

North Central chat

MARCH 2014

Keeping you up-to-date with all the Landcare and
Waterwatch news

A message from the Regional Landcare Coordinator

Hi everyone,

Earlier this month the North Central Catchment Management Authority (CMA) hosted the 2014 Future Farming Expo in Maryborough. The event attracted a crowd of over 90 farmers, industry representatives and Landcare members relishing the opportunity to learn from diverse agricultural experts. Through a combination of keynote speakers, practical demonstrations and concurrent sessions, attendees learnt about the latest practices and the benefits of implementing new technologies. Balmoral farmer Christina Hindhaugh was one of the keynote speakers, sharing how her family farm became the southern hemisphere's largest rosemary farm - Glenelg River Rosemary - and how you are never too old to try something new.

At the Expo the North Central CMA launched the new edition of the *Caring for Country* land management guide. The guide aims to assist new and existing land managers, particularly those in the rural living zone, to protect the health of their land and the broader environment.

Crops, pastures, horses, salinity, revegetation... there are so many possibilities and potential obstacles associated with owning your own property that it can be overwhelming to know where to begin! The *Caring for Country* guide is a great resource to help people tackle some of the issues that come along when owning a rural property. Ashley Beven, Regional Landcare Facilitator, has worked tirelessly over several months to update this fantastic resource.

The guide provides a starting point for information on a variety of topics related to sustainable land management. Hard copies of the guide are available *free* of charge to landholders in north central Victoria by contacting the North Central CMA on 03 5448 7124 or emailing info@nccma.vic.gov.au. An interactive online version is also available: www.nccma.vic.gov.au.

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Copies are also available from the City of Greater Bendigo, Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Mount Alexander Shire Council.

The Regional Landcare Support Plan has been reviewed and updated and is now available on the Landcare page of the North Central CMA website. The purpose of the Plan is to ensure the North Central CMA continues to be as effective as possible in supporting Landcare across the region. The Plan will guide the CMA's Landcare support over the next five years. The Plan is designed to be flexible and will be reviewed annually to allow the North Central CMA to respond to the changing circumstances and needs of the regional Landcare community.

Until next time,

Jodie Odgers

Regional Landcare Coordinator
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Weed of the month...

Herb

STEMLESS THISTLE

Onopordum acaulon



(Flat Thistle, Horse Nettle)

Description: A prostrate annual or sometimes biennial which reproduces by seed.

Flowers: White to purple in 6 cm heads, clustered in the centre of plants. Each head surrounded by many spiny bracts. Flowers in spring.

Leaves: Arranged in a large rosette. Silvery and woolly to 40 cm long, on short stalks. Deeply toothed and spiky along edges.

Stems: Absent.

Note: Flat growth form crowds out large areas of pasture.

Restricted Weed

Annual



CONTROL OPTIONS



VECTOR OF SPREAD

J F M A M J J A S O N D

News...

Congratulations to Landcare nationally on 25 Years of Achievement

The National Natural Resource Management (NRM) Regions' Working Group has congratulated Landcare nationally on their 25 year anniversary and welcomes the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) and the National Farmers' Federation (NFF) call for a new decade of action to tackle the challenges confronting Australia's land, water, wildlife and farmland.

The chairs of Australia's 56 regional NRM bodies met in Launceston on 21 March 2014. They reviewed and reconfirmed their commitment to the Landcare Statement of Common Purpose and to continuing to work closely with the National Landcare Network and Landcare Australia Limited to identify new opportunities to support Landcare.

Pamela Green, Chair of the National NRM Regions' Working Group, said, "Regional NRM bodies have been proud to work with and support Landcare groups across the nation for more than 10 years. We look forward to continuing to build the partnership and to supporting the reinvigoration of Landcare networks. Working together helps produce the improvements in our natural resources needed to sustain our communities and our country into the future."

