

You are invited...

to the **Second Annual**

North Central Regional Soils Forum

An initiative of the North Central Catchment Management Authority's **Farming for Sustainable Soils** project



Following the success of the 2010 inaugural forum, the North Central Catchment Management Authority (CMA) again invites you to attend a free community event in North Central Victoria.....

The 2nd Annual 'North Central Regional Soils Forum'

Date: Thursday 7 April 2011

Time: 8.30am-5.00pm

Venue: The Bendigo Club – 22 Park Street, Bendigo, Victoria 3550

This Regional Forum will again bring together key landholders, local farmers, scientists, Natural Resource Management (NRM) policy makers and the broader public to discuss how we secure the productive and environmental values of our soils in North Central Victoria.

Keynote speakers include Julian Cribb - journalist and science communication specialist – and Declan McDonald - Statewide specialist, Productive Soils Victorian Department of Primary Industries – who will highlight the issues arising from a growing population and how our soils will support the pressure of these demands. *See prospective agenda overleaf.*

The forum will also consider climate change, contemporary farming systems, and economic circumstances that place pressure on the land. We will look at opportunities for improved plant cover, improved soil carbon sequestration, and the potential to improve soil resilience in an altered climate. The focus this year is on exploring the impact of population growth on soil over the coming four decades and how market and financial forces influence the health of our regional soils and to reflect on the efforts of community groups aiming to achieve sustainable soil management.

The Forum is delivered under the North Central CMA's **Farming for Sustainable Soils** project, and is an initiative supported by the Commonwealth Government's *Caring for our Country* program.

This innovative forum is **free of charge** and places are strictly limited – so confirm your attendance NOW! Please **RSVP** to info@nccma.vic.gov.au or telephone 03 5448 7124 **before** COB Friday 1 April 2011.

OPTIONAL DINNER: The North Central CMA is a major sponsor of the Northern United Forestry Group's *Farm Forestry and Firewood Machinery Expo* to be held in Huntly on Friday 8 April. Interested persons for either or both events are invited to attend a dinner following the North Central Regional Soils Forum, also to be held at The Bendigo Club. Cost of the dinner will be \$25 per person for two-courses, starting at 6.30pm. Please indicate whether you will be attending the dinner when you RSVP to the forum.



NORTH CENTRAL
Catchment Management Authority
Connecting Rivers, Landscapes, People



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

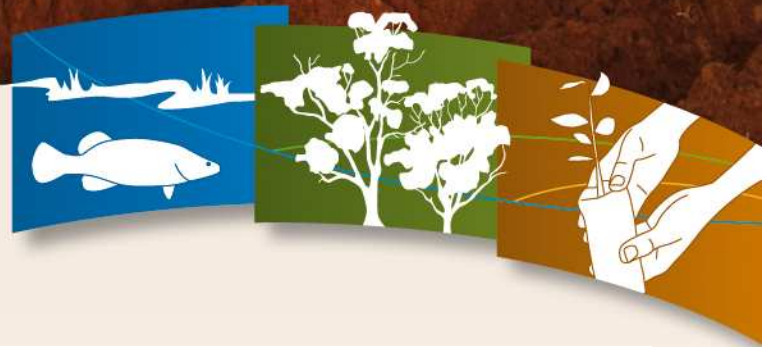
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PROPOSED AGENDA

Time	Item	Presenter
8.30am	1. Registration Receive Welcome Packs and Nametags	
9.00am	2. Introduction and Logistics	Master of Ceremonies
9.10am	3. Welcome to Country	Uncle Brien Nelson Jaara Jaara Elder
9.15am	4. Official Welcome and Opening of Forum North Central Catchment Management Authority's commitment to community-based conservation of the soils within the region.	
9.30am	5. Facing Future Famines and Finding Solutions	Julian Cribb Julian Cribb & Associates
10.15am	6. Morning Tea and Networking	
10.30am	7. Signposting Sustainable Soil Management	Declan McDonald Specialist, Productive Soils DPI Victoria
11.15am	8. Discussion Regarding Keynote Speakers and Topics	
12.00am	9. Lunch and Networking	
1.00pm	10. Farming for Sustainable Soils – Local Experiences Catchment communities working to achieve regional soil conservation <i>- different strokes for different folks</i> - featuring speakers from six community groups Introduction Group 1: Normanville Group 2: Loddon Plains Group 3: Lower Avon/Richardson Group 4: Natte Yallock Group 5: Salisbury West Group 6: Mid-Loddon Summary	Phil Dyson North Central CMA 'Farming for Sustainable Soils' Project Manager PLUS Nominated speakers/presenters from each of the six groups to lead forum discussions and present information
3.00pm	11. Afternoon tea and Networking	
3.15pm	12. Panel Discussion Explore soil protection issues in North Central Victoria by positioning ourselves in the future – with a world population boom of nine million predicted by 2050... etc etc...	
4.15pm	13. Forum Summary	Phil Dyson North Central CMA
4.30pm	14. Thank You and Official Close Venue room will be available until 5pm for further discussion and networking	Damian Wells North Central CMA CEO
6.30pm	15. Optional Dinner – cost \$25 per head	

* Food and refreshments will be provided to participants throughout the day and we look forward to your attendance