

News of our world

Date: November/December 2009

NRM news, events, funding and training opportunities, forums and conferences of interest to people living in the ACT and nearby regions, prepared by the ACT Natural Resources Management Facilitator.

ACT NRM Council

This newsletter will also appear on www.actlandcare.org.au

IN THIS ISSUE:

CATCHMENT GROUPS NEWS AND INFORMATION

- [MOLONGLO CATCHMENT GROUP: HTTP://WWW.MOLONGLOCATCHMENT.COM.AU/](http://www.molonglocatchment.com.au/)
- [SOUTHERN ACT CATCHMENT GROUP: HTTP://WWW.SACTCG.ORG.AU/](http://www.sactcg.org.au/)
- [GINNINDERRA CATCHMENT GROUP: HTTP://WWW.GINNINDERRALANDCARE.ORG.AU/](http://www.ginninderralandcare.org.au/)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES/GRANTS

- [COMMUNITY ENERGY GRANTS PROGRAM](#)
- [ACT HEALTH PROMOTION GRANTS](#)
- [LIVING GREENER REBATES, GRANTS AND LOANS](#)
- [WATER FOR THE FUTURE GRANTS AND FUNDING](#)
- [INDIGENOUS HERITAGE PROGRAM FUNDING](#)
- [JUNIOR LANDCARE GRANTS 2010](#)

EVENTS AND COURSES

- [CONSERVATION COUNCIL MEMBER FORUM](#)
- [NATIONAL LANDCARE FORUM – MARCH 2010](#)

RESOURCES/INFORMATION

- [LAND AND WATER AUSTRALIA RESEARCH REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS](#)
- [THE CHANGE MAKERS – BY JOHN HARRIS](#)
- [OPTIMISING CARBON IN THE AUSTRALIAN LANDSCAPE – THE WENTWORTH GROUP](#)
- [MURRAY-DARLING BASIN AUTHORITY RESOURCES](#)
- [THE AUSTRALIAN CARBON POLLUTION REDUCTION SCHEME – AN INTRODUCTION FOR FARMERS & AGRIBUSINESS](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- [HOST A NEST BOX AND SAVE OUR NATIVE BIRDS](#)
- [YOUNG PEOPLE AMBASSADORS - CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST](#)

PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS/COMMENTS

- [INVESTIGATION INTO CANBERRA NATURE PARK \(NATURE RESERVES\) THE MOLONGLO RIVER CORRIDOR \(NATURE RESERVES\) AND GOOGONG FORESHORES – SUBMISSION DATE EXTENDED](#)
- [SUSTAINABLE FUTURE – WORKSHOP FINDINGS REPORT](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES/GRANTS

COMMUNITY ENERGY GRANTS PROGRAM

Applications are invited for the 2009 - 2010 Community Energy Grants Program – Action 27 of *Weathering the Change*, the ACT Government's climate change strategy.

The Community Energy Grants program provides funding to eligible ACT-based community groups to install renewable energy technologies, such as solar photovoltaic panels, wind generators and solar hot water, to reduce the energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions of the buildings they occupy.

A total of \$900,000 is available in 2009 - 2010 for one-off projects of up to six months duration. There is a limit of \$25,000 per community organisation.

Applications open 2 November 2009 and close at 5pm 23 December 2009.

For more information visit

http://www.environment.act.gov.au/energy/community_energy_grants

ACT HEALTH PROMOTION GRANTS

Applications close 5.00pm Monday 25 January 2010

Funding for organisations to achieve positive health outcomes. There are no restrictions on the amount for which one organisation can apply for funding.

The 2010/11 Community Funding Round is open to community-based groups, not-for-profit organisations and government agencies. The aim of the 2010/11 funding round is to support activities that promote good health and chronic disease prevention. Funding will be provided to organisations to develop partnerships that strengthen the capacity of individuals and communities to make healthy choices. The funding round also aims to build the capability of organisations to adopt health promotion principles and practices and deliver a range of health promotion strategies.

