

CDL Roundup Newsletter

January 2024



Corowa District Landcare Inc.

Corowa Civic Centre, 100 Edward Street, Corowa.

Postal: PO Box 72, COROWA NSW 2646

Meredith Mitchell, Corowa District Local Landcare Coordinator, 0475 455 643

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Join Us!

Corowa District Landcare is seeking a motivated and committed person to undertake a full time Local Landcare Coordinator role. This is a full-time position (35 hours/week).

Based out of Corowa, the Local Landcare Coordinator will work closely with local farming systems, environmental and peri-urban (Landcare) groups in the Central Murray Region (Corowa District and Surrounds) of Southern NSW to support groups to improve their capacity, financial viability, community engagement and to expand their networks.

Closing date for applications: Sunday 28th January 2024

For more information, contact Meredith on 0475 455 643 or meredithmitchell@corowalandcare.com.au

For full Job Description and Selection Criteria [CLICK HERE](#)



Corowa District Landcare membership

At the end of this newsletter is our 2024 membership renewal form. Please update your details, so that we can continue to keep you informed with what's happening.

Upcoming Events:

Farm Water Management workshop (Tuesday 30th April, Wednesday 1st May, or Thursday 2nd May)

Do you know how much water you have stored on farm? Do you know how much you should have, and how to get it where you need it? Corowa District Landcare, together with West Hume Landcare, are hosting a series of Farm Water Management Planning workshops.

With our expert trainer, Peter Smith from Sapphire Irrigation, will lead these ½ day workshops. These workshops will assist you with developing a comprehensive Farm Water Management Plan for your enterprise. The plan will cover available water storage, water supply assessment and estimating livestock and farm activity demand.

The dates scheduled are Tuesday 30th April, Wednesday 1st May, Thursday 2nd May for the workshops at Burrumbuttock, Splitters Creek/Bungowannah and Corowa/Savernake (we haven't yet decided exact locations or which days).

When you register you will be sent a link to a Free introductory unit through Tocal College (estimated to be 1-2hrs). We can help you with farm maps and spatial information before the workshop.

If you are interested in these upcoming workshops, please contact Meredith, on 0475 455 643 or meredithmitchell@corowalandcare.com.au.



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry



Future
Drought
Fund



SOUTHERN NSW
Innovation Hub
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE,
LANDSCAPES AND COMMUNITIES

This project received funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund

This is a Southern NSW Drought and Innovation Hub project funded by the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund.

Chick in the Sticks (Sunday 17th March 2024)

Yanco Creek and Tributaries Advisory Council Inc. (YACTAC) are excited to announce a CHICKS IN THE STICKS event is landing in Jerilderie on Sunday 17th March 2024. This project is supported by Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR).

Key elements of the day will be a casual pre-gathering on the banks of Lake Jerilderie, before heading to the networking luncheon in the Civic Centre. Guest speakers will be focussing on decision making/leadership/creating opportunities for entrepreneurship, empowering strategies for personal and community wellbeing, plus a social interest topic. The guest speakers will be Kimberley Furness and Lou Bull.

Collaboration partners for key conversations and local bespoke trade stalls will be in attendance.

We look forward to providing further details of this unique networking event early in the new year: so, CHICKS add the date to your calendar!

Enquiries can be made to: Bronwyn Thomas, Project Officer, YACTAC, yactac.project@gmail.com



World Wetlands Day - Bird Workshop (Friday 2nd February 2024)

BirdLife Australia's Birds on Farms NSW project team invite you to a FREE guided birdwatching workshop! BirdLife Australia's Birds on Farms program is for rural landholders, scientists, bird-lovers, and the public to learn more about birds and their habitats on private rural properties – and to use this information in woodland bird conservation and protection.

Share – your bird knowledge in a friendly relaxed environment.

Learn – from local birders how to make your place more bird friendly.

Explore –birding hotspots with an experienced local birder.

If you are a birdwatcher and would like support to build your skills and local bird knowledge, please join us for a birding skills development workshop. This birdwatcher training workshop will help you learn more about our local bird species, how to conduct bird surveys, and ways you can help Save Birds. Save Life.

When: Friday 2nd February 2024, 8:30am to 10:30am.

Where: Wonga Wetlands - meeting at the car park (2377 Riverina Hwy, Splitters Creek).

What to bring: Sun protection, sturdy footwear, binoculars (if you have them), a water bottle, and a birding friend!

RSVP: Darcy Creece darcy.creece@birdlife.org.au



National Tree Day – tree planting, Howlong (28th July 2024)

Corowa District Landcare along with Howlong Community Progress Association and Federation Council, are planning to undertake tree planting at Cross Street Reserve, Howlong, as part of National Tree Day.

<https://treeday.planetark.org/site/10029151>

Watch this space!



