

# Wodonga Urban Landcare Network Inc.



PO Box 44,  
Wodonga VIC 3689  
Phone: 0357 283 302, Mobile: 0428 565 195  
facilitator@wodongaurbanlandcarenetwork.org.au  
www.wodongaurbanlandfcarenetwork.org.au



## Network Bulletin #24—June 2014

### Opportunities to be involved



**Earthworm & Dung Beetle Farm Walk – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June:** 1.30-3.30pm, 387 Hellhole Ck Rd, Kergunyah. Earthworms and dung beetles transform our soil for the better. Join earthworm and dung beetle specialist Dr Graeme Stevenson on a Farm Walk and learn how you can make the most of these willing workers. At the Field Day you will have the opportunity to learn:

- Basic earthworm and dung beetle identification techniques
- How earthworms and dung beetles benefit the soil
- What management practices you can put in place to maximise their potential

All participants will receive a dung beetle and earthworm identification guide and tip sheets on how to harness their benefits. There will also be an update on the Lucyvale dung beetle trials and the deep-burrowing Long worm (*Aporrectodea longa*) chook-yard trials. All welcome - bookings essential: Belinda Pearce 0407 227 814 or [belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au](mailto:belinda.pearce@landcarevic.net.au) This event is an initiative of Kiewa Catchment Landcare Groups and has been funded by the North East Regional Landcare Facilitator Program.



**Community Gardening in the Park and Waterwatch, Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June:** 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.



**Wodonga Transform-a-thon** scheduled for Sun 29<sup>th</sup> June **Postponed until September:** Further Information please contact WULN facilitator Anne Stelling on 0428565195 or [anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au](mailto:anne.stelling@landcarevic.net.au)



**Local Produce: Local Project - Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> July:** 12.30-2.30pm. Members of the Upper Murray Regional Neighbourhood House Network are applying for funding to develop a partnership / co-operative infrastructure that could meet the needs of local producers such as:

- Assisting them to work more closely with each other individually or through a co-operative
- Identifying and responding to small scale pre-production, production and marketing needs, and
- Promoting and supporting local training and education that could further support local employment.

Several meetings have already been held regionally and this meeting will provide an opportunity to work through next steps for the local community. If you would like to attend the BARANDUDA NEXT STEPS MEETING on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> July, [please click here](#) and register your details. For further information contact Ker-ryn Dwyer, 0407 839 369 or [umrnhn@bigpond.com](mailto:umrnhn@bigpond.com)



**'Tapped' – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July:** 7.30pm. Baranduda Landcare present a free community screening of this award winning film. 'Tapped' examines the role of the bottled water industry and its effects on our health, climate change, pollution, and our reliance on oil. Join in on the post screening discussion and participate in our 'blind' tastings to test whether you can pick the difference between tap; filtered tap; bottled and rain water. We'll also summarise water filtering options for home or work. If we've time we'll also view our latest Baranduda Landcare video showcasing partnerships and outcomes of our revegetation project history - and briefly touch on arrangements for our 15<sup>th</sup> annual Planet Ark Tree Community Tree Day on the 27<sup>th</sup> July. Contact Glen Johnson for details: [baranduda@landcarevic.net.au](mailto:baranduda@landcarevic.net.au)



**Friends of Nail Can Hill planning meeting – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July:** 6.30pm. Nail Can Hill is used by thousands of residents and tourists each year, and numerous community groups also stage events and utilise the area for recreation, environmental and educational purposes. In recognition of the important role this bush reserve plays for the region, its local community groups, nearby residents and fitness enthusiasts, a wide range of users have recently agreed to form a Friends of Nail Can Hill group. A planning meeting will be held at the Mitta Mitta Canoe Club, Noreuil Park, Albury. Everyone with an interest in Nail Can Hill is welcome to attend, but RSVPs are essential for seating and catering purposes. If you would like to play a role in forming the new Friends of Nail Can Hill group, or if your community group feels that it should be represented to ensure that its voice is heard, then please **RSVP to Stuart Roberton** on 0413 817 840 or email [stuart@parklands-albury-wodonga.org.au](mailto:stuart@parklands-albury-wodonga.org.au)



