

Regional Landcare Update

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

Issue 31: 5th April 2011

CFOC Opens

Caring for our Country's business plan for 2011-12 was released today. It provides funding for projects that contribute to one or more of the six national priority areas set by the Australian Government for improving our natural resources.

Up to \$178 million is available from Caring for our Country to invest in projects that can be completed by June 2013. Projects that tackle a number of emerging and continuing challenges including the building of community skills, knowledge and engagement, particularly among Indigenous, farming and coastal and marine communities will be encouraged. This year's business plan has been adjusted to take account of community feedback.

More at www.nrm.gov.au. Applications for regional base-level funding close on 16 May 2011 and open-call applications close 30 May 2011.

Symposium in May

Hosted at the University of Sydney by Natural Sequence Farming, this event will be a full day symposium on Friday 6 May, 2011. The event - "Towards an Ecologically Integrative Climate Paradigm" - is hosted by the School of will feature international keynotes

and European research into the New Water Paradigm, exploring its potential for moving Australian responses to the climate crisis. Registration is at the door - Corporate \$80, Waged \$50, Students \$10. If you would like to attend the event, please email Duane Norris at duane@nsfarming.com.

NSW Landcare Awards

Online details of the NSW State Landcare Awards have been posted at the Landcare Australia website. In NSW, there are 12 categories on offer. Find out more at www.landcareonline.com. Closes 27th May 2011.

QLD Landcare Conference

Scheduled for 20-23 September in Ayr, the Queensland Landcare Conference promises something for everyone. The 22nd annual conference will be hosted in the Burdekin region, and will host numerous field visits to feature local examples of sustainable land use. Join the conference email update list by emailing landcare2011@wombatcreative.com.au

Grants Guide

The first conference of its Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA now has a copy of the 2011 National Environmental

Grants Guide. To find out more about the guide, contact Liz Blair 67288028.

Garnaut Forum

Professor Ross Garnaut will provide a public address on Climate Change on 14th April at 7.30pm. Venue for the presentation will be Lazenby Hall, University of New England, Armidale. Further information is available from Tony Windsor's office 6761 3080 (Tamworth) or 67210144 (Inverell).

CFI Field Day @ Moree

Conservation Farmers Inc and NSW Industry and Investment will host a field day on Friday 15th April. The event will explore options in stubble management as well as Tram-track implication and renovation.

Starting at 8.30am, the event also includes property visits to 2 farms and presentations by landholders, Landcare Facilitator Sally Dickinson and industry representatives. Lunch is available for a \$10 donation. RSVP to 0428 385356.

The Myer Foundation

A philanthropic grants program, The Myer Foundation offers grants to various fields, including the environment, heritage and the arts. Current priorities include assistance towards

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Email to Fiona Adams at gwymacgg@bigpond.com



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professional development of individual artists, development of new works by Indigenous artists, in regional areas and emerging art forms, and projects which contribute towards an understanding of and engagement with the Humanities. Closes 21.4.11. www.myerfoundation.org.au

Community Heritage Grants

The Community Heritage Grants (CHG) program provides up to \$15,000 to community organisations such as community groups and indigenous groups. The grants are provided to assist with the preservation of locally owned, but nationally significant collections of materials that are publically accessible. Applications close 6th May 2011. www.nla.gov.au/chg

Eco Schools Grants

Hosted by NSW Environmental Trust, these grants target environmental based projects in schools. Up to \$2500 is available for schools who wish to integrate environmental issues into the school program, including teacher training and hands-on programs. www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/schools.htm
Closes 20th May 2011.

Education Grants

NSW Environmental Trust have opened the 2011 round of their

Environmental Education Grants program. This is an Expression of Interest phase, with a 2nd round application open later on in the year by invitation only.

Grants of between \$5000 and \$100,000 are available to community groups and local government. Find out more at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/education.htm
Closes 21 April 2011.

Further information will also be on offer at a forum in Armidale on 11th April.

Conservation Ag World Conference

Brisbane will host the 5th World Conference on Conservation Agriculture in September 2011. This also incorporates the 3rd Farming System Design Conference. Dates for the event are 26-29 September. The conference is supported by GRDC, the Australian Centre for International Agriculture Research and American Society of Agronomy and also includes field visits to research sites at University of Southern Queensland.

Earlybird discounts close on 30th April 2011. Event details, program and registration form at www.wcca2011.org

Sustainable Cities Award Open

Keep Australia Beautiful is hosting the 2011 Sustainable

Cities Award. This award recognises and celebrates outstanding environmental initiatives implemented by local government, schools, businesses and community groups, while raising public awareness of a range of environmental issues. There are a number of categories on offer, including:

Waste minimisation award,
Sustainable clubs award
Water conservation award
Biodiversity conservation
Environmental education award
www.kabnsw.org.au
Closes Monday 6th June 2011.

Waste Watchers Comp

Run by Keep Australia Beautiful NSW this competition invites schools to design a new logo for a fresh program called EnviroMentors (previously known as Waste Watchers). Closes 29.4.2011. More at www.kabnsw.org.au

Talking About the Weather

Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA's May conference is starting to take shape. Key note speakers include Martin Babakhan (Uni of Newcastle) and Tony Windsor. 18-19 May in Inverell. \$85 pp for the 2-days, including tours, presentations and event satchel. Explores future climate challenges for rural and urban residents. Register now at www.brg.cma.nsw.gov.au