

Regional Landcare Update

The fortnightly e-news of the New England-North West Landcare Network

Issue 44: 31st October 2011

Survey Findings on Landcare Landscape

In August, Landcare Australia conducted a survey to ascertain the needs + challenges faced by volunteer Landcare groups. Feedback provided has indicated numbers of volunteer landcarers, key activities for Landcare groups and demographic information about Landcare volunteers. The full report is now available for download at www.landcareonline.com

Tertiary Scholarships Now Open

University + vocational students are encouraged to apply for one of eight scholarships being offered by NSW Farmers, as part of the annual Tertiary Scholarship Program. The Scholarship is awarded to students who are passionate about agricultural industries and the rural communities they live in. Seven of the scholarships are available to students undertaking a full-time university degree in their second or subsequent year of study. There is also a vocational scholarship available to a full-time student in their first or second year of full-time study at a vocational level. Applications close 10.2.2012. Visit www.nswfarmers.org.au

Pasture Research Showcase

Tamworth Agricultural Institute will host an open field day on 11th November from 12 noon. Features include results from trials taking place at Tamworth Ag Institute, including:

- Losses from top dressed nitrogen
- Tropical perennial legumes for northern NSW
- Finding a persistent green panic
- The latest in Biochar nutrient mineralization and production.

Lunch included. RSVP to TAI 67631100 by 9.11.2011.

Cattle Fertility @ Barraba

Double B Beef and the Nandewar Animal Health Service will host a workshop on Cattle Fertility in Barraba. Date for the workshop is 2nd November (8.45am). Meals will be provided. This promises to be a very informative day and should not be missed. For a copy of the event flyer, contact UGLA 67242052.

Fauna Workshop

Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA will host a fauna awareness workshop in Glen Innes, 7th November. Presenter for the 3-hour workshop will be Alex Dudley (Faunagraph). The event will be held on the property

Oakleigh, Emmaville Road. The workshop includes a presentation + guided walk and also includes afternoon tea. Register (before 4.11.2011) for this free event by calling Kelly Coleman 67288041.

Funds for Namoi Events

Do you have an idea for an event that will educate and inspire the Namoi Catchment on the need to live more sustainably? As part of the Sustainable Namoi Living Series of events (1 April - 20 May 2012), the Namoi CMA is inviting not for profit community groups to present an educational workshop or display to showcase sustainable living. Up to \$3000 is available for at least 6 events. Expressions of Interest close 21 November with Sustainable Namoi Living Events. Contact Stephanie Cameron for more information 0428 625502.

Online Property Planning

Rural Biz is offering funded places in its online Property Planning workshop. Computerised mapping software will be provided to participants and used throughout the workshop. The online workshop allows landholders to complete the course from home. The course includes 6 x half day workshops, manual, digital image of the property and

Contributions to the Landcare Update are welcome.
Email to Fiona Adams at gwymacgg@bigpond.com



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY



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software.

www.ruralbiztraining.com.au

Jean's a Hidden Treasure

The Rural Women's Network has honoured the work of rural women in the community, by recognising 140 Hidden Treasures at their recent annual conference in Gloucester.

Included in the list were several rural women from across the New England North West, including Jean Coady—a tireless + volunteer Chairperson of Tamworth Regional Landcare Association. View a complete list of these inspirational women in our communities at www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/rwn

APEN National Forum in Armidale

The Asia Pacific Extension Network will host their annual forum in Armidale 29-30 November. Theme for the event is *Hitting a moving target - Sustaining landscapes, livelihoods and lifestyles in a changing world*.

APEN holds a range of events for its members each year. These focus on natural resource management, sustainability + the practice of extension in agriculture + the environment. Non-members are always welcome to attend. Contact Greg Mills
(02) 6750 6312, 0488 491 648
greg.mills@industry.nsw.gov.au

Native Veg Info Session

In response to demand from landholders, Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA will host an information session in Bundarra on native vegetation. Find out what the CMA does + does not do in terms of native vegetation management. Workshop date is Tuesday 8th November at Bundarra Golf Club. Help the CMA understand how to service its current + potential Property Vegetation Plan clients better. Contact Alice Devlin 67288020.

Weeds Feedback

ABARES has been commissioned by RIRDC to undertake research into how Australia's weed management system is operating. As a result, ABARES is interested in feedback from groups and organisations on the likes of resources for weed management, information for weed related activities + how programs are rolled out. Coordinators of community weeds programs are encouraged to provide feedback in an online survey. All responses are treated as confidential + the link is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CommunityWeedManagementSurvey>

Birds Australia Competition

Are you Australia's best amateur bird photographer? Birds Australia has launched

their 2011 photography competition.

The six categories include Bird Behaviour; Bird Portrait; Interpretive; Threatened species; Conservation + Junior. The winning images will be published in the March 2012 edition of Wingspan + online. Various prizes available.

Email your best original photos of Australian native birds taken in 2011 to

comp@birdsaustralia.com.au

Submissions must include photographer's full name, nominated category, a title and a short description including the place + date where each photo was taken. Closes 31/12/2011.

www.birdsaustralia.com.au

National Conference on Volunteering

This annual conference is to be held 28-30 November on the Gold Coast, Queensland. This is your chance to be part of a world class event that will explore the challenges that affect more than 5.4 million Australians who volunteer.

Hear more about key trends, new strategies + ensure the ongoing sustainability of the volunteer sector. An important event for anyone working with volunteers. Find out more at www.volunteeringaustralia.org/html/s01_home/home.asp