

LANDCARE FINDS ITS VOICE!

NSW LANDCARE MUSTER ON 24th OCTOBER IN TAMWORTH



LANDCARE is a vital part of improving land management and nature conservation in NSW. There are currently 1,854 groups with 47,658 individuals in NSW who call themselves landcarers. Landcare membership in NSW has grown by about 7% in the last 9 months.

With this level of participation, it is obvious LANDCARE has some clout, and the ability to help develop sound natural resource management policy.

With this level of participation, Governments – both State and Federal – are keen to engage, help and listen.

**BUT - COMMUNICATION WITHIN AND WITH LANDCARE IS NOT EASY
NOR DOES LANDCARE SELL ITS ACHIEVEMENTS AS WELL AS IT SHOULD
SO LET'S DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!**

Here is the background.....

In June 2007, the Hunter Region Landcare Network, supported by Landcare Australia Limited and Lake Macquarie City Council hosted a 'Landcare Gathering' at Myuna Bay, on the shores of Lake Macquarie. This gathering was prompted by the feeling among many landcarers that landcare, since the NSW Government's 'NRM Reforms' was not receiving the strong, bipartisan support for its activities that it had enjoyed in the past. The gathering was an effort to discuss this and other issues with a view to strengthening Landcare's voice across the state through mutual support, sharing success and by improving communications.

A working group was formed, and is organising the 'Landcare Muster' in parallel with the Namoi Landscape Management and State Landcare Forum 2007, to be held in Tamworth in October.

The plan for the day is to form the 'NSW Landcare Community Reference Group'. This group's role is, in the short term, will be to organise a yearly 'Landcare Muster', to support the re-invigoration of the (existing) NSW Landcare Committee, and to enable 'grassroots' input into that Committee. In the medium term this body could provide nominations to the NSW Landcare Committee and in the longer term... well who knows, by evolution rather than revolution, we could end up with a completely independent peak body for the landcare movement in NSW.

The 'Landcare Muster' on Wed 24 October is being organised by the Working Group, hosted by the Landcare Networks in the region:

**Liverpool Plains Land Management Committee,
Tamworth-Manilla Landcare Association, and
Southern New England Landcare**

and funded by Landcare Australia Limited

It is being held at Wests' Diggers Club in Kable Ave Tamworth, commencing at 12:30 pm (lunch and afternoon tea provided)

Please circulate this notice throughout your networks, to Landcarers and anyone else who is interested in community participation in NRM. It is important that a broad cross section of ideas and regions is represented!

Any reader can ensure that they receive SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION by replying to lplmc@lplmc.com.au (or you can telephone 02 6741 8375)

***why not register for the Landcare Muster NOW**

More information on the Namoi Landscape Management and State Landcare Forum 2007 can be found via this link: <http://www.namoi.cma.nsw.gov.au/landcarelandscapeforum/forumabouttheforum.htm>

The day after the 'Landcare Muster' the 'catchment tours' segment of the Namoi Landscape Management and State Landcare Forum 2007 is on, with the Forum commencing on the Friday.