



LANDCARE GROUPS SUCCESSFUL WITH THE CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY COMMUNITY ACTION GRANT

Landcare has successfully obtained two grants from the Caring For Our Country Community Action Grant. Each grant is worth \$20,000 and were granted for two projects, the Wangi Peninsula Green Corridor Project and the Blacksmiths Dunal Restoration and Demonstration Project.



CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY

The Wangi Peninsula Green Corridor Project:

Wangi Ridge Preservation Board Landcare, with assistance from the Lake Macquarie Resource Centre, will protect and enhance a recognized wildlife corridor. The Landcare group will adopt a whole system approach including an integrated weed management strategy (targeting weeds of national significance Bitou and Lantana), a community biodiversity enrichment planting program, and community education through a Case Study, two Field Days and signage.



The Blacksmiths Dunal Restoration & Demonstration Project:

Blacksmiths Dunecare Landcare, with assistance from the Lake Macquarie Resource Centre, will protect and enhance a recognized wildlife corridor, along the city's coastal strip. The Landcare group will adopt a whole system approach including an integrated weed management strategy (targeting weeds of national significance Bitou and Asparagus Fern), a community biodiversity enrichment planting program, and community education through a Case Study, two Field Days and signage.



Both projects will:

1. Employ a bush regeneration team to work with the community volunteers targeting weeds of national significance.
2. Undertake a community planting of local provenance tubestock in areas of poor resilience.
3. Deliver community education through a case Study, two field days and on-site signage.
4. Deliver an Aboriginal cultural community education component through the Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Both projects will be supported in their delivery by the support team at the Lake Macquarie Landcare Centre.

Denis Hilder, Editor

MEETING TO DECIDE THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF LAKE MACQUARIE LANDCARE NETWORK

When: Wednesday, 24 February 2010

Where: Lake Macquarie Landcare Resource Centre, Teralba

Time: 4.30pm to 6.30pm

BBQ Tea to finish the meeting at 6.30pm

"If we are to sustain Lake Macquarie Landcare we have to rally together as a group of volunteers and do something about the running of LMLN committee, plus the overseeing of the business arm of LMLN. We can not afford to let this die as the LRO will only be manned by John Hughson and his support staff, we as Landcare Volunteers would have to go back to doing all our own paper work and record keeping, managing our own funds, and applying individually for funds. If this was to happen it would set us back years as an organization. We cannot as a group of volunteers allow this to happen, we must have our own infrastructure in place to deal with the every day running of LMLN jointly with the LMCC Landcare Co-ordinator and his staff."

Brian Johnson, Chairperson, LMLN



INFORMATION FOR LANDCARERS

FEBRUARY

If you need the help of the Landcare Green Team, lodge a Resource Request as a soon as possible. Ring the LRO now!

The Green Team goes out Thursday and Friday to various sites across the city to assist any Landcare group that wants a hand.

TEAM LEADER TRAINING DAY:

Saturday 20th February

9am to 12pm at the Landcare Resource Centre
Toronto Road, Teralba

Volunteers are actively sought to help with the Green Team, they are a friendly group of people of all ages. They meet at the Landcare Resource Office. Morning tea and lunch is provided. If you would like to volunteer contact the LRO on 4921 0392.

DIARY OF EVENTS

2010

JANUARY

Wed. 27Landcare Resource Office re-opens

FEBRUARY

Tues. 2World Wetlands Day

Wed. 24Landcare Forum Meeting

Sun. 28Blacksmiths Pelican Project Field Day

MARCH

Sun. 7Clean Up Australia Day

Tues. 9LML Network Meeting at LRO

Sun. 28Field Day Blacksmiths Dunecare Landcare

APRIL

Tues. 13LML Network Meeting at LRO

Sun. 18Field Day Wangi Ridge Pres. Board Landcare



WORK DIARY REMINDER

December 31 completes the last, three month period of 2009, so it would be appreciated if Team Leaders of the Landcare groups could return the blue copies of their work diary to the LRO office.

If you have not received a Work Diary or if you need a new one, please contact the Lake Macquarie Landcare Resource Office on 4921 0392.

Bits and Pieces

Editors Comment - Again a big thankyou to all the people who made contributions to the December Urban Landcarer.

