

# News of our world

Date: November 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](http://www.actlandcare.org.au)**

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### **CATCHMENT GROUPS NEWS AND INFORMATION**

Follow the links to find out more about your local catchment group

- [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/)

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## **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **RECOGNISING WOMEN FARMERS GRANTS**

Recognising Women Farmers grants offer support for activities that will build the leadership and representative capacity of women in primary industries—to strengthen primary industry productivity and build rural, regional and remote community resilience to a changing climate.

Recognising Women Farmers offers support to stage events for women living and working in rural, regional and remote Australia that:

- Build and share knowledge and experience
- Increase access to planning tools and resources
- Develop leadership and management skills

- Develop programs to increase participation in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries
- Develop skills to contribute more effectively to government and industry decision making
- Build networks among rural, regional and remote Australians.

Grants of up to \$50,000 (GST exclusive) are available. For more information visit [www.daff.gov.au/recognisingwomenfarmers](http://www.daff.gov.au/recognisingwomenfarmers).

**Applications close this Friday 13 November.**

### **JOBS FUND ROUND 2 – GREEN PROJECTS**

The second and final Jobs Fund Round was announced on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2009. The "Local Jobs" stream is very relevant to environmental organisations as it has a strong emphasis on environmental work - especially combined with jobs and employing people! See the guidelines at [www.keepaustraliaworking.gov.au/JobsFund](http://www.keepaustraliaworking.gov.au/JobsFund) and at [www.deewr.gov.au/Employment/Pages/JobsFund.asp](http://www.deewr.gov.au/Employment/Pages/JobsFund.asp)

The closing time and date for proposals is 11.00pm AEDT Friday 11 December 2009.

Funding of \$52 million is available under the Local Jobs stream in Round 2. This will fund job creation projects that benefit the local community and have a positive impact on the environment. Funding of \$52 million is available under the Local Jobs stream in Round 2. This will fund job creation projects that benefit the local community and have a positive impact on the environment.

Projects under this stream will focus on the creation of green jobs, development of green skills, promotion of energy efficient infrastructure and development of skills in future green industries.

Examples of the types of projects that could be funded under this stream include but are not limited to:

- provision of energy audits and advice for community and not-for profit organisations to improve their readiness for the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS)
- the installation of energy efficiency measures for buildings designed to reduce carbon emissions such as insulation
- undertaking external landscaping activities that improve indoor energy efficiency and comfort levels in community buildings (such as shading, water features and landscaping as appropriate)
- protection, conservation and interpretation of historic, indigenous and natural heritage places
- waterway improvement, conservation and care
- land, water and wildlife survey and data collection
- access control, bush regeneration, habitat protection and restoration
- environmental weed control and walking track construction and restoration, and
- activities to care for the natural environment and providing community education.

Funding for individual projects will be determined on a case-by-case basis to a **maximum of \$2 million per project (GST exclusive)**.

## COMMUNITY ENERGY GRANTS PROGRAM

As a part of the ACT Government's Climate Change Strategy *Weathering the Change* funding is now available to help community groups meet the challenges of climate change. Funding is available to incorporated community not-for-profit organisations. Joint applications will be considered for eligible organisations sharing occupancy within buildings. Grants of up to \$25,000 are available to install renewable energy efficiency improvements in buildings occupied by eligible organisations.

### Applications close 23 December 2009

Guidelines and the application form can be found at:

[www.environment.act.gov.au/energy/community\\_energy\\_grants](http://www.environment.act.gov.au/energy/community_energy_grants) or the ACT Grants Portal at [www.grants.act.gov.au](http://www.grants.act.gov.au).

For further information contact Emma Humphreys on 13 22 81.

## EVENTS, COURSES AND VOLUNTEERING

### BIRDS FIELD DAYS

This Saturday, November the 14th, the Molonglo Catchment Group will be holding the first of two field days on how to improve your property for native birds as part of the Sustainability on Small Farms project funded by the Australian Government's Caring for our Country.

The field days will be held on Saturday 14th at Rossi and Saturday 21st at Royalla, both will start at 8am. Nicki Taws will be the guest presenter and will run through a range of tips for identifying birds by sight and call, the significance of the presence or absence of the different species and what you can do to improve the habitat on your property for native birds. Each field day is expected to run for approximately 2 hours. It is essential to RSVP as places are limited, so get in early and contact [Andy](#) from the Molonglo Catchment Group. There are still a number places available for this Saturdays field day.

