



ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST OPENS

The NSW Government's Environmental Trust program has opened its Environmental Education + Protecting our Places programs. These programs support programs that are focused on educating the community on NRM issues. Protecting our Places aims to protect land that is culturally significant to Aboriginal people + support education projects about the environment and its importance in Aboriginal life. Up to \$500,000 is available. Environmental Education closes 20.5.2012. Protecting our Places closes 1.6.2012. www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants

DR CAROLE HUNGERFORD @ URALLA

Join Dr Carole Hungerford in Uralla 19.5.2012 + learn the answers to the link between soil health + human health. Dr Hungerford will outline her nutrition based approach to living a healthy life. She is particularly concerned with the need to re-assess some of our food growing practices to encourage soil biology rather than a reliance on chemicals. 9.30am-4.30pm. \$55 per person. Register with SNELC 67729123.

NEW PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS

The Environmental Trust has established a new program under the Eco Schools program this year, Food Gardens in Schools. This program will be trialled for two funding rounds in 2012 + 2013. There is a separate

application process for Food Gardens in Schools + Eco Schools. The Food Gardens in Schools program responds to the growing demand for funding for food garden projects. Closes 18 May. www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/schools.htm.

GREEN GLOBE AWARDS

Nominations are open for the NSW Government's Green Globe Awards - recognising environmental excellence, leadership + innovation in NSW. The awards are open to all businesses, individuals, state + local government + not-for-profit organisations that can demonstrate significant environmental achievements. Twelve categories are open for public nomination covering a range of energy efficiency, waste + environmental sustainability initiatives. The awards will be judged by a panel of independent experts. Nominations close 7.6.2012. www.environment.nsw.gov.au/greenglobes

MINGOOLA SPOTS A GUDGEON

Students at Mingoola Public School have netted a rare 'Purple Spotted Gudgeon' while taking part in a Waterwatch day on the Severn River, facilitated by the Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA. The Purple Spotted Gudgeon is listed as an endangered species in NSW. Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA has established the *Border Rivers Schools*

Waterwatch Network, to monitor water quality, biodiversity + the environmental health of local rivers. To be involved in a Waterwatch project, contact Iestyn Taylor at the Goondiwindi office of the Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA 07 4671 4302.

RESTORATION + REHAB ANNOUNCED

Successful applicants for the 2011 Restoration + Rehabilitation Grants have been announced by NSW Environmental Trust. A total of \$2.05 million funding has been awarded across NSW, with 24 grants provided. This includes Gwymac Landcare (Inverell) who will receive \$40,461 for an urban Landcare project, *Linking Conservation, Kids + Community at Ross Hill, Inverell*.

NFF SUBMISSION

The National Farmers' Federation (NFF) has released its submission to the Australian Government's Energy White Paper, reinforcing the importance of affordable fuel + energy to the long-term competitiveness of Australia's agricultural sector. The NFF submission also raises concerns about increased costs of energy emerging from the carbon tax + changes to state utility ownership regimes. The full NFF submission to the Australian Government's Energy White Paper can be accessed via the website: www.nff.org.au/policy/submissions.html





GPS WORKSHOP

Glenrac will host a half-day free training workshop for operating a hand held GPS. The workshop provide basic know-how for operating a GPS device, how a GPS can help around the farm + what to consider when looking for a GPS. Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA staff will also be on hand to answer any questions about the Native Vegetation Act. Friday 4.5.2012 at Glen Innes. Register with GLENRAC 67323443 or office@glenrac.org.au

BLOG'S RENEWABLE FOCUS

Border Landcare Organic Group will host their next outing Saturday 28.4.2012 with a focus on Renewable Energy. Guest speaker Martin Donnellan will discuss the use of wind, solar, hydro + bio-fuels. Martin has worked as an energy analyst + renewable energy consultant. The venue will be the Wallangarra School of Arts Hall. Call Granite Borders Landcare 67363500.

NORTHERN RIVERS INCENTIVES

NRCMA's Incentive Program for 2012-2013 is now open. There are 3 funding categories (small, major + plan development). These grants can support a variety of projects including on-ground works. All forms + supporting materials are available online at www.northern.cma.nsw.gov.au Closes 27.4.2012. If you know of someone without web access, hardcopy forms are also

available. Contact your local Landcare office for details.

SUSTAINABLE FUNDING WORKSHOP

Our Community will host a series of *Strategies for Sustainable Funding* seminars throughout NSW. This seminar is for volunteers, staff + fundraisers on how to build sustainability beyond grant funding for your community organisation. This includes 8 seminars hosted across NSW including:

Tamworth	7th June
Inverell	24th September

Cost \$145 per person (morning workshop). Visit www.ourcommunity.com.au/secure/event/event_sign_up.form?conferecld=197&area=management

NATIONAL NATUREAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

This 4th biennial conference will be held 16-18 April in Adelaide. Conference highlights include Mick Keogh (AFI) who will examine future challenges for Australian agriculture; Bob Debus (Chair of National Wildlife Corridors Plan); Michael McAllum, Global Foresight Network Futures Architect talking on opportunities + challenges in NRM. CFOC representatives will also attend. \$650 per person for full registration—includes field trips. Register at www.aomevents.com/NRM2012

DR CHRISTINE JONES IN TENTERFIELD

Granite Borders Landcare will host an event Friday 4th May 2012 with special guest Dr Christine Jones, who will discuss *The Fundamentals of Soil*. Free, with lunch + refreshments provided. 9am-4pm at Tenterfield Golf Club. RSVP by 2.5.2012 to GBLC 02 67363 500 or landcare@halenet.com.au

WRITING WINNING GRANTS

Our Community will host an *Introduction to Writing Winning Grants* workshop at the following locations:

Tamworth	7th June
Inverell	24th September

\$145 per person (afternoon workshop). Register at www.ourcommunity.com.au/secure/event/event_sign_up.form?conferecld=198&area=management

RURAL WOMEN ADAPTATION WORKSHOP

Now is the time to register for workshop 5 in this series. Learn how to bring more biodiversity to your farm. Speakers include Peter Metcalf, Shane Andrews + Bec Smith. Venue is Thalgarrah Field Centre. Assistance with childcare costs is available. Free. 4.30pm-10pm, includes dinner. RSVP to Sally at SNELC 67729123 or sally@snelcc.org.au.