I have been preparing the (LRO Bulletin & The Urban Landcarer) newsletter since November 2004, and can only stress how important it is that Landcarers avail themselves of the opportunity to inform others about what they are doing. Yes, other people are interested in knowing what you are achieving on your landcare site. Landcarers stories add interest and colour, so keep them coming, especially the photos.

The March Issue - The next issue of the Urban Landcarer will be in March, and will be the colour edition. So how about some stories on the progress of your Landcare site to start off the new year.

The deadline for this issue will be Wednesday 24th February 2010. *Editor*

Lake Macquarie Landcare Inc.

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 9th March 2010

Where: Landcare Resource Centre, Toronto Road, Teralba, near the roundabout at the start of Five Islands Road.

Time: 4.30pm to 6.30pm

Venue: Meeting Room.

A reminder to all Landcare Groups that the Annual General Meeting of the Lake Macquarie Landcare Network, will be held on Tuesday 9th March 2010, from 4.30pm to 6.30pm.

This is your opportunity to play an important part in the future direction of the Lake Macquarie Landcare Network.

All positions will be declared vacant and a new executive will be required to keep the organisation moving forward.

Nominations are required for the executive positions of:

- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Chairperson
- Deputy Chairperson

It is still not too late to submit a nomination form.

Nomination forms were sent out with the December Urban Landcarer newsletter and the weekly emails. If you need a copy of the nomination form, contact Landcare on 4921 0392.

Please return your nomination form, no later than 4pm Thursday 4th March, 2010



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Council has divided the City into nine broad ecosystems to monitoring the health of our natural environment.

A major component of the program is to include residents in a Community Monitoring Program for nine broad ecosystems.

Council will be working with a consultant, to run a half day training workshop (theory and practical) for residents who are interested in becoming involved in the program

on Saturday 13 March 2010 from 1 to 5pm.

Participants will receive background information and practical skills in vegetation surveys. In return participants are asked to commit to two surveys a year (Autumn and Spring) at identified sites, at a mutually convenient time. On-ground support will be provided.

For further information, or to book a place contact Margo Smith at LMCC on: **4921 0702**

or email: masmith@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

*Margo Smith, Sustainability Project Coordinator
Lake Macquarie City Council*



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANTS OPEN

Grants of up to \$3,000 are available for environmental projects in Lake Macquarie for the 2010/2011 financial year.

Community groups, schools, and other not-for-profit educational organisations are encouraged to apply.

For more information, please contact the Council's Sustainability Projects Coordinator on:

4921 0259

or email:

kmason@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

Applications close on Friday 26th February 2010.

Karen Mason, Community Empowerment Officer

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please note that the contact phone number for the Landcare Resource Office 4959 5080 is no longer connected. The contact phone number for the Landcare Resource Centre, is now:

4921 0392

Our address is:

**Landcare Resource Centre
Toronto Road, Teralba NSW 2284**

Postal address is:

PO Box 3031, Teralba NSW 3031

Email:

lro@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

Email (LM Network business):

lmnl@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

Business hours:

Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm

Plants for 2010 Landcare Plantings

Now is the time to start thinking about plant requirements for Landcare sites for autumn, and National Tree Day plants for both schools and the general Landcare community. The Landcare Resource Centre has a limited budget for plant orders at both Trees In Newcastle and Hunter Indigenous Plants. What you need to do as soon as possible is to get a resource request for the number and type of plant (tree, shrub, and/or ground-cover) to the LRC (lro@lakemac.nsw.gov.au). This allows me to organise the appropriate plants for your site with the contract suppliers, and maximise the chance of getting exactly what you asked for.

School groups should contact TIN direct on 4969 1500

All other Landcare groups should contact the LRC on 4921 3092

Carl Fulton, Landcare Vegetation Officer



JOHN FITZ GERALD

Lake Macquarie Landcare recently lost one of its landcare family members. John passed away at the Mater Hospital on Sunday 17th January 2010. John's recent illness developed into a very severe lung cancer.

John worked with Kilaben Bay Landcare and served on the Lake Macquarie Network Committee as Secretary from 2006/07 and as Deputy Chairperson from 2007/08. During this period he was also associated with the Landcare-in-Schools programme. He wrote a three volume guide for teachers, parents and children on the Landcare and Earthcare Schools Environmental Curriculum Support Program, with his wise owls Tawny and Rufus, teaching children about Landcare values, natural resource management, climate change and sustainability.

