

Regional Landcare Update

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

Issue 35: 6th June 2011

Community Action Grants Open

Community groups can now apply for small grants to help fund local environmental and sustainable agriculture projects through the 2011-12

Community Action Grants round.

Grants of between \$5,000 and \$20,000 are available to help local community groups undertake activities such as planting trees, removing weeds, controlling pests, holding field days and improving sustainable land management practices.

This year, eligibility has been broadened to include all local community groups that deliver environmental and sustainable agriculture projects. Closes 1 August, apply at

www.nrm.gov.au

CAP Review Asks For Input

The Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA is upgrading its Catchment Action Plan (CAP) over the coming months, with the aim of integrating new natural resource information and community values.

Community workshops will be held across the catchment and the CMA would like as many people as possible to come along.

The workshops will be relaxed and enjoyable and are a great way for the community to ensure the CAP is relevant for their region. For more information about workshops

which commence in July, in your area, go to www.brg.cma.nsw.gov.au

Holistic Management

Holistic Management is now a registered TAFE course in NSW. The course is broken into 8 sessions of 2 days each, held approximately 4 weeks apart. Cost is \$225 which includes all materials, textbooks and meals. Proposed locations for delivery of the workshop are Bonshaw (13/14 Sept 2011) and Armidale (25/26 August 2011). A Queensland based TAFE course will be up and running later this year. Contact Helen Lewis helen@insideoutmngt.com.au or 07 46617393.

AIMS at Tenterfield

This three day workshops commences Thursday 7th June at Tenterfield. Course content includes plant growth and pasture dynamics, water use efficiency, soils and soil nutrients, cost effective feeding, feed budgeting and grazing planning. RSVP to Granite Borders Landcare ASAP 67363500.

Cert IV Frontline Management

Eligible employees can now do a Nationally Recognised Qualification in Cert IV Business Frontline Management. The course targets those who want to upgrade their skills, improve leadership skills and

communication skills.

A fully refundable deposit is payable at the outset and workshops commence in July. The workshop is subsidised by the government. The course runs for 1 day/month for 7 months. Locations include Moree, Armidale, Gunnedah and Tamworth. Contact My Training Company 1300 878 239.

Beef Production Workshop

NSW Department of Primary Industries will host this free workshop in Tamworth on 15th June. Speakers include Meat Standards Australia, industry staff and marketers. The workshop will focus on tooling up your profits through beef specifications, market opportunities and improving genetics. Contact Alistair Rayner 67631266.

Northern Rivers Incentives Grants

Northern Rivers CMA is presently offering small and major funding opportunities under its 2011-2012 Incentives Program. Planning projects are also available to develop a recognised NRM Plan or have an existing plan updated. Closes 10th June 2011. More information at www.northern.cma.nsw.gov.au

PNF at Drake

Department of Primary Industries and Department of

Past editions of the Update are available at www.landcare.nsw.gov.au/nenw-docs

Contributions to the Landcare Update are welcome.
Email to Fiona Adams at gwymacgg@bigpond.com



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY



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Environment Climate Change and Water are hosting held days across NSW to outline opportunities and regulatory obligations of Private Native Forestry management on farms.

The Drake workshop will be held 28 June from 8.30am. Free, RSVP to Lynn 66722770 or Sally 4939 8873.

Grant Writing Workshop

Our Community will host this workshop, *Intro to Writing Winning Grant Applications* at Tamworth on 7th July, 1.30-4.30pm.

The 3 hour workshop will outline tips on presenting your proposal to the best advantage, provide project writing templates, meeting requirements and giving the grantmaker what they want. \$145.

www.ourcommunity.com.au/winninggrants

Secrets of Successful Boards

This seminar is for prospective and current committees / boards and will be a half day workshop.

Topics include legal and practical responsibilities, creating harmonious committees, board basics, troubleshooting, governance issues, nuts and bolts of policies and procedures. \$245. 8th July, 10am-3pm.

www.ourcommunity.com.au/

boardseminars

Mental Health Research

A PhD student with University of New England is researching opportunities to improve mental health access for young people in rural Australia.

As a result, an online survey is available to obtain grassroots input from the community. The survey takes less than 5 minutes and can be found at www.surveymonkey.com/s/5FQWP2R Survey responses can be anonymous.

Global Food Security Report

Presented by ABARES, this paper highlights issues and provide information on the global and Australian food security prospects and the various challenges facing Australia. Includes interrelated issues such as availability of resources for food production, climate change and productivity in agriculture. Read the report at www.abares.gov.au/publications

Apps for Tablets and iPhones

Grasslands Society of NSW has released a list of useful Apps for the increasing number of people who have iPhones, Tablets and Android phones. This includes:

- **Spray Lite**—spray log system for farmers

- **SDCES Grazing Records**—records grazing use and pasture condition
- **Cattle Breakeven Analysis**—tool for quick breakeven calculations
- **Land Area Calculator** (iPad only)
- **Unit Conversion** to convert between imperial and metric
- **BirdSight Australia** for birdwatchers and to record observations.
- **Plant Pathology** encyclopedia of plant diseases.
- **AgroLite**—paddock record system for farmers and agronomists.
- **Farmers Partner**—grain marketing / budgeting

Parkes Forum on Facebook

The NSW Landcare and Catchment Management Forum has created a Facebook page to post updates on the 2011 Forum. Search for *Parkes Landcare* to stay up to date with speakers, topics and information sessions.

Erosion Tool Online

NSW Department of Primary Industries has a comprehensive booklet on methods of preventing and repairing soil erosion on farms. It can be accessed at www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/resources/soils/erosion/saving-soil