

Regional Landcare Team: The Performance Story

Through the support and facilitation of the Regional Landcare Team in 2006 – 2007 the following activities occurred:

- 219 media articles (including print, television and radio) relating to Landcare;
- More than 30 Landcare groups reviewed or created their action plans;
- Approximately 70 projects or events strengthening the partnerships Landcare Groups have with Corporate entities, Shire Councils, North Central CMA, Department of Sustainability and Environment, Department of Primary Industry and Parks Victoria amongst others;
- Over 180 on-ground or education and awareness projects;
- Over 100 awareness raising events including funding seminars, 20th anniversary celebrations, drought forums, regional bus trips and displays at agricultural shows;
- Opportunity for participation in over 106 training or skills development workshops for Landcare Volunteers were provided.

To inform their role as knowledge brokers the Regional Landcare Team participated in the following training:

- Most Significant Change story collection;
- "The Land, it's Traditional Owners and the Law";
- "Community Engagement – Get Engaged" (DSE); and
- Workplace Training and Assessment (Cert IV).

On Ground Works: Working Towards Landscape Change

Of the 68 groups who provided data the following outcomes were achieved:

- Approximately 4758 people attended over 364 meetings;
- Over 80 guest speakers at meetings and public forums;
- Approximately 53 field days were held; and
- 120 grants were applied for successfully attracting \$800,942 of funding.
- Over 1889 volunteers performed over 17,308 hours of on ground works. These works include:
 - 79,705 hectares of fox control;
 - 8 hectares of soil erosion works including fencing, stabilising, gully battering and walking tracks marked to protect vegetation;
 - 889 hectares of land revegetated with trees or native grasses;
 - 40,215 hectares of weed management occurred throughout the region. Weeds treated include Gorse, Horehound, Boxthorn, Paterson's Curse, Blackberries, Spiny Rush, Cape Tulip and Wheel Cactus. The majority of weed management projects included a revegetation component;
 - 40 km of waterways rehabilitated through fencing of riparian areas, rubbish removal, weed treatment and erosion stabilisation.

North Central Landcare 2006-07 Achievement Story

**IN 1986 AT WINJALLOK
IN THE NORTH CENTRAL
REGION THE FIRST LANDCARE
GROUP WAS FORMED.**

**NOW IN LANDCARE'S 20TH
YEAR WE ARE PROUD TO
PRESENT THIS RECORD OF
THE YEAR'S ACHIEVEMENTS
OF OUR THRIVING LANDCARE
COMMUNITY.**

Introduction: The Year That Was...

North Central's first achievement story provides an encouraging snapshot of Landcare's contribution to Natural Resource Management.

2006-2007 was a challenging year that saw our region continue to come to grips with with severe drought conditions. This has placed a high degree of stress on North Central Landcare Group members as more than 74% of our groups define themselves as rural.

Their achievements, which are listed here, only go part way to describing the myriad of positive impacts Landcare has in the North Central region. Beyond the measurable outcomes such as on-ground works, field days, training opportunities and awareness-raising events there are the less tangible contributions such as the social cohesion and overall community health that Landcare groups have helped support.

The 20th year of Landcare saw a variety of celebration events occur to recognise Landcare volunteer dedication and contribution to catchment health. These events included:

- A dinner and commemorative planting at Winjallok;
- A family day at Lake Charm and the launch of the Ibis Rookery in the Gannawarra Shire;
- A celebration and recognition event to celebrate the success of the Loddon Shires' volunteers.

In March 2007 the Landcare Support Review began to analyse the Landcare support structure in North Central. The community consultation process included three public workshops around the catchment, all of which were well attended. The findings of the review will form the basis of Landcare support for the next Regional Catchment Investment Plan.

Group Health Story: A Self-Assessment Tool

The Group Health Survey was designed as a self-assessment tool for groups to collectively discuss their current health status. It also provided a framework for groups to look at specific areas of the their wellbeing such as their financial and information resources. The process then highlighted particular strengths that could be maximised or potential threats to the groups' success.

When the trends for the individual areas of the survey are analysed as a whole it can highlight areas for support, training or resource gaps that can then be filled by the Regional Landcare Team. For example two of the main themes demonstrated in this year's group health survey is that groups require support in succession planning and attracting new members.

The group health survey asked groups to rate their overall health on a five point scale system from 'in recess' (stalled) to 'trail blazing' (thriving). It is this information that provides a picture of the health of Landcare collectively in the North Central region.

