

## FUNDING FOR LANDHOLDERS

**Funds available for environmental works on Private Land to improve & protect:**

**River and creek bank vegetation  
Native bushland and grasslands  
Degraded and eroded land**



For Further Information Contact:

**Helen Ward**  
Landcare Community Support Officer - Southern Tablelands  
Phone: 02 4828 6752  
Email: Helen.Ward@cma.nsw.gov.au

**Daniel Anderson**  
Landcare Community Support Officer -Southern Highlands  
Phone: 02 4861 9014  
Email: Daniel.Anderson@cma.nsw.gov.au

**Geoff O'Connor**  
Regional Natural Resource Management Facilitator  
Phone: 02 4861 9012  
Email: Geoff.Oconnor@cma.nsw.gov.au

**Visit our website**  
[www.hn.cma.nsw.gov.au](http://www.hn.cma.nsw.gov.au)

Don't forget **Clean up Australia Day** is on the 2nd of March.  
Visit [www.cleanup.com.au](http://www.cleanup.com.au) or call 1800 282 329

**If you have an event coming up or an article you would like to submit to this newsletter contact:**  
**Helen Ward 4828 6752**  
**Daniel Anderson 4861 9014**

**Also, if you can help save resources by receiving this newsletter by email please advise.**



Welcome to the first edition of the Warbler for 2008 and what a nice green start to the new year it is. 2008 is the International Year of Planet Earth and my message for 2008 is to remember the **3 R's**

### REDUCE, RE-USE, RECYCLE

Did you know that Australians are the second highest producers of waste in the world after America? Each year, each Australian sends about 690 kg of rubbish to landfill. You and every other Australian contribute around one tonne of waste each year. Waste disposal is a major issue for the government and the community. If we minimise waste by avoiding and reducing waste, and reusing and recycling, we can cut waste by up to 50 percent—and even more if we compost.

#### Reduce

The most effective way to help the environment is to reduce your waste before it becomes rubbish.

- Become informed about the environmental impacts of the products you buy.
- Buy bulk when possible
- Choose products with less packaging
- Choose products with recyclable or reusable packaging
- Carry reusable shopping bags or boxes
- Say 'no' to unnecessary plastic bags and other packaging
- Buy quality goods that will last
- Buy recycled goods which have already saved resources and raw materials
- Reduce energy and water use

#### Re-use

- Look for products in reusable, refillable or recyclable packaging
- Donate unwanted clothing, furniture and white goods to charities
- Enquire if goods can be repaired rather than replaced
- Use rechargeable batteries rather than single-use batteries and ask your local council about how to dispose of batteries properly
- Use glass bottles and jars, plastic bags, aluminium foil and take away food containers over and over again before recycling or disposing of them.
- Re-use envelopes and use both sides of paper

#### Recycle

- Recycling generates civic pride and environmental awareness
- Recycling helps prevent environmental pollution
- Recycling saves natural resources
- Recycling reduces the amount of material dumped in landfill sites and helps our waste disposal systems



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## AROUND THE GROUPS

### 2007 Hawkesbury-Nepean Landcare Forum

The inaugural Hawkesbury-Nepean Landcare forum was held on 30th of November 2007 at the Bowden Centre, Mt Annan Botanic Gardens. Other Landcare forums and workshops have been held over the years in various parts of the catchment, but this was the first Hawkesbury Nepean catchment wide forum.

The main aim of the forum was to thank Landcare volunteers for their contribution to natural resource management in the catchment. It was also an opportunity to present the inaugural Hawkesbury-Nepean Regional Landcare Awards and a great chance for Landcare groups to get together.

The forum program included the welcome to country, performed by Dr Francis Bodkin and John Lennis. Forum MC, Bill Dixon, kept the program on track and Chair, John Klem, presented the awards to 9



*John Klem presented the awards for Individual Landcarer*

category winners as well as several highly commended awards. Landcare Board member, Angus Gibson, launched the Landcare report and closed the proceedings. Key speakers were David Carr from Greening Australia who presented information on the latest ideas on provenance seed; and Professor Nicholas Klomp from Charles Sturt University who gave an inspiring talk titled 'Achieving sustainability in a crazy world'. Two tours were offered after the lunch break: one to the Mt Annan seedbank and nursery and the other to the Stolen Generations Memorial, a Gandangarra LALC Landcare group project.