Looking after our land, waters and living things is a large and long-term task and needs all hands, heads and hearts working together to make a difference. Landcare and regional NRM bodies have complementary strengths where Landcare's respected reputation helps to build local ownership and action. Their informal structure and networks provide a key to flexibility in adapting to change and their local knowledge supports innovation and sharing of new ideas. Landcare is a valued partner in delivery of priority activities to support profitable production of food and fibre and conservation of land, water and biodiversity.

Regional NRM bodies engage landowners, industry, all levels of government, non-government organisations, Aboriginal people, Landcare and other 'care' and volunteer groups in regional scale planning and prioritisation of action. They provide governance, accountability

and technical underpinning of investment and deliver programs and projects under the regional plans. The regional NRM body network and regional plans encompass all of Australia and shares knowledge, examples and expertise.

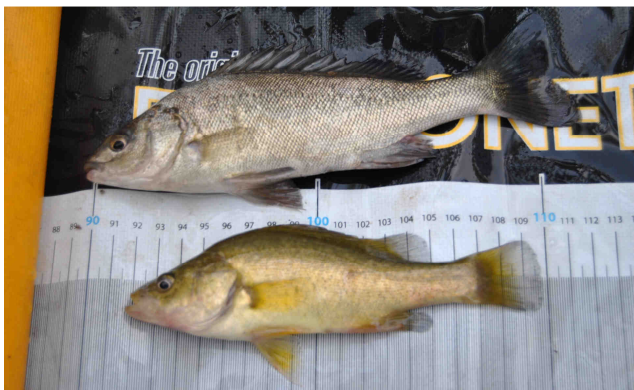
“We are currently working with Landcare and others in contributing to the Australian Government’s design of the new National Landcare Program and look forward to supporting its implementation over the next decade,” Mrs Green said.

For further information contact Pamela Green, Chair, National NRM Regions’ Working Group 0438 608 790.

Tracking fish movement in Gunbower Creek

Twenty-five Golden Perch, also known as Yellowbelly, will be tagged with mini-transmitters to track their movement to better understand how the species use the lower part of Gunbower Creek.

The North Central Catchment Management Authority (CMA) is coordinating the project with funding from The Living Murray’s Intervention Monitoring program.



Golden Perch and Silver Perch captured downstream of Koondrook Weir. Photo: Clayton Sharpe.

North Central CMA’s project officer, Kathryn Stanislawski, explains further. “The small transmitters are about two grams each and will be surgically placed in 25 fish captured below Koondrook Weir. The fish will then be returned to the creek upstream of Koondrook Weir where they will swim past the loggers which will record their movements for up to six months.

Kathryn emphasized that if anyone catches a fish with a visible tag, they should return it to the creek, unharmed. “Most of the Golden Perch tagged will be juvenile fish, below the minimum legal size of 30cm. We are asking if anglers catch these fish they carefully place them back in the creek. Fish over 30cm will be tagged with an external tag making them easier to identify. If any larger fish are caught it would be appreciated if anglers could record the number and their location and then follow the instructions on the tag.”



Fish ecologist Clayton Sharpe surveying fish accumulated at Koondrook Weir (downstream) using a backpack electrofisher. Photo: Clayton Sharpe.

The logging equipment, suspended in the water column, is critical infrastructure. The North Central CMA advises all water users to take care and not tamper with the equipment.

The project is being coordinated with the assistance of Goulburn-Murray Water delivering environmental flows to attract the fish and encourage their movement, and specialist fish ecologists who have provided a critical role in the design and implementation of the project.

If you would like more information about the project, please contact the North Central Catchment Management Authority on 03 5448 7124 or visit www.nccma.vic.gov.au.

Strathallan Family Landcare – Squirrel Glider research set to start

Research into the existence of the endangered Squirrel Glider, *Petaurus norfolcensis*, in the Strathallan area is set to start next month.

A small colony of the endangered glider was found on a Strathallan property following a report commissioned by the then Department of Sustainability and Environment in 2009.

