

EUROBODALLA LANDCARE NEWSLETTER

April 2009

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EUROBODALLA GREEN CORPS TEAM GRADUATES

Five members of the Eurobodalla Green Corps team graduated recently at a ceremony at the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens.

The team worked over a six month period on a range of activities including planting 1880 native plants; constructing 1.5km of walking track; maintaining 30m of boardwalk; constructing 622m of fencing; and removing environmental weeds from an area of over 17 hectares. A major highlight was working with the Southern Rivers Catchment Management Authority direct seeding 12,500 mangrove trees along 3.8km of the Clyde River to help stabilize the river foreshore.

Green Corps participants Chris Leach, Jim McGary, Skye Falzon, Charlotte Sky, and Shane Davis, “should be proud of their achievements and the commitment they showed to help protect the local environment” said Green Corps team leader, Andrew Kirkley.

As well as doing the outdoor work the participants completed the Conservation and Land Management Certificate I, to gain a qualification which will assist them in their careers.

Projects were carried out on a range of properties, including both private and public lands.

The Green Corps team assisted the following Landcare groups with their projects – Broulee/ Mossy Point Dunecare, Guerilla Bay Landcare, Surf Beach Landcare, South Durras Landcare, Burrawang Landcare, Tuross Lakes Landcare, Tuross Valley Landcare, Long Beach Landcare, Congo Landcare, Surfside Landcare, and Budd Island Landcare.

“The Eurobodalla Landcare groups greatly appreciated the assistance of the Green Corps team in undertaking their projects over the last six months” said Cllr Chris Kowal.



Eurobodalla Green Corps team:- Jim McGary, Charlotte Sky, Skye Falzon, Chris Leach, Shane Davis; Green Corps Team Leader, Andrew Kirkley; Green Corps Program manager, Martin Middlebrook; and Landcare Community Support Officer, Peter Gow

Healthy Soils, Healthy Profits Workshop

When: 9.30 – 4pm, 6th and 20th May 2009 (Two day course)

Healthy pastures require healthy soils. Soils are the foundation of all productive and sustainable systems; however, they remain one of the last great mysteries on the farm. The Healthy Soils, Healthy Profits workshop looks at what is happening underground, and how improving soil health can increase the profitability and sustainability of a grazing system.

Strategies to monitor and manage soil health

The workshop will help you find ways to monitor and manage soil health. You will learn how to identify individual property soil health issues, evaluate how management can affect soil health, and develop action plans to address soil health problems.

Who should attend?

All that you need is an interest in understanding how to make soils healthier. The two-day workshop is ideally run over two sessions, about three weeks apart. Consecutive days are not recommended because it won't allow you to assess your own paddocks for discussion and interpretation.

Why you'll enjoy the workshop

This practical workshop includes theory, group discussions, individual and group activities and practical hands-on demonstrations in the paddock. Stuart Burge, who is a qualified agronomist with over 20 years experience working with pasture management and sustainable grazing systems, is conducting the Course.

Location: Katinya, 411 Womban Rd, Moruya

<http://www.ozebiz.com.au/katinya/Location.htm>

Contact: RSVP to Peter Gow, Eurobodalla Landcare Community Support

Officer Email: Peter.Gow@eurocoast.nsw.gov.au

Phone: 02 4474 1329 Fax: 02 4474 1234 Mobile: 0428 479 278

****** Participants will need to arrange Soil testing on their property prior to the course This may take up to 6 weeks to receive results back prior to the course.**

This workshop is a key activity of the project "Small Farm Producer Networks - Supporting Sustainable Productive Land Management" and has been funded by a Landcare Sustainable Practices grant under the Australian Government's *Caring for our Country* initiative.

Weed Removers, Pasture Improvers Workshop

When: 9.30 – 4pm, 5th and 19th May 2009 (Two day course)

Keeping weeds out of pasture is a constant battle. They reduce levels of desirable species, pasture quality, animal production and ultimately income. While once weeds were thought to be responsible for pasture decline, it is now widely accepted that they are the result of it. Completing this workshop will enable you to achieve more productive pastures through weed management using a wide range of cost-effective tools.

About the workshop

The two-day workshop is about managing pasture composition to maximise opportunities for the desirable species, and to make life as difficult as possible for weeds. The workshop will work through the following steps, applying these principles firstly to the host farm, and then to your own example.

- Where am I? The starting point, specific pasture composition problems, pasture analysis and some weed identification.
- Where do I want to be? A pasture composition target providing the basis for selecting the best tools from the range of options.
- What tools do I need? The range of tools that might provide a cost-effective schedule to weaken weeds and strengthen desirable species in the pasture (eg spraying, fertiliser and grazing management).
- How do I get there? Practical application of the options selected above to achieve the pasture composition target.
- How do I stay there? Once the desired pasture composition is achieved, most importantly, how do I maintain it?
- Stuart Burge, who is a qualified agronomist with over 20 years experience working with pasture management and sustainable grazing systems, is conducting the Course.

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Contact: RSVP to Peter Gow, *Eurobodalla Landcare Community Support Officer*

Email: Peter.Gow@eurocoast.nsw.gov.au

Phone: 02 4474 1329 Fax: 02 4474 1234 Mobile: 0428 479 278

This workshop is a key activity of the project “Small Farm Producer Networks - Supporting Sustainable Productive Land Management” and has been funded by a Landcare Sustainable Practices grant under the Australian Government’s *Caring for our Country* initiative.