<b>When:</b>	Saturday 14th November, 8.00am - 10am
<b>Where:</b>	52 Galvins Creek Road, Rossi. ( <a href="#">Map</a> )
<b>What to wear/bring:</b>	Binoculars if you have them, sturdy walking shoes, hat, sunscreen, drinking water, and jacket. Morning tea will be provided.
<b>RSVP and further information:</b>	<a href="#">Molonglo Catchment Coordinator</a> , Andy Westcott 6299 2119

<b>When:</b>	Saturday 21st November, 8.00am - 10am
<b>Where:</b>	32 McDonald Road, Royalla Station Country Estate. ( <a href="#">Map</a> )
<b>What to wear/bring:</b>	Binoculars if you have them, sturdy walking shoes, hat, sunscreen, drinking water, and jacket. Morning tea will be provided.
<b>RSVP and further information:</b>	<a href="#">Molonglo Catchment Coordinator</a> , Andy Westcott 6299 2119

## **YOUTH LEADING AUSTRALIA**

Local Youth Congresses

Target age: 12-28

Cost: Free (but donations for future programs appreciated)

24-26 November 2009

Canberra Congress: Karmel Rooms. ANU Function Centre.

YOUth LEADing Australia is an opportunity for youth to connect with others in their own locality, develop plans for implementing the transition to vibrant, sustainable futures & take empowered local action that will make a positive difference for the future of our planet.

For more information or to RSVP please contact Angela Baker, OzGREEN Facilitator:  
[abaker@ozgreen.org.au](mailto:abaker@ozgreen.org.au) or ph 0408 473 585 by November 20<sup>th</sup>

For more information, or to register, go to  
[http://www.ozgreen.org/index.php?option=com\\_seminar&task=3&cid=4](http://www.ozgreen.org/index.php?option=com_seminar&task=3&cid=4)

## **WALK AGAINST WARMING**

This year *Walk Against Warming Canberra* will be held on December 12th outside New Parliament House at 11.30am and will coincide with the International Day of Action on Climate Change and the crucial Copenhagen Climate Talks in Denmark.

The Conservation Council is currently in the midst of organising the day and would love some assistance. How you might be able to help:

### **1. Stall Holders**

Are you or do you know of someone who makes and sells environmentally friendly or sustainable products? If so, they'd love to hear from you.

There will be a Sustainability Fair/Market in conjunction with the Walk Against Warming to show people who walk how they can do practical things every day and that being environmentally sustainable isn't just about changing a light bulb - it's about how you can change your lifestyle and leave behind the smallest carbon footprint.

Conservation Council are currently looking for stall holders who would be interested in displaying their wares. The whole day will only last between 11 and 3, so it's not a big time commitment. **Stalls are FREE.**

Please contact Susanna ([communications@consact.org.au](mailto:communications@consact.org.au)) for a stall application form.

### **2. Are you a musician, part of a band or know of someone who is?**

The Conservation Council would like to have live music playing throughout the day, and would welcome anyone who might be interested in playing.

Last year there were 3,000 people who attended and they are hoping to get more than that this year - it'll be great exposure and a wonderful experience for any start up bands who might be interested.

Please contact Susanna ([communications@consact.org.au](mailto:communications@consact.org.au) or 6229 3208) if you wish to play on the day.

### **3. Volunteers**

Volunteers are needed to help spread the word, letterboxing, putting flyers up around Canberra, stalls and help on the day. Please contact Susanna ([communications@consact.org.au](mailto:communications@consact.org.au) or 6229 3208) to receive a volunteer form.

For further information on this year's Walk Against Warming, or to make a donation, please visit: <http://www.walkagainstawarming.org/>

## **PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS**

### **INVESTIGATION INTO CANBERRA NATURE PARK (NATURE RESERVES) THE MOLONGLO RIVER CORRIDOR (NATURE RESERVES) AND GOOGONG FORESHORES**

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.envcom.act.gov.au](http://www.envcom.act.gov.au).

**Submissions need to be lodged by close of business on Tuesday 22 December 2009.**

All submissions will be made public unless otherwise requested in writing.

Please send your submission to:

The Office of the Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment  
PO Box 356  
Dickson ACT 2602  
or email: [envcomm@act.gov.au](mailto:envcomm@act.gov.au)

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