

CDL Roundup Newsletter

November 2023



Corowa District Landcare Inc.

Corowa Civic Centre, 100 Edward Street, Corowa.

Postal: PO Box 72, COROWA NSW 2646

Meredith Mitchell, Corowa District Landcare Coordinator, 0475 455 643

Email: admin@corowalandcare.com.au

Web: <https://www.corowadistrictlandcare.org.au/>

Facebook: [Corowa District Landcare](#)

Upcoming Events:

Great Southern BioBlitz

In case you're wondering, a Bioblitz is an event where scientists and the community survey and document as many species as possible within 96 hours. A Bioblitz is a snapshot study of a specific location, where scientists and the community work together to survey and record as many species as possible of flora, fauna, fungi and aquatic life. It's a citizen science adventure, a nature-based extravaganza, and it gets a little bit competitive too!

The GSB is a chance for everyone to explore, learn, and contribute. No expertise needed – just curiosity and enthusiasm. This event is perfect for families, kids, and solo adventurers seeking to connect with nature.

What if I don't know what it is? The **iNaturalist App** can 9 times out of 10 will identify the subject for you! If that fails, the iNaturalist community (which includes many experts) can help to identify it after you have uploaded it.

Corowa District Landcare has created a Federation Local Government Areas project under the umbrella of the Great Southern Bioblitz for 2023. That makes us part of a simultaneous Bioblitz that is taking part right across the southern hemisphere!

November 24th to 27th are the survey dates, and our project will collect all local records from 12:00am on Day 1 to 11:59pm on Day 4.

Join in by downloading the free **iNaturalist App** on your smartphone or visit their website:

<https://www.inaturalist.org/>

Capture nature - plants, animals, insects, birds, fungi – with your camera or smartphone on the GSB days, upload your photos to iNaturalist and the app does the rest! You can watch the count coming in on the Federation project page.



Bioblitz and Nature Walk at Redlands Hill (Saturday 25th November)

Corowa District Landcare would like to invite anybody who enjoys being outdoors to join us for a Bioblitz event at the beautiful Redlands Hill Flora and Fauna Nature Reserve!

On Saturday 25th November from 9.30 am – 11.30 am we will have a nature walk and Bioblitz recording at Redland Hill Reserve (entrance on Tom Roberts Rd, Corowa). Please bring your phone with iNaturalist App downloaded (its free!) and join the Great Southern Bioblitz 2023 Federation NSW Project on iNaturalist. Also bring a hat, sunscreen, boots and mozzie repellent, water bottle and a plate of food to share.

For more information or to RSVP please contact: Meredith – meredithmitchell@corowadistrictlandcare.com.au



Seed Collection Workshop (Wednesday 13th December)

If you are interested in seed collection but don't know where to start, this workshop is for you! This workshop provides a practical introduction to collecting seed from common native plants. It takes you through the basics of collecting, drying and processing a range of different types of seed, shows you which tools to use, where to collect from, and outlines when permits are required.

This workshop is being presented by Natasha Lappin, Senior Land Service Officer - Murray Seed Services, Murray Local Land Services.

Please wear a long-sleeved shirt, long pants, sturdy boots, broad brimmed hat, snake garters (if you have them) and gloves. Also bring with you drinking water, sunscreen and a chair.

For more information on seed collection, see [Florabank guidelines](#)

When: Wednesday 13th December 2023

Where: Lowesdale Rest Area, Riverina Hwy, Coreen (What3Words: ///posted.mathematical.seamlessly)

When: 8:30am to 1pm

Morning tea and lunch provided.

For more information, please contact Meredith Mitchell, meredithmitchell@corowalandcare.com.au or 0475 455 643. Please register at: <https://forms.office.com/r/TJ51GySHQ2?origin=lprLink>

This project is supported by FRRR, 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 group 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



What's been happening?

Farm Water Management Planning training workshop

Training workshop for project staff associated with the Future Drought Fund funded project "On-farm Water Management - Drought Preparedness & Resilience, Production and Environment" was held at Jindera on 18th October.

This workshop worked through:

- water budgeting
- water supply and on-farm planning
- harvestable rights
- constructing and maintaining farm dams
- water quality

The On-Farm Water Management project will help farmers reduce the impact of drought by preparing and implementing an on-farm water management plan – a plan that determines water needs (stock and domestic) and the capacity to meet these needs through storage (dams, tanks, waterways). Landholders will then be able to undertake proven on-farm design and actions to ensure they have adequate water in the right places across the farm (through storage and reticulation via pipes and troughs). By managing water, drought impacts on livestock, productive pastures, soil and natural assets, will be minimised, and production, both during and recovery after drought will be improved.