**Sustainable Gardening Workshop – Soils - Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>/Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July:** Seed Savers Albury-Wodonga is running a series of 'sustainable gardening' workshops in Thurgoona over coming months. The sessions are free but reservations are required and places are limited. Attend as many, or as few, of the topics as you like. Each of the sessions will run on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Topics include Soils – 12 or 13 July, Propagation, seed saving and surviving summers – 11 or 12 October. Suitable for anyone looking to extend their gardening skills or get some new ideas, from beginners to experienced gardeners. More details online at – <http://ecoportal.net.au/event/get-growing-sustainably-gardening-workshop-thurgoona>



**Yackandandah Community Food Swap – Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July:** 9.30-11am, Yackandandah Community Garden, Railway Avenue, Yackandandah. [Yack Sustainability](#) has established a monthly Yackandandah Community Food Swap, held on a regular third Saturday of the month at the new community garden next to the swimming pool. From 9.30am to about 11am on the Saturday morning you will find tables piled high with produce in and community members sharing a cuppa and conversation, and maybe even some gardening. Everyone is welcome.



**Friends of Willow Park Social Night – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July:** 6.15pm, German Austrian Australian Club, 5 McFarland Road Wodonga. All welcome. A reasonably priced meal is available at the club. Meet some members of Friends of Willow Park. For bookings to attend please contact Pauline Anderson on 02 6056 6275 or email [paulsando12@yahoo.com.au](mailto:paulsando12@yahoo.com.au) a few days before the night.



**Community Gardening in the Park and Waterwatch, Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July:** 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.



**Hume Building Society 11th Annual Planting Day - Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July:** 10 - 12am. Hume Building Society staff, family, friends and customers invite the general public to join their 11th annual tree planting day. Meeting point and planting location to be advised closer to the day. Whilst tools, plants and BBQ lunch will be provided, we would appreciate anyone bringing their own tools and gloves. The event will be cancelled if there is heavy rain. To assist with catering, please RSVP to: [info@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au](mailto:info@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au)



**Baranduda Landcare Planet Ark 15th Annual Community Tree Planting Day – Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July:** 9:45am-1pm. Help us celebrate our 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Tree Planting Day Meet 9.45am on site, Follow signs past Westmont Aged Care, Turn left from Boyes into Avalon Road, 10am (sharp) briefing re: planting into the Wodonga Retained Environment Network (WREN) Reserve. A traditional post-planting free BBQ will follow on-site at 12.45pm. This is a great way to meet local people and help enhance our local environment. BYO: sturdy footwear, warm clothes and gloves, and if possible, a mattock and hammer for wooden stakes. To enable us to cater please register your participation before 24<sup>th</sup> July (much earlier appreciated – we'll even provide an extra special BBQ treat for those that book in during June). Remember to advise any dietary preference – vegan, vegetarian, gluten free etc. RSVP now via WULN BLC website: <http://wodongaurbanlandcarenetwork.org.au/blc/events/community-tree-planting-baranduda-lcare-15th-annual-tree-day/>



**AlburyCity National Tree Day- Sunday 27 July:** 11am - 2pm. Corry's Wood Parkland, Thurgoona, and **Sunday 3 August:** 11am - 2pm, Apex Park (The Pines) Hume Weir. Take part in the country's largest community tree planting and nature care event! Come along and help Albury-City plant some trees (and shrubs and grasses), learn about weeds and enjoy a free BBQ lunch! We will provide plants, tools, lunch and water. Please BYO gloves.



**Platypus Talk – Wednesday August 6<sup>th</sup>:** 7.30pm, Belvoir School, Gayview Drive, Wodonga. Back by popular demand! Friends of Willow Park present an information evening with Geoff Williams. Everyone welcome, light supper provided. Free entry.



