



NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST LANDCARE

REGIONAL UPDATE

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RAS FOUNDATION 2013 COMMUNITY FUTURES GRANT NOW OPEN

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS) Foundation is giving young people who live in rural NSW the chance to secure a \$25,000 grant to deliver a new and hopefully innovative community project. Now in its fifth year, applications are now open for the 2013 RAS Foundation Community Futures Grant. RAS Foundation Executive Office, Jocellin Jansson said young people living in rural NSW are encouraged to think about how they could make a significant difference in their community by addressing a need or issue faced by their town or community. "Young people are our future, and the Community Futures Grant gives them the opportunity to develop a practical project to help improve their town and shape a positive future," said Ms Jansson. Submissions will be judged on several criteria including innovation, impact on the community and plans for implementation. Applicants must identify an existing community organisation or group they would partner with to deliver their project. Eligible entrants must be 35 or under on 1 May '13 and projects must be located in rural or regional NSW. **Applications close 11th January, 2013.** Applications are now open; forms can be found online at: <http://www.rasnw.com.au/832.htm>

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S CARBON FARMING FUTURES PROGRAM: EXTENSION AND OUTREACH PROGRAM.

Grants will support a range of activities to deliver information to farmers, land managers and their key advisors to assist them to reduce land sector greenhouse gas emissions and to participate in the Carbon Farming Initiative. Applications are sought from businesses or private organisations, such as agri-businesses or a farm advisor/consulting companies, farming groups or industry associations, natural resource management organisations, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisations and research, development and extension organisations. Closes April 2016, First assessment of applications closes 19 December. Free web-based information session at 11:00 AM, Wednesday, 14 November 2012. For more info www.daff.gov.au/extensionandoutreach, email FandO@daff.gov.au or phone 1800 283 940.

CMA'S FREE FARM PLANNING WORKSHOP

**MAXIMISE YOUR PROFITS AND
LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY**
The Border Rivers-Gwydir Catchment Management Authority (CMA) is now offering Farm Planning advice and workshops at no cost to land managers, throughout the New England Tablelands and North West. The aim of the workshop is to make farming more

profitable and take some of the stress out of running the business. Farm Planning is about better management strategies, such as using natural resources for best results, maximising the use of limited financial reserves and getting the best from the people on your farm.

"In the middle of a drought or a flood, it's difficult to plan. Now is the time to develop and implement strategies to minimise the impact of the next crisis. Farm Planning can help you to work out a long term strategy for your business to survive and thrive. It can help you to build a resilient farm business", said CMA Farm Planning Officer Scott Graham. Farm Planning takes a holistic approach to running your business, considering your circumstance and goals. All you have to do is contact us and we will organise groups based on interest. Farm Planning takes a minimum of six days, with times and dates negotiated to suit participants. Courses are expected to start in January 2013. Locations close to your property can be organised if there are at least four local landholders keen to complete the Farm Planning course.

Contact the GWYMAC Office and pick up an information brochure and application form. Or contact Scott Graham at the Border Rivers Gwydir CMA for more information on 02 6728 8049, or email: scott.graham@cma.nsw.gov.au



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

Send your news for the Landcare Update to
Sarah Legge at sarah@gwymaucklandcare.net.au



COLES JUNIOR LANDCARE GRANTS

Closes 15 Feb. \$1000 for schools, kindergartens, day care centres and youth groups looking to get their hands dirty through Junior Landcare and school gardening projects can access funds through these Coles grants. For more info: www.juniorlandcare.com.au.

AUSSIE FARMERS FOUNDATION GRANTS

Aims to partner with best practice organisations around Australia who are delivering services in rural and regional Australia, where there has been an identified need of assistance. We are interested in community-focused activities which will make a real and measurable improvement to rural and regional communities, activities which are based on consultation or input from the community. Must have Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) Item 1 + Tax Concession Charity (TCC) Status and an ABN (Australian Business Number). Closes 1 February 2013. <http://www.aussiefarmersfoundation.org.au/granting/steps-for-granting.php>

YATES JUNIOR LANDCARE CHALLENGE: MAKE IT SNAPPY, KIDS!

There is less than one weeks left for kids to get snapping and enter their photos and videos into the Yates Junior Landcare Backyard Challenge. Kids simply need to submit an entry around the theme of "how does your backyard grow?"

Entries have already been submitted from kids in Geraldton in WA to Condobolin in NSW, and include photos of pretty flowers, invasive weeds and dry dams, as well as videos of aquaponic veggie gardens and solving possum problems.

Entries for the Challenge must be submitted online by 5pm, Monday 26th November. Kids aged up to 16 years are eligible to enter, either as individuals or as a group, school class or family.

To submit an entry and for further information, please visit: www.juniorlandcarechallenge.com.au

TRY TREES FOR MUM IN 2013!

If you're busy planning your group activities for next year and have a planting project that needs more hands than you can get access to, why not think about getting involved in Trees for Mum?

Trees for Mum began in Sydney in 2002, and has since grown into a series of planting events held on Mother's Day each year to celebrate Mums who have passed away as well as those who are still with us.

Landcare Australia teamed up with Trees for Mum in 2012 to develop a project kit and free promotional resources for any group or organisation that would like to get involved and run their own Trees for Mum event.

The Trees for Mum project kit gives a detailed outline of what's involved in running an event, and people can also download artwork for flyers,

posters, registration form, event checklist and more, from the Landcare Australia website.

So if you have a lot of trees to get in the ground and May 12th works for you, why not plant some Trees for Mum next year? To download the Trees for Mum project kit and promotional templates, go to www.landcareaustralia.com.au

BUSHCARE NETWORK MANUAL

The Bushcare Network Manual is a practical working guide containing information and advice on managing volunteers and volunteer programs, legislation, safety and insurance requirements and examples of successful initiatives from current environmental volunteer programs. It is an invaluable resource for not-for-profit organisations that manage long term environmental volunteer programs.

Three "Bushcare Booster" training modules were also developed under the project and are now available for free download.

If you would like a copy of any of the documents in Microsoft Word or would like to provide feedback about the materials please contact/email landcaresydney@cma.nsw.gov.au

LANDCARE IN FOCUS

The current edition of Landcare in Focus is available to read on the following websites - www.farmonline.com.au and www.landcareonline.com.au