

Northwest Cumberland Carers

NETWORK NEWS

In March 2008 members of the Northwest Cumberland Carers network met for a morning of Native Plant Propagation and a Sustainable Building Tour at the newly opened Fairfield Community Nursery. Daniel Smart, Nursery Manager showed the group how to prick out seedlings and transfer them to tubes, as well as giving an explanation of how the igloo works, and the plants that have been propagated from seed.

The Sustainable building next door to the nursery is also an amazing resource that is available for hire later in 2008. A lot of effort and funds have gone into its design and structure. It was interesting to hear about its features for saving water, power, and controlling temperature from Lisa Penthurst, of Fairfield Council.

For more news on the next network activity go to the "Join in" Section over the page.

Rebecca Mooy
Community Support Officer
Hawkesbury Nepean
Catchment Management Authority



Banks Reserve Bushcare Group

Banks Reserve Bushcare group, work on a small patch of remnant bushland located in Kings Langley. The reserve is bounded by Sparman Crescent, Hawke Place, Joseph Banks Drive and Vardy's Road, Kings Langley.

The group formed ten years ago in August 1998 and have been meeting monthly ever since. The volunteers have remained pretty much the same with the pioneers still toiling away at their special piece of land.

Lalor Creek flows through Banks Reserve. Along the creek is an important remnant of Cumberland Plain Woodland. The Reserve also has grassed areas for recreation, a drainage basin for flood mitigation and a newly installed bicycle track enabling the wider community to enjoy its features.

To date the dedicated Bushcare Group have removed tonnes of weeds and rubbish and planted hundreds of trees and endemic plants. The group has also attracted significant monetary investment through various funding grants. This money has been spent on the reserve for bush regeneration, weed eradication, tree planting and erosion control

"Congratulations Banks Reserve and well done! Your work and dedication is priceless, please keep it up!" said Carolyn Adamcewicz, Blacktown Council's Open Space Technical Officer.



Erosion and Sediment control along the Creek walk in Banks Reserve



Landcare Mobile Muster

Recently Penrith City Council was successful in their application for funding from Landcare's Mobile Muster. With these funds the council has been able to buy 10,000 plants to assist in revegetating Penrith. To date plantings have occurred at Bellbird Reserve, Peppermint Reserve, Huntington Reserve, Hollier Reserve and along Werrington Creek with many more planting events to occur over the next six months.



Gleditsia Removal on River Road

A program of removing 90 Gleditsia triacanthos (Honey locust) from along River Road was completed in March. River Road is a linear riparian corridor where a lot of passive recreation occurs.

The Gleditsia trees have very sharp thorns on their trunks which makes them an occupational health and safety hazard.

Many of the trees were huge. A crane, a cherry picker, a back hoe and a mulcher were all involved in the removal process. It was impressive how little of the trees needed to be manually handled.



Crane used to hold the tree whilst being cut

HNCMA funds assist the Great River Walk

At Weir Reserve along the Great River Walk work has involved extensive weed removal over the past few months. Balloon vine, Madeira vine and Lantana were the main targets. In order to ensure the maximum kill of Madeira vine tubers, the slope needed to be monitored and resprayed as the tubers germinated. In March the slopes were jute matted and then revegetated with 3000 trees, shrubs and ground covers. On going maintenance, in the form of watering and weeding will continue.



Before the weed removal



The final result

Mulgoa School encouraging Landcare ways

20 students from the Nepean Christian School recently had a Landcare afternoon with help from members of the Mulgoa Valley Landcare group and the Bushdoctor. It was a highly successful afternoon with the students getting stuck into restoring the riparian vegetation along the Creek. The students focused their attention on the main weeds including Moth vine, Privet, and African Olive. The students are looking forward to their next Landcare activity.



Lisa Sinclair briefs Year 9 science

Join In

Northwest Cumberland Carers Network—Tree Planting Morning

When: Saturday 19th July 9:00am – 11:30am
Where: Whalan Reserve, Ropes Creek (cnr Debinat Ave & Wilkes Cres, Whalan)
Or Under the powerlines opposite Tregear Reserve, Ropes Creek Nth St Marys
Bring: Bottle of Water, suncream
Wear: Sturdy shoes, long pants, gloves and hat

Other National Tree Day Blacktown locations

When: Sunday 27th July from 9am-1pm

Whitehaven Reserve - Walker Street, Quakers Hill

Pearce Reserve -Joseph Banks Drive, Kings Langley

Morreau Reserve Church Lane, Rooty Hill

Other National Tree Day Penrith locations

When: Friday 25th July
Schools Tree day will be at Clissold Reserve and several other schools will be assisting with planting days either in their school grounds or within Council reserves.

When: Sunday 27th July
To join in with other plantings in Penrith have a look at

<http://treeday.planetark.com/find-a-site/>

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