**Platypus Walk – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August:** Friends of Willow Park present Spotting Platypus with Geoff Williams. Geoff will lead a group walk to known platypus spotting sites. Limited places - Bookings essential. Contact Bart on 0419 390 329 or [president@friendsofwillowpark.org.au](mailto:president@friendsofwillowpark.org.au)



**National Landcare Conference - Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup>. 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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



**First Aid for Children:** St John Ambulance (Queensland) has launched a free first-aid e-learning program aimed at children aged from prep to year six. The fun and interactive online learning tool provides basic first-aid knowledge for children. The e-learning program can be used on computers, smartphones and tablets, and is a great way for kids to learn how to deal with emergencies. Visit [schools.stjohnqld.com.au](http://schools.stjohnqld.com.au)



**Women in Ag Step Up series – commencing Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July:** "Brilliant Communication Skills" includes up to 5 sessions; 1<sup>st</sup> Session starts Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2014. "Pasture Management" includes up to 5 sessions; 1<sup>st</sup> Session starts Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2014. These Step-Up sessions are the cornerstone of Holbrook Landcare's Women in Ag program and, as such, they are designed for 'Women in Ag' so you can develop your skills in a safe, confident learning environment. The great thing about the Step-Up program is you learn together in a group and we will be building on learnings from the previous sessions, so it is ideal if you can choose 1 Step-Up topic and participate in as many sessions as you can. Please reply with an indication of which Step-Up course you would like to join, to Elise Wenden, Holbrook Landcare Network, 02 6036 3181, 0401 243 470 [elisewenden@holbrooklandcare.org.au](mailto:elisewenden@holbrooklandcare.org.au)

# Resources & Inspiration



**Asian Black-spined Toad – Biosecurity alert!!** A single Asian black-spined toad was recently found at Sunbury, on the edge of Melbourne. Hopefully there is only one toad, but we can't be sure. Please look out for them. If you find one (or even a cane toad), contact DEPI on 136 186 or email [highrisk.invasiveanimals@depi.vic.gov.au](mailto:highrisk.invasiveanimals@depi.vic.gov.au). The black-spined toads look a lot like cane toads, slightly smaller, but have rough skin with a blunt dark spine. Their colour is variable. They are just as devastating for wildlife. There is a [page](#) about them on the Invasive Species Council website, with good clear photos.



**Clean fill available:** Green Chip Recycling in Wodonga (near the saleyards) are on the receiving end of large volumes of soil removed during the installation of the NBN, that is available as clean fill (mostly clay & gravel) for free to anyone who wants it. It has been tested to be free of contaminants. They are prepared to deliver free for less than 50km or part cost for further distances. Contact Terry Corrigan at Greenchip on 0425 757 700.



**Milk Cartons Available:** Roger C Browns in Corryong have a pallet of unused 1 litre milk cartons suitable for tree guards available free. They want to get rid of the entire pallet in one go, so does a group want a couple of years supply? The pallet is made up of boxes of 500 cartons. You would have to arrange transport from Corryong. If you are interested, speak to Roy Brown direct on 02 6076 1788.



**New CMA Website:** The North East CMA has just enabled a great new website at [www.necma.vic.gov.au](http://www.necma.vic.gov.au) Plenty of information for local landcarers.