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY



CHEMICAL APPLICATION TRAINING

Twenty four people from Eurobodalla Landcare and the Efarm group completed training in Chemical Application during March supported by funding from the National Landcare Program. The skills and knowledge learnt during the training will be put into practice on Landcare projects throughout the Shire.



Eurobodalla Landcare Executive Meeting Dates For 2009

Wednesday 10th June,

Wednesday 9th December

Wednesday 9th September

ESC Committee Room

1pm for 1.30 meeting commencement

Please contact Peter Gow if you have items for the Agenda or wish to attend representing your Landcare group.

Eurobodalla Landcare AGM

Thursday 14th May

ESC Committee Room

5.30 for 6pm Meeting commencement

RSVP to Peter Gow 4474 1329

WETLANDS REHABILITATION WORKSHOP

9am – 4pm, Friday 1st May

Bodalla Community Hall

Bookings Essential

For more details and to RSVP - Susan Rhind 4228 9246, 0408 354 927

REGIONAL WETLANDS FORUM

A Regional Wetlands Forum is planned for June 2009 and will be held in Eurobodalla Shire. More details will be available in your next newsletter.

SOUTHERN NSW REGIONAL INDIAN MYNA CONFERENCE
Nowra on 13th May 2009.

The “Towards Best Practice Indian Myna Control” conference is being organized by the Canberra Indian Myna Action Group Inc. with funding support from the federal government, and with assistance from the Shoalhaven City Council. It will be held in the Shoalhaven City Council offices.

The conference will hear from a number of top-line speakers in the field of feral animal management and myna research (such as Prof Tony Peacock, the CEO of the CRC for Invasive Animals and Dr Chris Tidemann, Visiting Fellow of the Australian National University). A key element of the program will be short speaking segments of 10 minutes by a number of local councils and community-action groups on their issues and control approaches: what they are doing, what has worked, what hasn't etc. This will cover such things as: the elements to successfully establish a community-action group; trapping do's and don'ts; how councils and community-groups can work together on a myna control program. The afternoon will be devoted to a free-flowing discussion in full plenary where the participants will discuss 4 or so nominated key issues / questions. The day will finish up with a panel of practitioners answering any questions that might still be in attendees' minds. A report on “best-practice” approaches and options will be produced as an output of the conference.

Attendance at the conference is by invitation and will be free.

If you would like to attend the conference, please contact Courtney Fink at Eurobodalla Council on 4474 7442.

BUSHCARE TRAINING 2009

A number of Eurobodalla landcare groups will be again participating in the popular Bushcare training program. You are welcome to attend other group's training days to learn about what flora is present in different ecosystems. **If your group would also like on-site Bushcare training, or additional training days, please contact Peter Gow on 4474 1329, or Emma Patyus on 4474 1201.**

SURFSIDE BUSHCARE GROUP-

Saturday 28th March
Saturday 2nd May
Saturday 23rd May

ROSEDALE LANDCARE GROUP-

Tuesday 21st April
Thursday 23rd April
Saturday 25th April

LILLI PILLI / MALUA BAY LANDCARE-

Saturday 16th May

SURF BEACH

Saturday 6th June

To attend please RSVP Emma Patyus – 4474 1201

SUSTAINABILITY IN THE HOME

Wednesday 1 April 5.00 – 7.30pm at Council Chambers, Moruya.

Presenter Stuart Scobie will help you assess your current carbon footprint to see where your home sits against national averages. Discussion and displays of everything from simple, low or no-cost ideas to help you save energy and water to big-ticket items such as solar hot-water heaters. From 5.00 – 5.30pm talk to presentation team and view displays about rebates, Slow Food Festival and other local sustainability initiatives.

Bookings through Eurobodalla Adult Education Centre on 44729202

FUNGI WORKSHOP

The April Fungi Workshop has been booked out – a great response!

SEAGRASS AND ESTUARY MONITORING TRAINING



Seagrass and Estuary Monitoring Training was conducted at Coila Lake for representatives from Eurobodalla Landcare, Mystery Bay Coastcare, Bingie Residents Association, and Batemans Bay Primary School (Photo: Suzzanne Gray)

INVITATION TO TUROSS LAKES LANDCARE WORKING BEES

TLPG welcomes volunteers for any of the following **planting activities**. Due to the effort involved in taking materials & equipment on site, especially to Kyla Park, it has been suggested that for those who are able to continue working until lunchtime we **take some food & drink with us for a mid-morning break**.

ALTERNATE SUNDAY MORNINGS:

12th APRIL 9 am – Coila Lake Foreshore – our bush regenerator, Michelle Tribolet, will be supervising planting (mainly lomandra) in the forested area at the top of the rise above the cycle/walk timber bridge. You may like to park your car on Tuross Blvde near Coila Bar and walk along cycle/walk, or at end of Chauvel Cres. and walk down reserve next to last Chauvel Cres. house onto lake foreshore.

26th APRIL 9 am - KYLA PARK – meet at main gate on Hector McWilliam Drive. Planting on **Tuross Lake side**.

10th MAY 9 am – Coila Lake Foreshore – *More planting* – similar details as per working bee for 12th April above.

24th MAY 9 am – Coila Lake Foreshore - *More planting* – similar details as per working bee for 12th April above.

Please wear protective clothing. Further details phone 44 73 8800 or 44 73 8406.