Denis Hilder, Editor



PELICAN BLACKSMITHS FIELD DAY

The Pelican Blacksmiths Landcare Group is holding a field day to celebrate the completion of the NSW Government's Environmental Trust program at Soldiers Road Reserve, Pelican on Sunday 28th February 2010 from 9am to 12pm.

The three year grant "The Protection of Rainforest and Swamp Forest at Soldiers Road Reserve" provided more than \$40000 for resources for the protection and rehabilitation of the site as well as community engagement and the highlighting of onsite cultural heritage.

The grant spanned from 2007-2009 and was divided into three stages, one area per year, with each area worked on in mosaic blocks. Prior to starting the project, Carl Fulton, Vegetation Officer for Lake Macquarie Landcare, devised an action plan to divide the Soldiers Road site into three workable areas.

The project has seen the riparian zone of an unnamed

watercourse restored and improved the water entering Lake Macquarie. It has also improved biodiversity, natural habitat, connectivity, visual amenity, and provided social benefits to local residents and visitors to the site.

The field day in will include a guided tour of the Soldiers Road site complete with native plant identification by Carl Fulton, Landcare Vegetation Officer. We will look at all the highlights of the site that became possible due to the Environmental Trust grant, as well as the wonderful natural elements of this urban bushland environment.

Date: Sunday 28th February 2010 - 9am to 12pm

Place: Soldiers Road Pelican

RSVP: Phone Landcare Resource Centre 4921 0392

Cost: Free (Morning Tea and BBQ Lunch)

Dress appropriately . Wear covered shoes, and bring a hat and sunscreen.



CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY 2010

Get Involved in Clean Up Australia Day 2010

Clean Up Australia Day - Sunday, 7 March 2010

Schools Clean Up Day - Friday, 5 March 2010

Clean Up Australia's 2010 campaign is now well underway and we are hoping to make it the biggest community event to date! Every year hundreds of thousands of Australians get stuck in and clean up their local environment by collecting and removing rubbish on Clean Up Australia Day.

Registrations for Clean Up Australia Day 2010 is now open.

For more information on organising a site please check out the website on: www.cleanup.org.au



LAKE MACQUARIE LANDCARE RECEIVES FUNDING FROM NSW GOVERNMENT

Lake Macquarie Landcare obtained \$25,000 from the Community Building Partnership Program. This funding will be used to supply and install water tanks for a garden watering system and the supply and installation of solar panels to supply electricity.

We would like to thank the NSW Government and Greg Piper MP who has been very supportive of this project.



PLEASE CIRCULATE THIS PUBLICATION WITH EVERYONE IN YOUR GROUP OR SHARE IT WITH YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Deadline for articles for next months (March) Urban Landcarer: February 24, 2010.

Urban Landcarer/LRO Bulletin, contact the editor, Denis Hilder on 4921 0392

The opinions and views expressed within the LRO Bulletin are not necessarily those of Lake Macquarie Landcare Network

SINCERE THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

**JEMENA HUNTER WATER MITRE 10
LANDCARE AUSTRALIA CENTENNIAL NEWSTAN DELTA ELECTRICITY
NATURAL HERITAGE TRUST ENVIROFUND CITY OF LAKE MACQUARIE**



LANDCARE RESOURCE CENTRE (Hours: Mon. to Fri. 9am to 4pm)

Toronto Road, Teralba, NSW (PO Box 3031 Teralba, NSW 2284) Phone: 4921 0392 Email: lro@lakemac.nsw.gov.au Web: www.lakemac.com.au

LRO SUPPORT STAFF

Landcare Coordinator: *John Hughson* LML Inc. Administration Officer: *Debra Punton* LMCC Administrative Assistant: *Cheryl Drew*
Green Team Supervisor: *Amy Trello* Vegetation Officer: *Carl Fulton* Admin. Officer: *Denis Hilder* Communications Officer: *Valerie Johnston*

LAKE MACQUARIE LANDCARE NETWORK COMMITTEE

Chairperson: *Brian Johnson* Public Officer: *Henry Nicholls* Deputy Chairperson: *vacant* Secretary: *vacant* Treasurer: *Debra Punton*
Network Email: lmn@lakemac.nsw.gov.au Urban Landcarer/LRO Bulletin Editor: *Denis Hilder*