**Native Plant Guides:** Native Plant Lists for the North East region are now available online via the Regional Landcare Facilitator 'Resources' page on the Landcare Gateway. These guides are a key resource for all landholders when undertaking any native planting projects. It is important that appropriate indigenous species are used to ensure that the biodiversity values of existing remnant bushland are enhanced and provide suitable habitat for the diversity of native fauna. [www.landcarevic.net.au/northeast/rf/resources](http://www.landcarevic.net.au/northeast/rf/resources)



**In Safe Hands Toolkit training is now online:** You can now receive training in using the In Safe Hands Toolkit (toolkit available from WULN). This training is self-paced and introduces you to basics of implementing the Toolkit. To view all of the In Safe Hands Toolkit training allow 30 minutes. [Click here to view the In Safe Hands Toolkit training](#)



**Agriculture and broadscale Biodiversity:** If you are seeking a more agricultural focus than found within these WULN Bulletins, I highly recommend the Holbrook Landcare Network site at <http://www.holbrooklandcare.org.au/> and the activities of the Kiewa Catchment Landcare Network; see <http://northeast.landcarevic.net.au/kiewa>



**Transforming farm dams into biodiverse wetlands:** [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=clxfkq\\_NjTY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=clxfkq_NjTY)

# Funding Opportunities



**The Bjarne K Dahl Trust Small Grants Program:** Applications for round two open in July. 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. 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. Website: <http://dahltrust.org.au/grants/> Application: <http://dahltrust.org.au/grants/apply/>



**Yates Creative Gardening Grants:** In celebration of the 25 years that Landcare Australia has been working with the Landcare community, Yates is proud to award 25 grants of up to \$1,000 each to schools and youth groups who can demonstrate innovative ways of creating a garden within their school or community. The program will fund garden ideas that assist an environmental issue

that an entrant's school or group is tackling – whether through upcycling, recycling and water saving initiatives, preserving plant specimens, connecting with local Landcare groups or environmental workshops. Applications open to all schools and youth groups across Australia. Applications close on **4<sup>th</sup> July 2014**. For more information go to: <http://www.juniorlandcare.com.au/grants-2/yates-creative-gardening-grants>



**Assistance to protect and enhance Seasonally Herbaceous Wetlands:** Incentives are available for landholders located in the Northeast catchment. Activities funded include fencing of wetlands, planting of native understory plants and weed and pest animal control works. Contact North East CMA, Simon Feillafe on 02 6043 7600 or [simon.feillafe@necma.vic.gov.au](mailto:simon.feillafe@necma.vic.gov.au) OR Trust for Nature, Karen Tymms on 0417 327 514 or [karent@tfn.org.au](mailto:karent@tfn.org.au)



**Assistance to protect and enhance Threatened Grassy Woodlands:** Incentives are available for landholders located in the Northeast catchment. Activities funded include fencing of remnant woodlands, grasslands, planting of native trees and understory plants and weed and pest animal control works. Contact North East CMA, Simon Feillafe on 02 6043 7600 or [simon.feillafe@necma.vic.gov.au](mailto:simon.feillafe@necma.vic.gov.au) OR Trust for Nature, Karen Tymms on 0417 327 514 or [karent@tfn.org.au](mailto:karent@tfn.org.au)



**Assistance to protect and enhance Remnant Native Bushland:** Financial incentives are currently available for private landholders to protect and enhance their bushland. Incentives can include fencing bushland, native tree and understory planting, weed and pest control, depending on the requirements of your site. Contact Trust for Nature, Will Ford, 0418 300 959 or [willf@tfn.org.au](mailto:willf@tfn.org.au)



**Assistance to establish revegetation:** Financial incentives are currently available for private landholders to rehabilitate their properties with strategic revegetation works. Contact Trust for Nature, Will Ford, 0418 300 959 or [willf@tfn.org.au](mailto:willf@tfn.org.au)



**The R E Ross Trust Grants:** The grants aim for impact in 4 areas; Improved outcomes for the most disadvantaged, vulnerable and marginalised Victorians; Improved outcomes for children and young people at risk (0–18 years), Improved access to and achievement of equity and excellence in public education; Protection and preservation of Australian flora and fauna. Organisations must first submit an expression of interest for consideration by the Trustees and may then be invited to submit a full application. Applications are considered all year round. <http://www.rosstrust.org.au/grants/apply-for-a-grant/>