The Community Funding Round calls for projects that place an emphasis on ACT Health's key priorities. These include: physical activity, ***environmental sustainability and health***, healthy nutrition, smoking reduction, chronic disease prevention and mental health promotion. The funding guidelines will be applied flexibly to project applications received from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations.

The application form is available from the ACT Health Promotion Grants Program website at www.health.act.gov.au/hpgrants

LIVING GREENER REBATES, GRANTS AND LOANS

Information about Australian Government rebates, grants and loans can be accessed at the Living Greener website <http://www.livinggreener.gov.au/rebates-grants-loans/>.

You can also find fact sheets and other resources on how to reduce energy, water and transport use as well as reducing household and business waste.

WATER FOR THE FUTURE GRANTS AND FUNDING

Through the Water for the Future program, the Australian Government is offering a range of funding opportunities, including storm water reuse projects, rainwater and grey water rebates and grants for surf life saving clubs. For information visit <http://www.environment.gov.au/water/programs/index.html>.

INDIGENOUS HERITAGE PROGRAM FUNDING

The Indigenous Heritage Program (IHP) is an Australian Government initiative that supports the identification, conservation, and promotion (where appropriate) of Indigenous heritage.

Individual project funding for organisations will in general be available up to a maximum of \$100,000 (GST exclusive). Individual applicants will generally be eligible for funding up to \$5000. Applications for more than these amounts may be considered where the applicant demonstrates special circumstances or a genuine requirement for additional funds.

Applications open on 16 November 2009 and close **on 5 February 2010**.

Information can be found at

<http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/programs/ihp/index.html>.

JUNIOR LANDCARE GRANTS 2010

The 2010 closing dates for the Junior Landcare Grants Program are:

- Round 1: 5pm **Friday 5th March** (Yates and Coles)
- Round 2: 5pm **Friday 14th May** (Yates and Coles)
- Round 3: 5pm **Friday 6th August** (Yates and Coles)
- Round 4: **Friday 22nd October** (Yates and Melbourne Water only - Please note there are NO COLES grants available this round)

Details can be found at <http://www.juniorlandcare.com.au/Grants.htm>.

EVENTS AND COURSES

CONSERVATION COUNCIL MEMBER FORUM

Each month, the Conservation Council ACT Region is holding a forum to discuss a variety of fascinating topics relating to our local environment. These fora are open to ALL member groups and their guests. The next forum will be:

The Future of Molonglo: Canberra's Newest Suburb

Thursday 17th December 2009

Venue: Federation Room, Havelock House, 85 Northbourne Ave

Time: 5.30 for a 6pm start - 7.30pm

NATIONAL LANDCARE FORUM – MARCH 2010

The 2010 National Landcare Forum will be held in Adelaide from the 23 – 25 March 2010.

Information including the program, accommodation, field trips and registration forms for the 2010 National Landcare Forum is now on the web. Visit www.nationallandcareforum.com.au

RESOURCES/INFORMATION

LAND AND WATER AUSTRALIA RESEARCH REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Land & Water Australia has been asked to wind-up the corporation by December 31st, 2009. LWA has managed to make a large proportion of their research reports and publications available on DVD, which is available for free through their website. There are only a limited number of these items available, and they will not be republished, so this is your last chance to get hold of this resource.

[Order your copy of the LWA research archive...](#)

THE CHANGE MAKERS – BY JOHN HARRIS

John Harris is a former environmental studies lecturer from the University of Canberra and has recently published a book called “The Change Makers” where he interviews former students about their work to date.

Richard Baker, Deputy Dean of Science at the Australian National University, describes the book, *The Change Makers*, by John Harris:

“John Harris was a pioneer in teaching environmental studies in Australia and in tracking down and interviewing his former students from the 1970s, 80s and 90s he has produced a deeply moving book full of profound insights. Harris explores the post-university lives of the environmental graduates and tells an inspiring story of trailblazers who have made a difference. The book brilliantly charts the joys and challenges these individuals experienced as they created a wide range of new jobs. Anyone concerned about environment issues needs to read this book to learn from the wisdom of Australia’s first generation of environmental professionals.”

The Change Makers is now available for purchase from the University of Canberra Co-op Bookstore or direct from the author by emailing jajvharris@bigpond.com.

