Walker – 5th to 7th November:

Tuesday 5th: a.m Talk - Native bees and flora/fauna ID, Albury.
p.m Talk Walk and Gawk, Burrumbuttock

Wed 6th: a.m Talk Walk and Gawk, Baranduda.
p.m Talk - Native bees and flora/fauna ID, Thurgoona

Thurs 7th: a.m Talk Walk and Gawk, Wangaratta.
p.m Talk - Native bees and flora/fauna ID, Wangaratta.

Dr Ken Walker is Senior Curator of Entomology and Arachnology at Museum Victoria. Hear his entertaining insights about the thousands of Australian native bee species, their adaptations and unique relationships with the flowers they rely on. Dr Walker will also discuss the contribution you can make to spotting and sharing the many plant and animal species of our area, using the BowerBird.org.au website.

All TALKS will include insights into the wonders of our native Australian bees as well as an introduction to the BowerBird.org.au website features and functions. Sessions with WALKS & GAWKS will include a similar talk, held indoors, and then we'll go for a wander outside with Dr Walker to see what we can see and how we can use BowerBird.org.au to record what we find. Bring a camera along to these sessions if you can, as well as appropriate outdoor wear.

Entry by gold coin donation. *Please let us know you're coming as we have limited places and want to have a cuppa ready for you.* For details please check <http://ecoportal.net.au> and rsvp to karenre-tra@gmail.com or call/text 0428 629 099.



Spring Wildflower Tour – Mount Big Ben - Sunday 10th November:

You are invited to experience our beautiful wildflowers and learn more about their ecology. This is a combined event with Albury Wodonga Field Naturalists. Our guide will be environmental horticulturalist Glenda Datson. Meeting points & times: **1.** Acacia Car Park, Wodonga at 9.30am **2.** Corner of Dederang Rd and Mt Big Ben Lane, Glen Creek at 10.15am. Wear Hat, sunscreen, sturdy shoes. Bring Picnic lunch & drink, camera, notebook, (chair or rug if desired) All participants will receive a copy of the North East Wildflower brochure. The unsealed road to the top of Big Ben is accessible by two-wheel drive vehicles. We will stop at various points along the way and have lunch at the top. This event is suitable for all fitness levels. Please let Belinda know if you would like to attend, and please indicate if you have a spare seat in your car that you are willing to share, or if you would like to get a ride with other participants.

Email: belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au , Phone: 0407 227 814



The Art of Seeds – Saturday 16th November:

1.30-3.30pm with Jill Dawson. An 'Our Native Garden' travelling tour of Yackandandah area exploring native seed collecting, processing and treatment techniques. Bookings phone Jill Dawson 0418 579 331.



Using online Mapping tools to Plan for your Patch - Tuesday 19th November:

5.30-7pm with Jill Dawson, Trudewind Rd Neighbourhood House, Trudewind Rd, Wodonga. A WULN workshop, free for community members. We had great feedback on the usefulness of this training following Jill's first session. Being able to use mapping tools is great for planning and required more and more for funding applications. Here is your chance to have a go and learn from someone who has used these tools professionally for vegetation assessment. As long as you have (or have access to) a computer with Internet connection you can access great tools to assist with planning; identify boundaries and land managers; identify the land classifications and plants for your particular patch; overlay your project plans onto extremely accurate existing maps or satellite images, add keys and notes and print them. RSVP to WULN facilitator Anne Stelling 0428 565 195 anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au



Indigenous Use of Fire forum – Wednesday 20th November, 1:30 - 5:00pm, Main Lecture Theatre - La Trobe University, Wodonga. Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups in conjunction with North East Catchment Management Authority (Indigenous Engagement) is delighted to Invite you to attend the "Indigenous Use of Fire" forum. This is a rare opportunity to learn about how fire was used by the first Australians to shape the environment and how Traditional Knowledge could be applied to current management practices. Forum speakers include Prof. Bill Gammage, author of the multi-award winning "Biggest Estate on Earth", ethnobotanist Dr Beth Gott and Dr Fred Cahir, author and senior lecturer in Indigenous studies at Ballarat University. For further information contact [Belinda Pearce](mailto:Belinda.Pearce@kiewa.net.au) 0407 227 814. Cost \$10 per person. Limited places, bookings essential. Register at <http://northeast.landcarevic.net.au/kiewa/events/indigenous-use-of-fire-forum>



Biological Weed Control Workshop with the Ovens Landcare Network: A half day workshop on the use of Biological Agents to address significant weeds in the OLN region. Specialist presenters from the field and DEPI will cover all the issues on treating weeds with biological agents instead of costly chemicals or sweaty mechanical effort. This workshop will be an intensive half day covering the following: What biological control is....How it works...Case studies of successful biological control programs... Details of the weeds we are interested in ... The weed biological control portal and application Update on the current OLN Biological Weed Control Pilot Program. Lunch included.

November 19th Oxley, 20th Rutherglen, 21st Beechworth; 8am-2pm.