Almost 100 people participated in the forum, over 70% were Landcare and Bushcare volunteers, with the remainder comprising Hawkesbury-Nepean CMA and local government staff. Feedback on the day was very positive. In particular, the key speakers were congratulated both because of the quality of their presentations and because of the relevance of the presentations to Landcare activities. The tours and awards presentation were also appreciated as was the opportunity to meet other Landcare volunteers and see displays about Landcare projects. Many people also commented on the excellent venue and catering. Since the forum several landcarers have commented that it was great to see and hear what else is happening in our very large catchment and how reassuring it is to be part of a much broader picture. It has been suggested that similar forums be held at least on a biannual basis at venues that rotate around the catchment to enable as many Landcare groups as possible to attend.

**Geoff O' Connor & Mary Mulvaney**

### HAWKESBURY-NEPEAN GROUPS RECOGNISED AT NSW LANDCARE AWARDS

The Gandangarra Aboriginal Landcare Group (based at the Mt Annan Botanic Gardens) and Friends of Avalon Dunes (at Avalon Beach) won the Indigenous Group and Coastcare categories respectively and will now go on to represent NSW in the National Landcare Awards in 2008. It was a big year for local groups with five Hawkesbury Nepean groups nominated in the state finals. In addition, the Hawkesbury Nepean CMA received a finals nomination for its River Health Strategy. It was the best representation the Hawkesbury Nepean had ever had at the NSW Landcare Awards.

### Wingecarribee Community Nursery Update.

Now that 2008 has arrived it is a great time to finally unveil another chapter for Landcare in the Southern Highlands. The emergence of a possible Community Nursery Venture has been long discussed, many ideas and options offered. I am pleased to announce that the Wingecarribee Community Nursery will be launched with an 'Introductory Welcome to Community Nursery Workshop'. The workshop will be held on **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** at the new nursery site located at the Wingecarribee Shire Council - Works Depot on Berrima Road Moss Vale. The workshop will run from 9.30am until 1pm lunch will be provided.

The introductory workshop will provide valuable insight into the general operations and functions of a community nursery, looking briefly at the skills of seed collecting, propagation and growing on of native plants. The workshop will be presented by Eileen Burnus who has extensive experience in managing a highly successful community nursery at Picton. This will be a great opportunity for anyone who is interested in the propagation of local native plant species to become involved in Landcare & Bushcare. The nursery will become a vital asset to the local Landcare & Bushcare groups by supplying local provenance plants for important projects that are restoring the native areas within our Shire.

To register please contact Daniel Anderson at the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority Office in Moss Vale.

Phone: 4861-9014

Email: [daniel.m.anderson@cma.nsw.gov.au](mailto:daniel.m.anderson@cma.nsw.gov.au)

## Free chemical collection



Want to get old pesticides and herbicides off your farm and out of the house? Take them to a free chemical collection organised by the Sydney Catchment Authority (SCA) with support from the Department of Environment and Climate Change (NSW), Wingecarribee Shire Council, and Wollondilly Shire Council.

Collection dates are:

- Saturday 8 March 2008 from 9.00am to 4.00pm at Goulburn-Mulwaree Works Depot, Hetherington Street, Goulburn
- Sunday 9 March 2008 from 1.00pm to 4.00pm at Tarago Waste Management Centre, Lumley Road, Tarago
- Saturday 29 March 2008 from 9.00am to 4.00pm at Wingecarribee Shire Council Works Depot, Berrima Road, Moss Vale
- Saturday 5 April 2008 from 9.00am to 4.00pm at Wollondilly Shire Council carpark, Menangle Street, Picton.

The SCA will also undertake collections at Braidwood, Crookwell, Taralga and Lithgow during March and April 2008.

Chemicals that can be dropped off include pesticides and herbicides (fungicides, baits/poisons, wood preservatives), paint and paint-related products, solvents and household cleaners, motor oils and fuels, batteries, gas bottles, fire extinguishers, pool and hobby chemicals (photography chemicals etc), acids and alkalis. Unwanted chemicals should be packed in secure containers and carefully transported to collection points to ensure chemicals do not leak or spill.

Only household quantities from non business sources are accepted at the collection. If you intend to drop off larger amounts of chemicals, please call the Clean Out Hotline on **131 555**. Once collected, chemicals are made safe, recycled or destroyed.

"Our annual chemical collections received an outstanding response last year when a total of 840 people attended six collections and deposited over 38 tonnes of chemical waste," said George Dodds, SCA General Manager Catchment Operations and Major Projects. "We're looking forward to an even bigger response this year. By supporting chemical collection programs landowners in the catchments are working to protect their local environment and waterways".