76% groups who participated in the Annual Achievement Story also submitted a group health survey. Of these:

- 9% of groups rate themselves as trail blazers;
- 38% of groups rate themselves as strong;
- 12% see their health as okay;
- 7% are surviving;
- 7% are stalling or stalled.
- Of the 12% of groups that are rate themselves as okay, 25% believe their health will improve and only 16% believe their health will decline in the next year;
- Almost 50% of all groups who submitted a group health survey believe their health will either be stable or improve into 2008;
- Less than 6% of groups believe they will be stalled or stalling in the next year.

Return for Investment: Attracting Additional Funding

From the information collected in the North Central region Landcarers have provided over \$670,600 in in-kind support.

Landcare groups were highly successful in attracting over \$1.2 million in funding from a variety of grant sources in 2006 – 2007. This includes funding received by groups who did not submit the annual achievement story:

- \$340,000 in Second Generation Landcare Grants;
- \$190,665 for National Landcare Programme Community & Innovation Grants;
- \$484,192 in Envirofund grants provided through the Australian Governments Natural Heritage Trust;
- \$72,850 in Community Water Grants;
- \$40,000 (approx) of corporate funding through Landcare Australia Limited; and
- \$103,567 in Drought Recovery Program.



NORTH CENTRAL
Catchment Management Authority
Committed to catchment health

Supporting Landcare Groups: The Regional Landcare Team

The North Central Catchment Management Authority brokered \$528,000 of Federal funding from the Natural Heritage Trust and National Action Plan programs. This was provided for the employment of a team of 8 Shire based Landcare Co-ordinators to support and resource the 136 Landcare groups in the North Central region. Each Shire supplies matching funding to employ the Co-ordinators.

The Victorian Action Plan for Second Generation Landcare provided \$100,000 to employ a full time Regional Landcare Co-ordinator to manage the Regional Landcare Team. A further \$35,000 was provided to fund four discrete projects including the production of this achievement story.

The National Landcare Programme Funding provided \$65,000 for the employment of an industry engagement officer to strengthen linkages between primary industry and the environment.

NORTHERN GRAMPPIANS & BULOKE SHIRES

Shire Co-ordinator: Kevin Spence
Telephone: 03 5495 1500



Name	Year Established	No. of Members	Group Type	Area (ha)
Avon Plains Landcare Group	1992	14	Rural	16,300
Banyena Landcare Group	1994	25	Rural	21,100
Callawadda Landcare Group	1992	20	Rural	53,300
Carapooee Landcare Group	1998	35	Rural	10,700
Charlton Landcare Group	1992	70	Rural	59,200
Donald and District Landcare Group (including Watchem and Cope Cope)	2003	50	Rural	76,800
Emu Landcare Group	1992	20	Rural	28,500
Jeffcott North Landcare Group	1992	38	Rural	38,900
Kooreh Landcare Group	2001	33	Rural	18,400
Marnoo Land and Water Management Group	1992	20	Rural	30,100
St Arnaud Hills Landcare Group	2003	25	Rural	58,300
Stuart Mill Landcare Group	1992	20	Rural	27,400
Teddywaddy Landcare Group	1997	20	Rural	11,500
Winjalok Landcare Group	1986	40	Rural	48,600
Wycheproof Landcare Group	1996	40	Rural	43,200
Yawong Landcare Group	1997	15	Rural	27,000

2006-07 Highlights

- "20 years of Landcare Celebration" - Northern Grampians & Buloke Landcare Groups
- "Schlerolaena napiformis (Turnip Copperberr VROT) field day" - Avon Plains Landcare Group
- "Network Bus Trip; Guest speaker Jonathon Starks - Ponds on Farms" - Jeffcott North Landcare Group



MOUNT ALEXANDER & MACEDON RANGES SHIRES

Shire Co-ordinators: Chris Pollock & Virginia Adrian
Telephone: 03 5471 1736 (Chris), 03 5471 1836 (Virginia)



Name	Year Established	No. of Members	Group Type	Area (ha)
Baringhup Landcare Group	1985	20	rural	20,000
Bayton Sidonia Landcare Group	1992	120	rural	
Friends of Castlemaine Botanical Gardens Inc		28	rural	
Golden Point Landcare Group	1991	21	urban	
Guilford Upper Loddon Landcare Group	1995	190	fringe	54,000
Harcourt Valley Landcare Group	1997	42	rural	225
Maldon Urban Landcare Group	1992	12	urban	
Malmsbury District Landcare Group	1996	42	rural	10,200
McKenzies Hill Action & Landcare Group	2007	14	urban	
Moolort Landcare Group	1991	24	rural	43,500
Newham & District Landcare Group	2004	81	rural	15,000
Pipers Creek Landcare Group	1988	12	urban	
Upper Campaspe Combined Landcare Groups			rural	20,000
Wattle Flat Creek Landcare Group	2007	15	urban	
Woodend Five Mile Creek Landcare Group	1993	45	urban	
			fringe	6