Numbers are limited. Register with [Trevor Danger](mailto:Trevor.Danger@depi.vic.gov.au) 0439393019



Conflict Identification and Resolution Workshop - Tuesday 26th November: 1.00 - 3.00pm, TAFEspace, 158 Lawrence Street, Wodonga. FREE workshops for volunteer, not for profit groups and committees. This practical, interactive workshop will examine the nature of group conflict to enable you to identify the early signs of conflict, understand its causes and assess its impact on the group. Your ability to successfully resolve conflict will be enhanced by improving your communications skills, understanding the benefits and role of a facilitated joint discussion and providing you with resources to assist in resolving group conflict. For bookings please contact Anne Shaw, Alpine Valleys Community Leadership Program Leadership Development Officer by Thursday 21 November 2013. Phone: 0417221010 Email: leaders@avclp.org.au



Community Landcare Leadership Program applications now open: Would you like the opportunity to enhance your leadership skills by participating in a series of workshops specifically designed for the Landcare, agribusiness and natural resource management sectors? The Community Landcare Leadership Program will consist of seven full day sessions between February and August 2014. The sessions will include: Skills workshops — leadership, communication, project management, leading change, governance and networking. High profile guest speakers. 2 day field trip—case studies featuring Landcare, agribusiness and natural resource management entrepreneurship & innovation. Applications close 1st December, 2013.

For further information and application details please contact: Anne Shaw , 0417 221010, [lead-ers@avclp.org.au](mailto:leaders@avclp.org.au)



In Safe Hands Workshop – Tuesday 3rd December: 9am-12.30. George Kerferd Hotel, Beechworth. Attend a ½ day, FREE, In Safe Hands Toolkit Workshop and receive: A FREE copy of the In Safe Hands Toolkit, Guidance from an experienced facilitator in using the In Safe Hands Toolkit. If you need help in getting started or reviewing your groups safety, then this workshop is for you. It is our advice that more than one member of a group should attend the workshop.

To register for an In Safe Hands Toolkit WORKSHOP go to www.insafehands.org.au

Opportunities to have your say



North East Regional Waterway Management Strategy: Open for public comment.

NECMA are in the early stages of renewing the old Regional River Health Strategy (2006) which will be known as the North East Regional Waterway Strategy (RWS). The RWS will be an eight year planning document outlining how priority waterways will be managed in the north east. Comments close 15th November 2013. See <http://yoursaynecma.com.au/regional-waterway-strategy?module=news#tool>



National Day of Climate Action – Sunday 17th November: Environment Victoria is teaming up with GetUp! for a massive climate rally as part of the [National Day of Climate Action on Sunday 17 November in Melbourne and all around the country](#). They are currently seeking organisers for local activities and events. [RSVP now >](#)



Interested in Rabbit management? The National Rabbit Management Facilitator is seeking community representatives to attend a workshop on Victorian rabbit control programs: Wednesday 11th December in Melbourne from 10am to 3pm. 'Opportunities to influence information and resource flows, to enable more effective and sustainable community led action on rabbits' If you are involved in rabbit control projects / initiatives, and are interested in putting your hand up for the 3 'Community Landcare' places on offer, please contact Phil Horner - VLC Delegate [e: phil-horner@bigpond.com](mailto:phil-horner@bigpond.com) 04 0893 0508

Resources



The Dirt Files: a quarterly e-newsletter from the North East Catchment Management Authority that seeks to offer practical information, ideas and tips for improving productivity and sustainability on your farm. See the first issue of [The Dirt Files it is available here to read online](#). If you would like to subscribe to The Dirt Files, [Go to the Subscription Page](#).



Inspiration on building a Community Garden: Clip of a Better Homes and Gardens story on how to get the community together and build a community garden. See following link, there are 2 parts, they did an amazing transformation of an unused and ugly space. <http://au.lifestyle.yahoo.com/better-homes-gardens/>



In Safe Hands Toolkit Program: Find out how to meet your 'duty of care' obligations to your volunteers! The volunteers within community organisations require appropriate management with respect to safety on activities. Simply hoping everything will be OK and that people will use their 'common sense' is not enough. Community groups need to have systems and process in place to provide a 'duty of care'. The In Safe Hands Toolkit is a package that is user friendly and provides resources for community groups to provide the 'duty of care' that is required. The In Safe Hands Toolkit has been developed by Conservation Volunteers Australia with a 30 year background in managing volunteers in practical conservation activity. Download a kit from <http://www.insafehands.org.au/>



Visualizing and Understanding the Science of Climate Change: A good website, with a series of online 'lessons' about the science of climate change. Useful if you are looking for ways of explaining the science clearly but not too simply... <http://www.explainingclimatechange.ca/Climate%20Change/Lessons/lessons.html>



Our Native Garden Nursery: Our Native Garden is a not-for-profit, volunteer-run organisation dedicated to developing balanced ecosystems to help create and maintain a healthy environment for animals, plants and people. ONG supplies indigenous plants suitable for Wodonga region EVC's. The nursery is situated at the rear of 56 Kiewa Valley HWY, Tawonga and is open Sundays 10am – 3.30pm March to November inclusive. Other days and times by appointment, call Jill on 0418 579 331 **Last day before summer closure Sunday 1st December**. Re-opening 1st Sunday in March.

Funding Opportunities



National Youth Week grants are available to assist groups of young people to organise events and other activities for other young people in National Youth Week 2014, celebrating and recognising the contribution of young Victorians to their community. Grants of up to \$2,000 are available. To be eligible, young people must be working in partnership with a local council, community organisation or school. For more information see <http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/about-the-department/plans,-programs-and-projects/projects-and-initiatives/youth-specific/national-youth-week-2014> WULN is more than willing to partner with young people planning Landcare or sustainability related events or activities in Wodonga. Please discuss your ideas with WULN facilitator Anne Stelling 0428 565 195 anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au