For more information call the Clean Out Hotline on **131 555** for the cost of a local call and ask for the "Household Chemical CleanOut Program" or go to [www.cleanout.com.au](http://www.cleanout.com.au).

### Snake season is here again

Snakes have been laying low for the winter but now is the time for them to start putting back the fat reserves they have lost over the colder months. They move around in search of food such as mice, frogs, insects, lizards and small mammals. They also eat other snakes with documented evidence showing that red-bellied black snakes will eat eastern browns. Snakes have a very beneficial role to play in keeping the natural balance of many species in check. Species that occur around the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment area are the eastern brown and tiger snakes.

In most cases snakes are moving around in search of food or a place to escape the heat or cold and so if left alone will not cause any problems. In fact the statistics show that well over 90 per cent of people who are bitten by snakes are trying to kill or catch them. So the best policy is to leave them alone and give them plenty of space. Other things you can do to reduce the chance of interacting with snakes are to ensure your yard is clean of rubbish and other materials where snakes like to take shelter and make sure your lawn is kept short.

### Its important that everyone be aware that snakes are protected by law in NSW.

If you need to remove a snake contact:

**W.I.R.E.S NSW Wildlife Information & Rescue Service on 4822 3888**

The Scientific Committee, established by the Threatened Species Act, has made a final determination to list **TABLELAND BASALT FOREST** in the Sydney Basin and South Eastern Highlands Bioregions, as an **ENDANGERED ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITY**.

## TRAINING

### PROPERTY MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Presented by Quality Rural Solutions

#### Commencing in GOULBURN

**Sunday, 17 February 2008, 9.30 am - 4.00 pm**

5 further days of the course and locations to be decided by participants

Additional Courses are anticipated to run in Moss Vale, Lithgow and Windsor

**Do you wish to develop a Farm Management Plan that aligns Land Use with Land Capability?  
Do you wish to improve Productivity in a Sustainable way?**

**You can achieve this** by constructing a holistic and dynamic plan for your farm. In constructing your Farm Plan, you will learn how to:

- Improve productivity in a sustainable manner
- Identify soil types and land classes
- Identify native vegetation species and communities
- Manage the water demands on your farm
- Decide where to run fences, stock and crops, rotational grazing
- Refine your priorities and timetables so you can realise your personal and financial goals
- Discuss holistic and natural sequence farming

**Cost: \$350.00 (Incl. GST) / Farm Family (normally \$2,157.00)**

Price includes comprehensive manual, map overlays and 4 Tocal Books:  
*Physical Property Planning and Vegetation Survey and Assessment*

### Introduction to Animal Health Risk Management

**8 Feb 11 Apr, 13 Jun, 8 Aug, 10 Oct & 12 Dec 2008  
A one day course (9.00 am – 4.30 pm)**

**COST: \$230.00**

This workshop has recently been developed to educate producers in minimising the risk of introducing animal diseases to their farm. The introduction of an infectious disease can devastate Australia's agricultural industries with serious consequences for long term sustainability and continued market access. This course is applicable for a variety of biosecurity risks including Varroa mite, Newcastle Disease, Equine Influenza and OJD. A critical outcome from the workshop is a template for farmers and managers to use to develop a risk management plan to meet their specific needs.

#### Contacts:

**Maryke Archbold-Hession** or Lex Myhill

**Phone:** 4640 6333 or 0408 492039

**Email:** [maryke.hession@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:maryke.hession@dpi.nsw.gov.au)  
[lex.myhill@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lex.myhill@dpi.nsw.gov.au)



healthy land.  
sustainable future.

Partnering with nature to regenerate land, increase productivity and profitability.

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The proven approach of Holistic Management® works.

Contact us for more information or to register for the next program to be held in your region 12 & 13 March 2008

Presented by George Gundry

Holistic Management International/Australia Ltd

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Mobile: 0424 225 397

Website: [www.holisticmanagement.org.au](http://www.holisticmanagement.org.au)

#### BENEFITS OF HOLISTIC MANAGEMENT:

- Increased profits
- Reduce input costs
- Build soil carbon
- Create biologically active soils
- Enhance biodiversity
- Improve nutrient cycling
- Increase land productivity
- Manage drought effectively
- Increase carrying capacity
- Maximise benefit from rainfall
- Reduce erosion and flooding
- Reduce the impact of weeds
- Maintain maximum ground cover

### The Topoclimate System

The Topoclimate system has been used by thousands of farmers throughout the world to increase sustainable profitability through the maximum utilisation of quality information on natural resources (soils, microclimates, water resources, environmental values, salinity). The Topoclimate Process is now available as a nine module e-learning course which can be completed over the internet.