The following groups are in recess:

Cruits/Gower Landcare Group Specimen Gully Landcare Group
Sandon-Werona Landcare Group

No data available for the following groups:

Ashbourne Landcare Group Metcalfe-Taradale Conservation Group
Baringhup Young Landcare Muckleford Catchment Landcare Group
Barkers Creek Landcare & Wildlife Group Newstead Landcare Group
Campaspe River Working Party Nuggetty Landcare Group
Campaspe Valley Landcare Group Ravenswood Valley Landcare Group
Castlemaine Landcare Group Resource Rica Incorporated
Chewton Landcare Group Sandy Creek Catchment Landcare Group
Elphinstone Land Management Association Taradale District Walking & Landcare Group
Langley Landcare Group Tylden Landcare Group
Friends of Campbell's Creek
Malmsbury District Landcare Group

2006-07 Highlights

- "Newham Primary School weed & planting program commenced" - Newham & District Landcare Group
- "Wetland workshop; Fundraising for Sri Lankan Landcare Group" - Baringhup Landcare
- "Environmental Impact Study on Campaspe river & Environs at Rochester compiled and presented at public meeting" - Campaspe River Reserve Committee
- "Kyneton Show Landcare Display" - Upper Campaspe Combined Landcare Groups
- "Tidy Towns Sustainable Community Winner Category 1" - Harcourt Valley Landcare Group
- "Inaugural meeting March 2007" - McKenzies Hill Action & Landcare Group
- "Field day, Film Night, Gorse on Pendagast Lane; ReVeg Strategy for Bourke & Wills Track published and launched" - Baynton Sidonia Landcare
- "Pamphlet for group; updating Landcare library" - Sutton Grange Landcare Group



North Central Landcare 2006-07 Achievement Story



HEPBURN, CENTRAL GOLDFIELDS & PYRENEES SHIRES

Shire Co-ordinator: Pamela Manning
Telephone: 03 5321 6405 (Hepburn), 03 5461 0628 (Maryborough)



Name	Year Established	No. of Members	Group Type	Area (ha)
Ampitheatre Landcare Group	1986	53	rural	44,000
Blampied Kooroocheang Landcare Group Victoria	1986	150	rural	12,000
Daylesford Region Landcare Group Inc	1997	19	rural	
Natte Yallock Landcare Group Inc	1989	50	rural	73,000
Timor West Landcare Group Inc	1990	25	rural	
Trentham District Landcare Group	1998	150	rural	5,000
Ullina Landcare Group	1994	30	rural	18,000

The following groups are in recess:

Clunes Landcare Group Bald Hills/Creswick Landcare Group
Moonambel Landcare Group Lexton Landcare Group
McCallums Creek Landcare Group Mt Bolton/Beckworth Landcare Group
Rocky Lead Landcare Group Shepherds Flat Landcare Group
Wattle Flat Pootilla Landcare Group

2006-07 Highlights

- "Volcanic Plains & UNESCO visit; wildlife corridor extension project" - Daylesford Region Landcare Group Inc
- "Cooked BBQ at Hepburn Shire Drought forum; large presence at community meeting regarding water quality" - Ullina Landcare
- "Partnerships with Shire, TAFE, Powercor" - Blampied Kooroocheang Landcare Group Victoria
- "Formation February 2007, creation of long term & short term plan" - Wattle Flat Creek
- "Group is maintaining interest and surviving through guest speakers" - Moolort Landcare Group



LODDON SHIRE

Shire Co-ordinator: Trevor Barker
Telephone: 03 5494 1247



Name	Year Established	No. of Members	Group Type	Area (ha)
Bendigo Creek Floodplain Group	1994	14	rural	50,000
Canary Island Landcare Group	1995	10	rural	8,000
Glenlyon Upper Loddon Landcare	1994	28	rural	
Kamorooka Landcare Group	1992	12	rural	30,000
Loddonvale Landcare Group	1997	24	rural	16,900
North Central Landcare Group	1998	24	rural	30,000
Terricks Ridge Landcare Group	1997	33	rural	8,000
Woosang Landcare Group	1997	16	rural	26,000
Wychitella District Landcare Group	1997	24	rural	18,000