In recent years good anecdotal evidence has been gathered and discussed at meetings of the Strathallan Family Landcare group.

An application by the Strathallan Family Landcare group to the Shire of Campaspe for a further report was successful in the last round of funding.

The group has been able to commission the original report writers Beau Kent and Naomi Hodgens to undertake this important research into the existence of the gliders on a number of properties along what locals call ‘the billabong’ in the Strathallan area.

Ten adjoining property owners have agreed to monitor specially built nesting boxes given to them by the Landcare group late last year.

The box kits, which were provided by Bunnings Echuca, were assembled and painted by local junior Landcarers during school holidays last September.

The survey area extends from Adams Lane on the outskirts of Echuca, crosses Strathallan Road and finishes just short of Singer Road in Strathallan.

At a length of close to 20 kilometres the survey area has both a wet billabong section at the northern end and a dry billabong section which concludes at an embankment of the Campaspe River.

The project has created an exciting prospect for the Landcare group and at a recent meeting members met the researchers Beau Kent and Naomi Hodgens and discussed tactics.



Researchers Naomi Hodgens and Beau Kent with a small model of a Squirrel Glider. Photo: Strathallan Family Landcare.

Incentives available for landholders to keep stock out of waterways

Landholders with stock who have access to waterways within the Upper Coliban, Lauriston and/or Malmsbury Reservoir areas have until May to apply for financial support for fencing and off-stream watering.

North Central Catchment Management Authority’s (CMA) project manager, Mrs Angela Gladman, confirmed the Victorian Government and Coliban Water have provided funding to undertake the works.

“The North Central CMA is keen to work with landholders to install six kilometres of fencing and four off-stream watering systems (i.e. troughs, pipes, etc) along named or unnamed waterways. The presence of cattle and sheep upstream of drinking water off-takes can affect water quality and have an impact to the riparian zone with stock damaging fragile banks and revegetation.

“Managing stock access to waterways that enter Reservoirs is the most direct way of removing these impacts. These works will reduce the risk of contamination to these drinking water off-takes.”



Before weed control, fencing and re-vegetation works, Coliban River tributary near Trentham, March 2009.



Site after waterway protection works were completed, Coliban River tributary near Trentham, November 2010.

The project complements the Draft *Drinking Water Storages and Land Management Plan* currently under development by Coliban Water for the three reservoirs.

For further enquiries and to arrange a site visit, please contact Emma Wolters at the North Central CMA on 0400 939 243 or email emma.wolters@nccma.vic.gov.au

Help Make 2014 the Biggest Tree Day Ever

Article featured on the PlanetArk website.
Written by Jess McCallum.

In July every year as part of National Tree Day and Schools Tree Day, Planet Ark and Toyota draw together hundreds of thousands of people at thousands of sites across the country to plant or care for trees and to get into nature. You can help make 2014 the biggest year ever.

There are so many reasons to get involved in Tree Day. As well as helping restore and care for the natural environment, research shows that activities like tree planting are good for your health and wellbeing.

This year Schools Tree Day is Friday 25 July and **National Tree Day is Sunday 27 July.**

How to get involved:

In the Community

Community site coordinators can be from councils, schools, national parks, Guides, Scouts, and land, nature-care and faith groups - basically anywhere that the coordinator is able to facilitate a planting with students, local resident, members of the congregation or the public. Tree Day is a great way to engage your community to create a positive and beneficial environmental activity.





At Work

Workplaces are becoming an increasingly important part of National Tree Day. Given that we spend so much of our lives at work getting involved in Tree Day is one way to increase your contact with nature and all the benefits that brings. Even if you don't have the space to run a planting site there are lots of ways to get involved. Check out the Workplace Activity Guide to find an option that works for you.