Changemaker Workshop

☀️ Want to play a more active role in your community & see things change?

Join us for one of our free Changemaker Workshops 2024 to preparing the Murray Region for drought and climate resilience.

The FRRR Community Impact Program, in partnership with the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation and the Foundation for Rural Regional Renewal is bringing two-day leadership development workshops to the region to foster self-awareness, community engagement, resilience, leadership skills, and the ability to create positive change while considering diverse perspectives and community well-being.

Unlock your potential for positive change!

The Changemaker Workshops focuses on fostering self-awareness, community engagement, resilience, leadership skills, and the ability to drive positive change while considering diverse perspectives and community well-being. It is open to individuals who possess the following qualities:

- A strong desire to drive meaningful change within their community.
- An interest in finding innovative solutions for complex challenges.
- A commitment to exploring new approaches for building a thriving community.
- An interest in driving local action to effectively prepare for drought.

Upcoming locations and dates:

- **Deniliquin** - [26-27 Mar - 8.30am - 4.30pm](#)
- **Albury** - [15-16 May, 8.30am - 4.30pm](#)
- **Barham** - [24-25 July - 8.30am - 4.30pm](#)



What's been happening?

Seed Collection Workshop (Wednesday 13th December)

Even though it was a bit on the warmer side, we had a great morning learning about seed collection from Natasha Lappin. Tash is a Senior Land Service Officer - Murray Seed Services, Murray Local Land Services based in Corowa. The workshop was held at Lowesdale Rest Area (Riverina Hwy, Coreen) and the seed production areas (within the TSR) across the road.

We had a practical introduction to collecting seed from common native plants, from the basics of collecting, drying and processing a range of different types of seed, which tools to use, where to collect from, and outlines when permits are required. More information on seed collection is available from [Florabank guidelines](#)

This workshop was the first part of our community nursery project. The community nursery is where members of the community grow their own native plants, either to plant in their own garden or give away to farmers. If you are interested in being part of our community nursery project, please contact Meredith on 0475 455 643 or meredithmitchell@corowalandcare.com.au

This workshop is supported by Foundation of Rural and Regional Renewal, through funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund.



Friends of River Street Wetlands

The River Street Wetland Restoration Project is being undertaken by Corowa District Landcare. Project activities have involved the facilitation of volunteer maintenance group, riparian revegetation using local native species, and weed control to prepare for riparian vegetation or natural regeneration.

A “Friends of River Street Wetlands” group has been formed. This groups meets at the wetlands (66 Federation Ave, Corowa) on the 2nd Sunday of each month from 2 to 4 pm. Equipment has been purchased for the team of volunteers to use at the site. The main tasks that have been completed are weeding, rubbish removal, planting, mulching and watering. To date, over 600 volunteer hours have gone into the site.

All welcome. If you are interested in joining or for more information, please contact Meredith on 0475 455 643 or meredithmitchell@corowalandcare.com.au



Useful Link

Murray Local Land Services Murray Animal Health Update - [CLICK HERE](#)

Regional Roundup – Read the December edition [CLICK HERE](#)

Other News

Private Land Conservation Update - Biodiversity Conservation Trust Fixed Rate Offers Increased

Anyone that is contemplating their options for Biodiversity agreements on existing bush or other native vegetation blocks should be aware that in line with the change in land values, the Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT) fixed rates for conservation covenant agreements have increased substantially in the last review.

BCT has a range of agreement types – all involve in-perpetuity agreements with varying levels of management changes required. To find out more and see if your area is eligible for the fixed rate offer and what it is, go to [CLICK HERE](#)

There will be also tenders coming up in the next couple of years also – that is where there is a call for farmers to ‘offer up’ areas for specific conservation outcomes (eg. Grassy Woodlands). This allows landholders to set their own price for conservation, although not all projects may be successful.

The BCT also offers stewardship agreements that are tied to biodiversity credits needed to offset developments. There is currently a shortage of credits and the NSW government has created a taskforce to target this issue. They have a mapping tool that helps you work out if what you have is in demand [CLICK HERE](#)

These are environmental market opportunities that are available right now, and if you are considering that option for your business, they are worth looking in to. As they are ‘forever’ agreements you should get legal and business advice about how to manage it, but they are also ‘forever’ funding streams for your farm business.

Alternative income streams like this will become more and more common – for Carbon and other environmental services and we are already seeing them listed as assets on property advertising.

The 'So What' of Carbon in Agriculture, online (14th February, 7pm to 8pm)

This MLA webinar with Cam Nicholson, Nicon Rural Services, is brought to you by MLA and will cover: understanding carbon within agriculture and grazing businesses; the carbon space is rapidly evolving, how should this be approached into the future?; the importance of focussing on improving emissions intensity within the short term; what can be done within a farm business now to improve emissions intensity?; and the importance of due diligence when considering carbon farming schemes. [Register here](#).

