

EUROBODALLA LANDCARE NEWSLETTER

September 2008

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“SOUTH COAST COMMUNITIES SEA SPURGE CONTROL” APPLICATION

As a result of a meeting in May of coastal land management agencies and community organisations, hosted by Greg Thompson, Shoalhaven City Council; Peter Gow, Eurobodalla Landcare Community Support Officer; Paul May and John Perkins of South Durras Landcare, an application for funding has been lodged by Southern Councils Group with Community Coastcare for a regional coastal weed control project. Jillian Keating, SRCMA Coasts and Marine Catchment Officer, drew together information from 18 organisations to compile the application.

Sea Spurge is widely distributed along the southern Australian coastline, with the proven capacity in Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria and Tasmania to establish vast infestations and become the dominant plant on beaches, dunes and estuary shores, and even to move further inland. The last 25 years has seen the progressive spread of Sea Spurge up the NSW coastline, with the most recent sighting being in Gerringong. Eurobodalla Landcare Management Committee is one of the partners in this regional project funding application.



Sea Spurge infestation at North Head,
Murramarang National Park
Photo: J Perkins



Regional Sea Spurge Meeting
South Durras

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS CONSTRUCT COSY HOMES FOR NATIVE WILDLIFE

In a successful partnership between the students and teachers of Narooma High School and volunteers from Mystery Bay Coastcare 15 custom made animal nest boxes will soon be erected around the Mystery Bay Campground. The nest boxes, each built to exact dimensions to suit each species will address the housing crisis facing many native animals who depend on tree hollows to nest and breed.

The students constructed the boxes based on the most recent research into appropriate size and shape and also completed a project sheet detailing the specific habitat needs of the animals they were building the boxes for. Money for the materials was made possible through a Grant from the Australian Government Envirofund. "Involving the students in this stage of our project has allowed us to construct more than our initially planned number of boxes and also resulted in engaging and informing the local young people in the issues behind habitat loss and the need for restoration." said Landcare Volunteer Christina Potts.

Fifteen boxes for six different native animals have been built. The animals are Ringtail Possum, Feathertail Glider, Sugar Glider, Kookaburra, Rosella and Black Cockatoo. Different size animals need different sized hollows to breed, even the smallest hollows do not begin to form naturally until eucalypt trees are over one hundred years old. Hollows for the larger animals such as the Black Cockatoo can take up to 500 years to form. "As surrounding native forest is cleared or logged for woodchips on an ever shortening cycle, these hollows are becoming a scarce resource. Council clearing of dead limbs in the campground for safety reasons is also reducing the availability of homes for native animals. This project will be used as a test, and if successful may be extended in the future", Ms Potts concluded



Back Row L:R Mr Mazz, Kyle, Darcy, George, D.Dawg, Tony, Emily Jones.
Front Row: Christina and Sophie Potts, Josh.

NATIONAL LANDCARE WEEK - OUR LANDCARE HEROES 1-7 SEPTEMBER

You are invited to join thousands of landcarers across Australia to celebrate National Landcare Week's *Local Heroes* during 1-7 September by holding an event and promoting your achievements. Further information can be accessed at www.landcareonline.com

What is your Landcare groups doing on Landcare Week?

INVITATION - WETLAND PLANTING - TUROSS VALLEY 11.00 am, Tues. 2nd September, Harpurs Lagoon, Eurobodalla.

Tuross Valley Landcare is having a Wetland planting on the 2nd September to celebrate Landcare Week. They would like to invite volunteers from other Landcare groups to participate in the planting and join them for a picnic lunch. For more information and to book for lunch please contact Peter Gow on 4474 1329



2008-09 SMALL FARMS NETWORK Efarm GRANTS

The SFN / Efarm would like to invite members to submit an application to undertake on ground NRM projects between October 2008 and June 2009. The Small Farms Incentive Program is open to all members, with project proposals of \$500 to \$10,000 available with some matching landholder in-kind contributions required (usually in-kind labour and machinery costs factored in).

Applications close **26th September 2008**, and will be assessed by a panel of local NRM experts. Funding will be rolled out quickly and projects will be required to be completed by May 29th 2009. Please contact Peter Gow on 4474 1329 for an application form.

COASTAL CONFERENCE

The 17th NSW Coastal Conference is to be held on the 4th to 7th November in Wollongong. For more information please go to www.coastalconference.com

NATIONAL SUSTAINABLE HOUSE DAY

Three local homes in the Bingie area will be open for National Sustainable House Day on Sunday 14 September. The aim is to showcase sustainable living, with an opportunity to talk with home owners about the process integrating sustainability into home design and development. The homes that will be open are at 26 Arinya Place, 36 Spring Place and 14 Kellys Close, all in Bingie. For more information

about the open homes see www.sustainablehouseday.com. Entry to homes costs \$5 and tickets can be purchased from any of the open buildings. Bingie is about 10km south of Moruya, and can be accessed off the Princes Highway. For more information about the day contact Tracey Rich on (02) 4474 7464.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING EXPO

Council is holding its second Sustainable Living Expo in conjunction with the Moruya Jazz Festival on Saturday 18 October. The Expo will showcase a range of local businesses and community organisations that provide products or services which promote sustainable living and environmental awareness. This year the event will include numerous hands-on workshops to be run by Council staff during the day. The event runs from 9.30am to 1pm in Russ Martin Park next to Moruya Swimming Pool. The Moruya Country Markets and Jazz in the Park are also a drawcard, so come along for a fun and informative day out. For more information about the Expo see <http://www.esc.nsw.gov.au/environment> . Anyone wishing to have a stall at the expo needs to register their interest by Friday 29th August.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING DIGITAL MEDIA COMPETITION

Council is holding a Digital Media Competition to complement its range of sustainability activities during September and October. The competition has been designed to encourage residents to get creative and showcase to the community, in an artistic way, steps they are taking in their daily lives to reduce their environmental impact. Competition prizes include \$1000 credit to be used with any expo stallholders, and a double ticket pass to the Moruya Jazz Festival. The Digital Media Competition closes on 19th September. A selection of entries will be on display at the Expo. For more information about the competition, including entry forms, see <http://www.esc.nsw.gov.au/environment> .