At Home

You can also organise a personal planting site at home with your family, friends and neighbours. This can be as simple as getting out into the backyard or balcony and getting your hands into the dirt or finding out whether your councils allows residents to take over the nature strip. Make sure you register any activities you do at home so they count in making 2014 the biggest year ever.

For more information or to register a site go to: www.treeday.planetark.org.

Snaps of the month!

Last month we discovered that Lace Monitors had a taste for fish... they are also quite keen on rabbits too! Barry Robertson was lucky enough to have a camera handy. He took this picture of a large goanna hauling the rabbit up a tree on his property near St Arnaud.



This second snap is from Mal Brown, who found this group of Peron's Tree Frogs when he was replacing the seal on the cistern plunger. The group of three frogs were just hanging out and more than happy to have their picture taken!



Keep the pictures coming - email them to jodie.odgers@nccma.vic.gov.au.



Hello everyone,

In March every Year the River Detectives program kicks in with some water science fun. Most of you would have heard about our River Detectives program before, but if you haven't here is a bit of an overview. The program allows students to explore and understand key river health and water quality concepts in north central Victoria. It provides a place for students to learn through participation and it enables students to make a real contribution to the BIG picture of catchment health through scientific monitoring and reporting. For more information about the program check out the article below, 'River Detectives Get Wet in March'.

We are starting to plan and finalise some dates for upcoming events. The launch of the North Central Waterwatch short film will take place in April. I will be sending out the invitations soon. Planning for the 3rd Annual Water Science Forum 2014; A Focus on Waterbirds has been confirmed. We host the annual event on Saturday 10 May 2014. We will be showcasing a range of waterbird ecologists and discussing policies and RAMSAR matters. We will also be launching the Living Murray program's fantastic new phone App - 'Birds of Gunbower' at the event. Be sure to keep a look out for your invitation as you will need to register for this event.

I have been working on the North Central Waterwatch Waterbirds Field Guide. It is finally at the designers and we are hoping to have the hard versions printed up and ready for you at the start of May. I am really excited as this will be the final edition of the series of field guides that I wanted to develop for the community when I started in this role.

I hope you enjoy this month's contribution from Waterwatch. Until next time,

Cass Davis

Regional Waterwatch Coordinator
North Central Catchment Management Authority
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River Detectives get wet in March

This year has been exciting as we took on seven new schools along the Campaspe River. This links us to the North Central CMA's Caring for the Campaspe project which partners the program in linking schools longitudinally together to better understanding river health within the Campaspe catchment. We were fortunate to receive support from Fosterville Gold Mines - Community Grants program for Axedale Primary School.

Article by Nicole Howie

The program has started in spectacular fashion with a record fourteen schools now participating, engaging just over 450 students. Eight schools are located along the length of the Campaspe River from Kyneton in the south to Echuca in the north, with two schools along the Loddon River and the remaining along smaller waterways in north central Victoria.

It has been wonderful getting out and about during March to catch up with our seven experienced (and ever enthusiastic) schools as we embark on yet another year of River Detectives. It has been equally rewarding to meet the teachers and students of our seven new schools who are keen to adopt the program and build it into their environmental studies.



The River Detectives Program assists schools to:

- learn about their local waterway
- understand the important role it plays within the catchment and in supporting biodiversity
- test for water quality on a monthly basis
- be proactive in caring for their local waterway

The focus of the recent March excursions was to induct students to the 2014 program and demonstrate the process of testing water samples for temperature, electrical conductivity, reactive phosphorus, pH and turbidity. Schools will now take responsibility for monthly testing with all results entered into the online Waterwatch Data Management System.

Article by Tess Grieves

A sunny, Wednesday morning was the perfect setting for Cass and I to escape the office and kick start the River Detectives program at Gunbower and Welton Primary Schools.

Starting at Gunbower Primary, 19 students from Grades 2 to 6 led the way down to their regular testing site along the Gunbower Creek. The students got hands on with their new water quality testing kits and River Detectives books, measuring pH, EC, turbidity, temperature and phosphorous.