The webinar will cover:

- Understanding carbon within agriculture and grazing businesses
- The carbon space is rapidly evolving, how should this be approached into the future?
- The importance of focussing on improving emissions intensity within the short term
- What can be done within a farm business now to improve emissions intensity?
- The importance of due diligence when considering carbon farming schemes

ESG - What Does it Mean for Me?, Finley (6th March)

Join Murray Local Land Services (LLS) in March 2024 to demystify the world of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) and what it means for landholders. Interested in learning more about ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) in the agricultural sector? Murray Local Land Services is hosting an event to de-mystify this topic for you!

For further queries, please contact Kimberley Beer, kimberley.beer@lls.nsw.gov.au or register your interest in attending. [CLICK HERE](#)

Certificate III Conservation & Ecosystem Management Course

Commencing Semester 1, 2024. This nationally recognised courses contain 16 units of study, delivered either face to face on campus or online via MS Teams 1 day p/week over a 24-month enrolment duration. Commencing early February 2024.

Students will develop knowledge and skills required to perform a range of tasks in the conservation and ecosystem management industry including:

- Conducting ecological & cultural site inspections
- Applying workplace health & safety policies & procedures
- Plant identification
- Ecological restoration and assisted regeneration techniques
- Environmental weed control and biosecurity
- Maintaining lands, parks & wildlife
- Reading and interpreting maps
- Recognising landforms and soil types

Course details and enrolment: [Certificate III in Conservation & Ecosystems Management – AHC31421](#)



Natural Capital

Sustainable land management activities can enable land managers to diversify their income. Emerging markets and schemes for carbon and biodiversity, natural capital valuation, demand for premium, sustainable produce and increasing interest from the community in the environmental impacts of farming are driving opportunities for realising economic returns from the adoption of natural resource management (NRM) practices.

WHAT IS NATURAL CAPITAL?

Natural capital refers to the world's stocks of natural assets, which includes ([CLICK HERE](#)):

- soil and rocks
- minerals
- air
- water
- plants, animals and all living things.

NATURAL CAPITAL SERVICE FINDER

Farmers face increasingly complex decisions about managing natural capital, demonstrating sustainability, Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) requirements and entering environmental markets like the carbon market and biodiversity markets.

Local Land Services has a natural capital service finder that helps farmers and land managers navigate the opportunities and risks and make the best decisions for their properties and enterprises ([natural-capital/natural-capital-service-finder](#)).

DPI On-Farm Carbon Advice project

The DPI On-Farm Carbon Advice project is building knowledge and capability of carbon farming practices in NSW extensive beef, sheep, dairy, and mixed farming systems.

The project is increasing awareness and understanding of:

- a changing climate, impacts and global action
- agricultural emissions
- emissions reduction and carbon sequestration strategies
- the pros and cons of carbon farming including market opportunities.

For more information about this project [CLICK HERE](#)

Other News

Bush Fire Ready Resources

Being fully prepared for a bushfire can help you protect yourself, your livestock and your property. There are a number of useful resources available including: [My Fire Plan website](#), [Designing gardens for bushfire-prone areas](#) and [Local Land Services Bushfire Support Information](#).

Calm Your Farm

Empowering Aussie Teens with Farm Safety Knowledge. Calm Your Farm is a groundbreaking approach to educating teens about farm safety. A free to play farm injury prevention and safety educational game developed by high schoolers, for high schoolers. [Find out more here](#).



COROWA DISTRICT LANDCARE INC.
MEMBERSHIP FORM 2024

Email: admin@corowalandcare.com.au

Mobile: 0475 455 643

ABN: 52 718 108 151

Name _____

Postal Address _____

Trading Name _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Mobile _____ Email _____

Membership	One Year (incl. GST)	2 Years (incl. GST)	3 Years (incl. GST)
Community	\$10.00	\$20.00	\$30.00

School	\$10.00	\$20.00
Community Group	\$10.00	\$20.00

Do you wish to be notified of working bees?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Do you wish to be notified of events?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

To help us understand our members please tick your main landcare interests and/ or current enterprise.
This will help us focus on issues of interest to our members.

Cropping	<input type="checkbox"/>	Soil Health	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grazing - Sheep	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation/environment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grazing - Cattle	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gardening	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lifestyle block	<input type="checkbox"/>	Composting	<input type="checkbox"/>
Urban resident	<input type="checkbox"/>	Animal Health	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	Native plants & animals	<input type="checkbox"/>

Direct Deposit:

Hume Bank

Account Name: Corowa District Landcare Inc.

BSB: 640 000

Account No: 111236595

Reference: CDLM – Your Name

Cheque to:

Corowa District Landcare

PO Box 72

Corowa NSW 2646

(Please also send in your completed form)