OPTIMISING CARBON IN THE AUSTRALIAN LANDSCAPE – THE WENTWORTH GROUP

This publication by the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists was launched in late October and is available for download from:

http://www.wentworthgroup.org/docs/1270%20Optimising_Terrestrial_Carbon-9bfinal.pdf

MURRAY-DARLING BASIN AUTHORITY RESOURCES

The Murray-Darling Basin Authority has a range of publications available from their website, including fact sheets, technical reports and brochures.

To view and download the publications, visit www.mdba.gov.au/services/publications.

THE AUSTRALIAN CARBON POLLUTION REDUCTION SCHEME – AN INTRODUCTION FOR FARMERS & AGRIBUSINESS

The Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) will have important implications for farmers and agribusiness. Published by the Australian Farm Institute, the guide offers an explanation of how emissions trading works, and what it means for agriculture.

This report was released in September 2009, and although it is still unclear as to whether agriculture will be included in the emissions trading scheme, this guide might be a useful guide to the implications for agribusiness.

Cost \$60. Order online at the Australian Farm Institute.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

HOST A NEST BOX AND SAVE OUR NATIVE BIRDS

A researcher from The Australian National University is calling on the local Canberra community to lend a helping hand in the crusade to save our native Australian birds by hosting a bird nest box in their backyard.

PhD researcher Kate Grarock from the Fenner School of Environment and Society at ANU is investigating the impact of the Indian Myna bird on native bird life in the ACT region.

She is seeking residents in Kaleen, Giralang, Aranda, Cook, Pearce, Torrens, Chifley, Kambah (South of Drakeford Drive), and Theodore to host bird nest boxes in their yards as part of the study.

For more information, visit ANU Science News or The Great Nestbox Project Facebook Page.

YOUNG PEOPLE AMBASSADORS - CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment, Dr Maxine Cooper, is inviting expressions of interest for Young People Ambassadors.

The Young People Ambassadors assist the Commissioner and staff on advocacy and awareness of sustainability and environmental issues, particularly in the youth sector (12-25 years). The functions of the Ambassadors in partnership with our Office are to:

- identify opportunities for engagement with young people;
- provide advice on the update of the website and electronic communication;
- provide linkages with the Children & Young People Commissioner by partnering with this Commission to work with young people, and

- provide linkages with key sustainability and environmental youth groups such as the Australian Youth Climate Coalition and ACT Otherwise.

Expressions of interest close on Friday 12 Feb 2010

For more information on how to apply visit www.envcomm.act.gov.au

PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS/COMMENTS

INVESTIGATION INTO CANBERRA NATURE PARK (NATURE RESERVES) THE MOLONGLO RIVER CORRIDOR (NATURE RESERVES) AND GOOGONG FORESHORES – SUBMISSION DATE EXTENDED

Submissions now need to be lodged by close of business on Friday 26 February 2010. Please note that this date has changed from previously circulated information.

The Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment, Dr Maxine Cooper, is inviting public submissions to an investigation into the Canberra Nature Park (nature reserves); the Molonglo River Corridor (nature reserves) and Googong Foreshores.

People who would like to make submissions should look at the Terms of Reference on the Commissioner's website at www.envcomm.act.gov.au.

This Office is independent of, but funded by, the ACT Government.

SUSTAINABLE FUTURE – WORKSHOP FINDINGS REPORT

The [Sustainable future workshop findings report](#) has been released for public comment.

The report contains key outcomes from a series of workshops held under the Sustainable future program. These workshops gathered together some of Australia's leading thinkers, community members and government and industry representatives to draw out ideas on how to make the ACT more sustainable, particularly in regard to future planning.

Those ideas are synthesised in the report, which has been released so the community can provide the ACT Planning and Land Authority with feedback.

Comments can be submitted by:

- filling out the [online survey](#)
- emailing sustainablefuture@act.gov.au
- mailing comments to:
Design Policy
ACT Planning and Land Authority
GPO Box 1908
CANBERRA ACT 2601

The period for comments ends Friday 26 February 2010.

For more information and to view the report visit www.actpla.act.gov.au