

# Regional Landcare Update

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

Issue 22: 26th November 2010

## Funding Secured for Community Action

Landcare groups across the region have featured in the list of successful Community Action Grants, announced by the Federal Government. In total 453 community groups have been awarded funding of more than \$7.9 million.

The program will see a vast array of projects throughout our region including:

- Dung Beetle Friendly Farms at Delungra and Bingara
- Biological fertiliser trials near Inverell
- Natural Sequence Farming demonstrations at Deepwater
- Soil monitoring activities at Ben Lomond
- Engaging Walgett landholders to build skills in NRM + farm management
- Increasing native vegetation in Southern New England region.

A complete list of successful projects is available at [www.nrm.gov.au](http://www.nrm.gov.au)

## Community Development Grants OPEN

Funded through the Community Relations Commission, this program provides financial assistance to non profit community organisations. Eligible projects include those focused on community

development, cross community partnerships and those projects focused on diverse sectors of the community.

There are 3 types of programs available, including event sponsorship, local partnership grants and general grants. Closes 17.12.2010. [www.crc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.crc.nsw.gov.au)

## Help Keep Australia Beautiful

Keep Australia Beautiful offers online resources for community groups and schools aimed at reducing waste and its negative impact on our environment. Schools, sporting teams and community groups can be involved by utilizing free resources including 'Litter Research' and 'How to run a Tidy Up'. Various programs are available to support the community including 'Waste Watcher' programs. Find out more at [www.kabnsw.org.au](http://www.kabnsw.org.au)

## Minimum Till Training at Bingara

Upper Gwydir Landcare Association will host a 2-day Minimum Till training workshop in Bingara 14-15 December.

This will be led by Bruce Maynard from Narromine. Bruce recently featured at a Minimum Till field day in the Bingara area and is returning for the workshop due to popular demand.

Cost is \$770 pp. Farm Ready accredited. Book in asap with Frances Young (UGLA) 67242052.

## Granite Borders to Open Office Renovations

Granite Borders Landcare will officially open the renovations to their Landcare office on Thursday 9th December. Special guest Richard Torbay MP will handle the honours from 4pm. This will be followed by Christmas drinks. All welcome, please RSVP to GBLC 67363500.

## SNELC Christmas Celebrations

Southern New England Landcare (Armidale) will host their Christmas celebrations on Thursday 2nd December. All Landcare staff and supporters of Landcare are invited. RSVP by 30.11.10 to SNELC 6772 9123.

## Spotlight Evenings

Namoi CMA will host a spotlight evening in and around Tamworth and Curlewis. Special guest is ecologist Phil Spark, who will lead the night time tours. Dates and times are as follows:

**Tamworth** Fri 26th November from 6.30pm.

**Curlewis** Saturday 27th November from 6.30pm.

These free events include a

Contributions to the Landcare Update are welcome.  
Email to Fiona Adams at [gwymacgg@bigpond.com](mailto:gwymacgg@bigpond.com)



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hearty dinner. Bring a small torch and closed in shoes. More information available from Col Easton 6764 5940.

## Best Practice Guides available Online

Namoi CMA now has a series of Best Management Practice guides on their website. These relate to Land Management in the Namoi region and have been developed to assist landholders make decisions about how they manage their land to its full potential.

Download your copy at [www.namoi.cma.nsw.gov.au](http://www.namoi.cma.nsw.gov.au)

## New England Forums

Rural landholders and townspeople are invited to attend a series of Land Theatre Forums to explore ways to improve land and water management together. These events are being run by Australian Land Management Group and will be hosted in Uralla and Armidale. Dates are:

**Armidale** Fri 3rd December at Kent House from 6.30pm

**Uralla** Saturday 4th December from 6.30pm at McCrossins Mill.

More information from Ian Perkins on 0408 059377.

## Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA Announces Winners!

Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA recently held its first photography competition and has now announced winners across 3 categories.

The junior category was won by Caitlin Picker with second place to Maria Nelson and third to Joel Bowman. The Open category was won by Annette Coward for her image *Tranquility*. The professional section was won by Harold Konz. The full list of results and winning entries can be found on the website

[www.brg.cma.nsw.gov.au](http://www.brg.cma.nsw.gov.au)

## Carbon Farming Framework Released

The Australian Government has released a framework for how farmers, foresters and landholders will be able to generate carbon credits under the Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI).

Minister Greg Combet said this marks the commencement of dialogue on the issue about the design of the scheme for crediting and selling carbon offsets. Industry groups are being invited to share feedback with the Government by making a submission to the Department of Climate Change and Energy

Efficiency by 21st January 2011. Further information is available at [www.climatechange.gov.au](http://www.climatechange.gov.au)

## MLA's Meat Profit Day

MLA will host its North West Meat Profit Day on Thursday 24th March 2011 at Bingara Showground. The Meat Profit Day is a chance to hear how to boost profitability of your red meat enterprise. Topics include healthy interpersonal relationships, soil health and business management. More information is available from MLA on 1800 675 717.

## Mobile Muster is Back

Mobile Muster has launched their new program for mobile phone recycling. To coincide with Christmas, Mobile Muster will provide a duck for Christmas to a family living in poverty for every 2 handsets handed in before 31st January. More at [www.mobilemuster.com.au](http://www.mobilemuster.com.au)

## Planning Underway for Adventure 2011

The annual Landcare Adventure will be hosted in 2011 by Southern New England Landcare. The event will be centred around the Guyra area. The event will include farm tours, information sharing and plenty of opportunity to catch up with fellow landcarers. Stay tuned for more details!