**Perfect Patch of Green Program:** Turf Australia has partnered with Junior Landcare to run the Perfect Patch of Green program, which will invite schools and youth groups to describe how natural turf would enhance their environment and how their school grounds or recreational areas would benefit from a real grass makeover. By doing so, they will be in with the chance of being one of the 15 lucky schools that will be visited by a professional turf grower, who will lay real turf in their school grounds as natural grass coverage for students to enjoy. Schools, Teachers and students will be encouraged to describe how real turf will make a positive difference to their school community and outline their commitment to maintaining the new turf area. Applications open on May 1st and close on July 31st. Winners will be announced in September. [Application forms and criteria are available here.](#)

## Opportunities to have your say



**Meet with our future Senator for Victoria:** Senator Elect for Victoria, Janet Rice is on a 'Journey to Canberra' to join the new Senate on 1 July, and is interested in attending formal or informal community events en route. The 'Journey to Canberra' will travel through North East Victoria in time for Janet to join the new Senate on 1 July. Janet is interested in talking to you and your organisation about the work you do on sustainability, addressing climate change and social justice. Janet is keen to talk about issues such as transport, climate change, employment opportunities and refugee issues for example, or just generally being at an event which allows her to meet people, talk a bit about The Greens and being your Senator, and critically giving her an opportunity to meet local people and hear from them. Janet will arrive in Wodonga on Friday 27 June. She is having a community day on Saturday 28th June, where there will be opportunities for her to be getting out and about and meeting people. To arrange a meeting contact Mark Riley for the [Journey to Canberra with Greens Senator-elect Janet Rice](#) on 0432 030 211 or [markriley@netspace.net.au](mailto:markriley@netspace.net.au)



**Rural Landholder Research Project:** The landscape of North East Victoria produces a surprising variety and abundance of food and fibre products. However, demographics are gradually shifting and as much as half the cleared rural land in our region is now owned and managed by people who are not full-time farmers.

Lois Cochrane, a 3rd Year student from La Trobe Uni, is assisting the Regional Landcare Facilitators by undertaking some research to find out more about this group of landholders. What is their vision for their rural block? How are they utilising their land? What land management issues impact them? And most importantly, what do they need and how can we help? Lois' project will help ensure we can provide relevant information to this group of landholders. Your participation is invited. Fill out the survey [here](#).



**Bob Hawke Landcare Award:** The Bob Hawke Landcare Award is open to individuals who have demonstrated leadership and a commitment to natural resource management and sustainable agriculture. To be eligible for the award, you must be an individual, an Australian citizen, actively involved in Landcare or sustainable agriculture, and have demonstrated leadership and a commitment to natural resource management and sustainable agriculture. Nominees must demonstrate a remarkable commitment to caring for the land, champion better practices and give their time to share knowledge with others so that they too can prosper. The Bob Hawke Landcare Award prize package is worth **\$50,000**. The recipient will be given an opportunity to further develop and champion their knowledge and skills in sustainable land management and Landcare. You can nominate someone using the online entry form here - <http://www.bobhawkelandcareaward.com.au/enterstep.php> Nominations close **5pm EST on 4 July 2014**. The award will be presented at the 2014 National Landcare Awards gala dinner on 18th September in Melbourne. For more information go to <http://www.bobhawkelandcareaward.com.au/about.php>

## 4 Good Reasons to join WULN!

We can help your group access *Ideas and Resources* to inspire the community, find new members and start new projects.

We can extend our governance structure to *Support Your Group* with public liability insurance, managing finances and administration, planning, project management, evaluation and reporting.

We can provide a *Central repository and linkage point* for finding local information, people to help, finding funding for projects, bulk purchasing opportunities, lobbying, taking concerted action, etc.

Together we can *Work on the Bigger Picture*; planning for environmental activities that link across the whole of Wodonga.

Our Network is comprised of and managed by Wodonga based volunteer community groups who pay an annual membership fee. Individuals are also welcome to join our mailing list and register with our Website, at no cost.

See our contact details on page 1.