The students had a great discussion about their results, the health of the creek and what they can do to reduce their impact on local waterways, including “stop littering, don’t pollute and stop letting cows poo in the water!” All great suggestions we thought!

After lunch Cass and I drove down the road to Welton Primary School where students have been collecting data for Waterwatch since 2009! The enthusiastic students paired up and the bus driver, Merv, drove us all down to the Murray River testing site. Merv has been assisting the school undertake Waterwatch testing for years and knew the drill like the back of his hand, helping students to record their data and increase their awareness of the testing site conditions.

Upon returning to the classroom at both schools, Cass assisted teachers and students to enter the sample results into the Waterwatch database. Now they are able to continue to upload their data on a monthly basis.

Our next visit is scheduled for Saltwatch Week which kicks off in May. Students will learn about the impact of salinity on the environment and will have the opportunity to test a range of waterbodies from tap to dam water.

Things to keep a look out for in April are:

- Launch of the 21 Years of Waterwatch film (A Waterwatch monitors event)
- Picnic by the River (A Waterwatch monitors event)
- Platypus swimming in a creek near you – don’t forget to report your sightings – go to www.nccma.vic.gov.au/Water/Waterwatch/Platypus_and_Water_Rats/index.aspx
Download a Platypus sightings report form, or alternatively call Cass to discuss how you can get involved
- New Waterwatch Waterbirds Field Guide.

Stop the press...

In last month’s article ‘how healthy are our rivers?’ the link didn’t work because there was a hyphen in the wrong place! So here it is again, but correctly: www.depi.vic.gov.au/water/water-resource-reporting/Third-Index-of-Stream-Condition-report.

Events

Victorian Weeds Conference – Registrations now open

The Weed Society of Victoria will be holding its Fifth Biennial Weed Conference from 13-15 May 2014. The theme of the conference will be Invasive Plants and Animals – Contrasts and Connections and it will be held at The Mercure Hotel in Geelong.

The aim of this conference is to provide information on the latest weed issues relevant to Victorians. The conference will explore the parallels between invasive plants and animals.

The conference will include two forums - Chilean Needle Grass, chaired by Gerald Leach of the Victorian Farmers Federation; and Putting the Public Interest into Invasive Species Management, chaired by Andrew Cox from the Invasive Species Council.

Paper presentations will take place on 13 and 14 May. A field trip will be held on 15 May. A conference dinner is planned for the night of 13 May and the society's Annual General Meeting will also be held during proceedings on 14 May.

The conference attracts a wide range of attendees including land managers, scientists, community volunteers, weeds officers, advisors and all people with an interest in weeds. It aims to attract similar people from the invasive animal sphere to hear the latest in invasive plant and animal management and science in Victoria, to network and share experiences.

For more information visit www.wsvic.org.au/node/97.

Pencil these dates in your diaries!

The 2014 National Landcare Conference will take place in Melbourne from Wednesday 17 to Friday 19. September and will be held at the Crown Conference Centre.

The three day Conference will include one day of field trips to a number of Landcare projects in Victoria and two days of compelling speakers and workshops.

Themed 'Celebrating our history – growing our future', the conference will showcase the work achieved Australia-wide since the inception of Landcare.

The National Landcare Awards gala dinner will take place on 18 September at the World Heritage listed, Royal Exhibition Building and will bring together 69 nation-wide individuals and groups who won awards in the nine national categories at last year's Landcare Awards.

Further details will be available in the near future. To stay up to date with registration and program details, please visit www.landcareonline.com.au.



Courses and resources

Farm Dam Blitz - making wildlife welcome

Farm Dam Blitz is a short film for landholders interested in enhancing wildlife habitat in their farm dams. Farmers from New South Wales and Victoria talk about what they've done to make wildlife more welcome on their properties. Follow presenter and wildlife ecologist Matt Herring as he himself transforms alongside the farm dams.