No data available for the following groups:

Brenanah Creek Landcare Group Mologa District Landcare Group
East Loddon Landcare Group Mt Korong Landcare Group
Fentons Creek Conservation Group Murphy's Creek Landcare Group
Inglewood Landcare Group Northern Plains Grassland
Kangeraar Catchment Landcare Group Conservation Management Network
Kinypanial Landcare Group Northern United Forestry Group Inc
Laanecoore Farm Group Salisbury West Landcare Group
Wedderburn Conservation Management Network
Yando Landcare Group

2006-07 Highlights

- "Providing opportunities for social interaction, support & information sharing" - Wychitella District Landcare Group
- "Progressed work on Brolga Habitat" - Loddonvale Landcare Group
- "Had an interesting guest speaker in Terry White from Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance at our annual dinner" - Terricks Ridge Landcare Group



GANNAWARRA & SWAN HILL SHIRES

Shire Co-ordinator: Sheri Streilein
Telephone: 03 5450 9351



Name	Year Established	No. of Members	Group Type	Area (ha)
Fairley Bael Bael Sandhill Lake Landcare Group	2005	30	rural	60,000
Kerang Landcare Group	1987	15	rural	150
Lake Boga & District Landcare Group	1990	17	rural	
Lake Charm Landcare Group	2000	50	rural	40,500
Labert Landcare Group	1995	30	rural	70,000

The following groups are in recess:

Cohuna Land & Environment Group Macorna Landcare Group
Mystic Park & District Landcare Group Murrabit Landcare Group
Quambatook Landcare Group Myall Landcare Group
Appin Landcare Group
Benjeroop Landcare Group
Tyntyder Landcare Group

2006-07 Highlights

- "Send It Down Huey' drought support evening; purchase of a rabbit blaster" - Fairley Bael Bael Sandhill Lake Landcare Group
- "Opening of Ibis Rookery project" - Kerang Landcare Group



CAMPASPE SHIRE

Shire Co-ordinator: Rhonda Day
Telephone: 03 5851 3408



Name	Year Established	No. of Members	Group Type	Area (ha)
Campaspe River Reserve Committee (Rochester)	1987	10	urban	13
Campaspe Runnymede Landcare Group	1997	32	fringe	
Echuca Landcare Group	2000		rural	11,700
Echuca West Salinity Group	1982	40	fringe	
Koyuga Kanyapella Landcare Group	1998		rural	
Lockington IN RECESS	1990	10	rural	
Mt Pleasant Creek Catchment Landcare Group	2002	38	rural	18,300

The following groups are in recess:

Gunbower Landcare Group Nanneella Timmering Action Group
Wharparilla West Landcare Group

2006-07 Highlights

- "Wetlands Celebration day - display & BBQ; partnership between AMES, Vic Health & Envirolink for Refugee Visit" - Echuca Landcare Group
- "Planting a small area along Mullers Creek which was funded by Second Generation Landcare Grant. Trees doing exceptionally well in a salty environment" - Echuca West Salinity Group
- "Reformation and amalgamation in March 2007" - Koyuga Kanyapella Landcare Group
- "Preparation of Action Plan with Shire based Landcare Coordinator" - Mt Pleasant Creek Catchment Landcare Group



CITY OF GREATER BENDIGO

Shire Co-ordinator: Ben Kroker
Telephone: 03 5434 6393



Name	Year Established	No. of Members	Group Type	Area (ha)
Axe Creek Landcare Group	1996	60	urban	
			fringe	12,000
Mid Loddon Sub Catchment (West Marong, Upper Spring Creek & Ravenswood Valley)	1999		rural	
Sheepwash Creek Landcare Group	1997	60	urban	
			fringe	
Sutton Grange Landcare Group	1990	70	rural	

No data available for the following groups:

Campaspe Runnymede Landcare Group Longlea & District Landcare Group
Eaglehawk Environmental Group Mcivor Landcare Group Inc.
Hunter Landcare Group Northern Bendigo Landcare Group
Lady's Pass St John's Wort Action Group North Harcourt - Sedgwick Landcare Group

2006-07 Highlights

- "Continuation of Axe Creek Gorse project" - Axe Creek Landcare Group
- "Planning a series of information sessions" - Sheepwash Creek Landcare Group

