



NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST LANDCARE

REGIONAL UPDATE

Issue 75, 1st February 2013

GRANTS NOW AVAILABLE FOR LAND CARING PROJECT IDEAS!

Grants ranging between \$5000 and \$50 000 are available to support local sustainable agriculture and community engagement projects, as part of the Australian Government's \$2.2 billion Caring for our Country initiative.

Community Landcare Grants make it possible for local community-based groups to take action to help achieve a sustainable, productive, profitable and resilient agricultural base.

Community Landcare Grants aim to help: build a skilled and capable Landcare community, encourage community participation and engagement in Landcare, share information and learning in sustainable agricultural techniques, reduce the spread of pest species, & encourage the adoption of improved sustainable land management practices.

Organisations involved with Landcare, professional farming systems or Indigenous groups are encouraged to apply.

The grants are also designed to increase participation of young people, women, Indigenous Australians and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds in natural resource management and sustainable agriculture activities. These groups are also encouraged to apply.

Applications close 5pm (AEDT) on 20 March 2013. To find out more visit www.nrm.gov.au

NAMOI CMA - LANDCARE AWARDS NOW OPEN!

The search is on for individuals, groups, communities, indigenous communities, government and non-government organisations, primary producers, schools, youth groups and regions that are making a real difference to our environment. Namoi Catchment Management Authority invites you to help us to recognise those in our region who make significant contributions to Landcare by nominating an individual or an organisation for one or more of the Award categories. We aim to reward these individuals and groups for their ongoing contributions and achievements in the community.

Nominations close 1st MARCH 2013. For more information - www.namoi.cma.nsw.gov.au

NATIONAL RURAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The National Rural Women's Conference is on next month. Whatever your age, location, background or stage of life, if you're a female and live in regional or rural Australia, the National Rural Women's Conference is for you! And it's going to be big! The inaugural National Rural Women's Conference will be held in Canberra from 18-20 February. At the conference you will hear from more than 40 exceptional presenters sharing their experience of business,

community, rural issues and the joys and challenges of rural life. The 4 major topics of this event are Big inspiration, Big Challenges, Big Business, and Big Networks.

Go to www.nrwc.com.au for more information and to register.

CHANGE IN THE LEADERSHIP AT LANDCARE AUSTRALIA

In early January, the Chairman Campbell Anderson advised that after three highly successful years leading Landcare Australia Limited (LAL) as its CEO Heather Campbell has tendered her resignation for family reasons. Heather remains very committed to LAL and to the work of the thousands of farmers and volunteers in the Landcare and Coastcare movements.

The Board has commenced the process to search for a new CEO and will keep staff and stakeholders briefed on developments. In the meantime the Board and staff are committed to maintaining the excellent work that LAL does. The key focus during this time of transition will continue to be on delivering superior service to our corporate, government and community partners.

Heather has made a significant contribution to the Landcare movement in her time as CEO of LAL and has played an important role in the continued evolution of Landcare over the last three years.



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

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



BORDER RIVERS-GWYDIR LANDCARE & CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AWARDS

Nominations for the Border Rivers-Gwydir Landcare & Catchment Management Awards will be accepted from individuals and groups across the whole of the Tablelands (i.e. proposed new Northern Tablelands LLS area) as well as the current Border Rivers-Gwydir catchment.

Don't forget nominations close on 15th February!

To nominate or for more information please go to www.brg.cma.nsw.gov.au

FARM PLANNING WORKSHOPS

The Border Rivers-Gwydir Catchment Management Authority (CMA) is holding free Farm Planning Information Sessions across the region aimed at maximising profits and long term sustainability.

Information sessions will be held at:

Tenterfield – Tues 03/02/2013

Gravesend – Wed 06/02/2013

Warialda – Fri 08/02/2013

Bingara – Wed 13/02/13

To register your interest please contact Scott Graham at BRG CMA on 02 6728 8049 or go to the BRG CMA website - www.brg.cma.gov.au

NORTH COAST LANDCARE FORUM & AWARDS

The North Coast Regional Landcare Forum will be the first big event for Landcarers in 2013. The Forum is being organised by Landcare networks on the North Coast

and will be a two-day event on Thursday, March 7 and Friday, March 8. (Landcare Awards will be presented at a special dinner on the night of the 7th). There will be something for everyone in the Forum with three streams running - one on farming, one on NRM and one on emerging themes i.e. CFI and social media - as well as general sessions to learn about a variety of topics. Of particular note will be guest speaker, Jerry Brunetti, from the U.S. who will be talking to the whole forum and also participating in the 'farming' stream.

More information is available from Jodie Gager (rjf_nclandcare@hotmail.com).

THREAT TO LOCAL LANDCARE – WE NEED YOUR HELP

The NSW State Government announced major reforms to services for rural landholders late last year and these will have significant impacts on the Landcare movement across the state.

Come and have your say, please attend a LLS reference panel community consultation session and ask how the new LLS arrangements will support Landcare and affect you as a rural resident/landholder.

February 26 9-12 pm Moree, Moree RSL, 3 Albert St

February 26 3.30-6.30 pm Glen Innes, Glen Innes & District Services Club, 120 Grey St

February 27 2-5 pm Gunnedah, Gunnedah Services Club, 313 Conadilly Street.

CONSERVATION TILLAGE REFUNDABLE TAX OFFSET

Primary producers who purchase new conservation seeding equipment and receive a Research Participation Certificate can apply for a 15 per cent refundable tax offset (RTO).

This initiative is designed to encourage conservation tillage practices in Australian agriculture. The RTO is part of the Carbon Farming Futures Program under the Australian Government's Securing a Clean Energy Future Plan.

For more information about the RTO, please call DAFF's Conservation Tillage RTO Hotline on 1800 108 760.

PEST ANIMAL CONTROL & LANDHOLDER TRAINING DAY'S

Maximise your pest animal control efforts. The training day will include information on identifying signs of pest animals: wild dogs, foxes, feral pigs and feral cats, use different bait preparation and placement techniques, sensor trail cameras: what's available and what benefit are they, & undertake effective monitoring and record keeping.

Training days will be held in the following locations –

Tenterfield – Sat 16 Feb 2013

Bingara - Thurs 28 Feb 2013

Glen Innes – Fri 8 March 2013

Walcha – Wed 13 Mar 2013

Guyra – Thurs 14 Mar 2013

Barraba - Wed 17 Apr 2013

Inverell – Thurs 18 Apr 2013

For more information contact your local Landcare office.