The film highlights the enormous potential of the hundreds of thousands of farm dams across Australia to support more wildlife. It shows how simple changes can make a big difference and that it's easy to have multi-functional farm dams. The typically barren farm dam can be transformed into an oasis for wildlife where one can marvel at the wonders of nature.

The Farm Dam Blitz film is brought to you by Murrumbidgee Landcare through funding from the Australian Government's Caring for Our Country program. To watch it head to: www.youtube.com/watch?v=clxfkq_NiTY

Field guide app out now

Article featured on the Museum Victoria website. Written by Blair.

There are no angry birds in *Field Guide to Victorian Fauna*, the museum's new free app for iPhone, iPod Touch and iPad. Instead, crazy-coloured snakes, critically endangered species, state faunal emblems, stinging jellies and a Baggy Pants Frog are among the animals included in the first release.



A screenshot from MV's Field Guide to Victorian Fauna. Photo: Museum Victoria

The app lets you explore useful and interesting information about each species including: identification, biology, distribution, diet, habitat, scientific classification and endangered status. Wherever you are – a forest, a desert, a rocky shore, at Ararat or Apollo Bay – you'll be able to find information on more than 700 animals at the swipe of your finger.

And, in a first for the museum, the code for the app is being released as open source. This means that museums and organisations worldwide can take their own data and build their own local field guide, too.



Simon and Simon. These guys are developers, so we can't show their faces on the web. Photo: Nicole Alley. Source: Museum Victoria.

Developer Simon Sherrin and designer Simon O'Shea have built the app based on the Biodiversity Snapshots field guide, which was created for schools by museum sciences staff. In doing so, they've made this excellent resource available to anyone with an iDevice, not just school students. And this is just the beginning. We're preparing more animals every day so that the app will span more of Victoria's rich biodiversity.

Field Guide to Victorian Fauna can be downloaded free from the iTunes App Store. Simon Sherrin will also present the app at several conferences and meetings in the USA in coming weeks. It's the second in the museum's developing portfolio of apps which began in 2010 with *Please touch the exhibit*.

Is your favourite Victorian animal included in the app? If not, let us know what it is in the comments, and why it should be included in a future update of the field guide.

UPDATE: The Android version is now available from Google Play. Hooray!

Funding

2014 Communities for Nature Small Grants Funding Opportunity

The Victorian Government has launched the 2014 Communities for Nature Small Grants Funding Opportunity.

The Communities for Nature 2014 Small Grants Funding Opportunity aims to support practical action by community groups, schools, and volunteer organisations to deliver measurable environmental outcomes through on-ground works.

The Funding Opportunity will provide \$2,000,000 to community groups seeking one year grants for small grants up to \$10,000 (GST inclusive).

Projects that will be completed by 30 June 2015 are eligible for funding.

Applications can be submitted online and will close at 4:00 pm Friday 11 April 2014.



More information can be found in the Guidelines and Frequently Asked Questions are found online at www.depi.vic.gov.au/environment-and-wildlife/community-programs/communities-for-nature-grants.

Projects are expected to address local environmental issues such as:

- Biodiversity and habitat preservation such as tree planting (preservation of areas known for their biodiversity and habitat values), or
- Threatened species recovery, or
- Sustainable management of native wildlife, or
- Revegetation (of areas that enhance existing habitat or connectivity) and native tree planting in the Melbourne metropolitan area, or
- Cleaning up waterways (creeks, wetlands, streams, rivers and seas), or
- Improving water quality in the Yarra River and Port Phillip Bay and their tributaries, or
- Control of weeds and pest animals

If you would like further information, please contact the Grants Information Line on 1300 366 356 between 8.30 am and 5:00 pm Monday to Friday.