More information including a free introductory module of the course can be found at:

[www.topoclimate.com](http://www.topoclimate.com)

### Willow Warriors Landcare Group

#### Willows Out of the Wingecarribee and Wollondilly Project (WOWW!!!)



The Willow Warriors Landcare Group is treating invasive willows from the riparian zone of the Wingecarribee and Wollondilly Rivers. We are treating willows because they choke up the river and can cause rivers to change their course. They also compete with native vegetation for space, light and nutrients and reduce the amount of habitat and food available for native fauna.

We are concentrating hard on treating the types of willows that can spread rapidly and cause significant impacts over a short period of time. These include willows that spread from seed such as *Salix cinerea* (commonly called Pussy Willow, or Grey Sallow Willow) and their hybrids as well as non-seeding fragile willows such as *Salix fragilis* (commonly called Crack or Basket Willow) which spread along the river when their brittle branches break off, get washed downstream and take root.

We currently have a number of projects along the Wollondilly and Wingecarribee Rivers, as well as projects in the northern area of the catchment along the Grose River and the Hawkesbury-Nepean around Penrith and Richmond. Willow warriors also has a project along the Goobarragandra River near Tumut.

Along the Wingecarribee and the Wollondilly we are helping Wingecarribee Shire Council, the Sydney Catchment Authority, the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the Hawkesbury-Nepean CMA with activities such as mapping and treating willows as well as assisting in the development of a Willows Management Plan. We are currently concentrating our treatment efforts in the following locations:- Cecil Hoskins Reserve, Moss Vale Berrima Weir to Old Hume Hwy bridge, Berrima Freeway bridge and Wallaby Rocks, Berrima Goodman's Ford area to Warragamba Dam

Willow warriors is always keen for interested people to come along on an activity and see what we do. For more information about the project and group or to join in on the fun go to [www.willowwarriors.org.au](http://www.willowwarriors.org.au)

#### Jeff Cottrell



## RESOURCES

### CRC Weeds Guide

A new Weeds CRC publication lists over 28,000 introduced plant species and their weed status. This is an invaluable resource to those who care about the environment and wish to ensure that the plants chosen for revegetation projects, landscaping and gardens are not likely to become weedy and a threat to our bushland. To view this publication visit:

[www.weeds.crc.org.au/publications/index.html](http://www.weeds.crc.org.au/publications/index.html)

### CO2 News

CO2 News is an electronic newsletter for those interested in climate change, emissions reduction initiatives and renewable energy issues in Australia. To subscribe: [mail@opusmedia.com.au](mailto:mail@opusmedia.com.au)

**The following can be found on the HNCMA Website [www.hn.cma.nsw.gov.au](http://www.hn.cma.nsw.gov.au)**

### Local Provenance Plant and Seed Strategy

The HNCMA has developed a Local Provenance Plant and Seed Strategy for the catchment. The strategy reviewed existing provenance guidelines and assessed provenance seed and plant availability across the catchment. It builds on existing Hawkesbury-Nepean CMA provenance protocols and aims to ensure that plants of local provenance - grown from seed that is collected as close as possible to the planting site are available for revegetation projects.

### Healing the Catchment

This report highlights the remarkable contribution of over 2,752 Landcare group members in the catchment who provide more than 68,487 volunteer hours and over \$2 million in labour to environmental works every year. This report also profiles a diverse range of 14 landcare groups from across the catchment.

### The Source - Issue No. 6 Summer 2007/08

The Source is a newsletter about natural resource and environmental issues and projects in the Hawkesbury Nepean - a catchment of national significance.

### NSW rainwater tank rebate

The rebate is available for the installation of any new rainwater storage system in residential properties in NSW.

- The tank (s) must have a minimum 2000 litre capacity and be purchased in full and installed between 1 July 2007 and 30 June 2009
- The rebate is based on the size of the tank and whether the rainwater is plumbed into your toilet or washing machine
- You apply for the rebate after your tank has been installed and any plumbing work completed.

[www.environment.nsw.gov.au/rebates/ccfrtw.htm](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/rebates/ccfrtw.htm)