This project started in June 2023 and goes until June 2025. It is managed by Murray LLS, Paul Simpson, and has a total budget of \$1.5 million. As CDL will be delivering this project with Kathie Le Busque, West Hume

Landcare. CDL will be involved in coordinating and reporting on activities, assisting with organising field days and workshops. For CDL the main deliverables are 5 farmers developing farm water management plans in both financial years.

Corowa District Landcare will be shortly running workshops on farm water management, if you are interested in taking part, please contact Meredith - meredithmitchell@corowalandcare.com.au



Federation Community Expo

Corowa District Landcare had a stall at the Federation Community Expo. One of our volunteers made native seed bombs. We had a range of information available to participants. Kerrie Warburton, Ovens Landcare Network (Victoria) was also on our stall. There was great interaction with members of the community who attended.

The Federation Community Expo was held on Thursday 19th October, from 5:30 pm at Bangerang Park in Corowa. This was a free community event to showcase the organisations, clubs, groups, and service providers in the Federation Council area. Over 60 local community groups and organisations were involved in the event.



Corowa Public School Open Garden (26th October)

Corowa Public School held an open garden event to showcase the garden spaces that have been created in the school. Corowa District Landcare has assisted with the development of some of the spaces. The students, teachers and volunteers have done a wonderful job.



Useful Link

NSW Landcare Program Newsletter - October 2023 [CLICK HERE](#)

Murray Local Land Services Newsletter - Read the Local Land Services November update [CLICK HERE](#)

Other News

Birdwatchers Wanted!

Birds on Farms project – southern NSW – needs your help!

2023 Summer survey period runs from Saturday 16th December to Sunday 4th February 2024. Be part of the fun! We have several landholders who have their properties set up with survey points ready-to-go but who require assistance from an experienced birdwatcher.

As the project grows in momentum, we meet more passionate landholders who want to learn more about the birds on their property. To encourage this enthusiasm, and maintain the current bird monitoring program, we need your help to attract more birdwatching volunteers.

The Birds on Farms team look forward to continuing our quarterly training workshops to help people build knowledge and skills in bird ecology and identification, continuing the citizen science component of the project (i.e., quarterly bird monitoring), and providing regular analysis of the bird survey findings on a property and regional scale.

Contact Darcy Creece about Summer Birds on Farms surveys or for more information about training and volunteer opportunities - darcy.creece@birdlife.org.au

For more project information visit the website - <https://birdlife.org.au/projects/birds-on-farms/> and follow us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089910212062>

Survey Dates 2023/2024:

- **Summer 23/24:** Saturday 16th December to Sunday 4th February 2024
- **Autumn 2024:** Saturday 23rd March to Sunday 5th May 2024
- **Winter 2024:** Saturday 15th June to Sunday 28th July 2024
- **Spring 2024:** Saturday 21st September to Sunday 3rd November

Fire Season is Coming - Are you Prepared?

Get Prepared is an easy-to-use app that empowers you to make important decisions ahead of time by completing your RediPlan. Co-created by Australian Red Cross and NRMA Insurance, it helps you create a personal emergency plan, so you can take care of yourself, your loved ones, and what's important to you.

The Red Cross app (RediPlan) goes through a step-by-step process to encourage people to think about what they may need to prepare for & to develop a plan of action if they wish, which can then be printed if needed. Head to the Red Cross Website (<https://www.redcross.org.au/prepare/>) to find out more about RediPlan and the Get Prepared app.

The app is just one tool available for developing fire plans. There are of course lots of other resources available for developing farm emergency plans & protecting livestock during the fire season (links below).

Having an emergency plan may help you prepare for the coming predicted hot dry conditions, help reduce a bit of worry & stress, and help you make better decisions in the event of a fire emergency.

Other useful links:

https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0020/106814/Farm-Fire-Plan.pdf

<https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/farm-fire-safety>

<https://www.ils.nsw.gov.au/regions/murray/articles,-plans-and-publications/small-farms-network-newsletter/summer-2020-21/protecting-your-animals-from-bushfire>

<http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/how-to-prepare-your-property/farms/livestock>

<https://www.wfi.com.au/sites/wfi/files/documents/protecting-your-livestock-during-fire-season.pdf>

<https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/farm-management/emergency-management/emergency-animal-welfare/horses-and-livestock-in-emergencies>

<https://www.wool.com/globalassets/wool/land/drought-resources/accordion-1/livestock-safety-during-bushfires-beyond-the-bale-81.pdf>