To apply or view the application form go to www.depi.vic.gov.au/environment-and-wildlife/community-programs/communities-for-nature-grants

Expressions of Interest are now open for Campaspe Shire’s Community Herbicide Program

The Community Herbicide Program has been developed to assist with the management of noxious weeds on rural roadsides. The Shire will pay for the costs of the herbicide to treat the listed noxious weeds on their roadsides. The program will be trialled until May 2015.

The Expression of Interest will be offered seasonally (spring and late summer/autumn). The noxious weeds that can be treated under the Community Herbicide Program are:

- Boneseed
- Serrated Tussock
- Blackberry
- Sweet Briar
- African Boxthorn
- Paterson’s Curse - only in areas of active management or adjoining natural assets
- Prickly Pear
- Chilean Needlegrass.

For further information, refer to the FAQ sheet and the Expression of Information form. This information along with a brochure describing the noxious weeds can be found online at www.campaspe.vic.gov.au.

Campaspe Shire Community Grants

The Community Grants Program provides a great opportunity to implement areas of community strengthening that have been clearly identified as future directions for the Shire of Campaspe. These directions are set out in the Council Plan as well as the numerous District Plans.

The Community Grants Program will provide funding in the following categories:

- Assistance - maximum \$4,000
- Events - Community (maximum \$1,000), Minor (maximum \$3,000) & Major (maximum \$5,000)
- Environment - maximum \$2,000
- Recreation - maximum \$5,000
- Heritage & Culture - maximum \$1,000

What type of projects are the Shire looking to fund?

The Shire of Campaspe is particularly willing to encourage and promote community activities that have the following attributes:

- Encourage and support collaborative networks and partnerships
- Build creative communities and economies
- Promote community safety and healthy living



- Seek to maintain, restore and enable enjoyment of natural assets
- Enrich the multi-cultural diversity of the community
- An activity where all residents easily participate in community life
- Respects and values the contribution of young people
- Has a strong sense of local identity
- Are easy to participate in, providing enjoyable recreation and leisure opportunities
- Have a vibrant and diverse arts and cultural component

Applications close Thursday 17 April.

More information, the guidelines and application forms go to www.campaspe.vic.gov.au.

Loddon Shire Council Community Grants

Local sporting and community organisations are invited to put up their hands for a share of Loddon Shire's annual allocation to its Community Grants Scheme, which opens for its latest round early next month.

For the past 14 years, the Shire has given clubs and community groups the opportunity to request Council funds to put towards projects that develop or improve existing community facilities, programs or equipment.

To date, Council has invested around \$1.2 million in 603 projects worth, in total, \$4.7 million.

The scheme funds projects on a 2:1 basis, with Council giving \$2 for every \$1 contributed by the applicant.

The maximum amount that can be applied for is \$10,000 and this requires a contribution of at least \$5000 from the applicant, either cash or in-kind or both.

Last year, 38 grants were made, taking up almost the full allocation of \$200,000.

Projects funded included restoration work at Boort Tennis Club, a new defibrillator for the Tarnagulla Rural Fire Brigade, the Nestboxes for Kids program run by the Loddon Plains Landcare

Network, new goal posts for the Bears Lagoon Serpentine Football Club, further renovation work at Campbell's Forest Hall and new solar panels at Wedderburn Golf Club.

To see the full list of conditions, or find an application form, please phone Council on 03 5494 1200 or go to www.loddon.vic.gov.au.

Applications close at 5 pm Friday 2 May and will be considered by Council at its June meeting.

Expressions of interest for the Northern Eco-Connections project are closing soon!

The Northern Eco-Connections project supports landholders to improve and protect native vegetation on private land, focusing on improving connections and linkages across the diverse landscapes of northern Victoria.



The project is being delivered through a conservation tender process, where landholders submit a bid for the work they wish to undertake to improve native vegetation on their properties. More information about the project including how to express your interest, the project area, eligibility criteria, what the tender process involves and frequently asked questions can be accessed by visiting www.northernecoconnections.vic.gov.au or call 1800 097 220.



NORTHERN ECO-CONNECTIONS