



Media Release

Thursday 27 October 2011

Helping hand for South Coast beaches

The state-wide Coastwest funding program has just received a boost in the South Coast region with the employment of a regional Coastwest Officer.

Working closely with South Coast NRM in Albany, Kirsten Murray will assist local communities to care for their coastal areas.

Ms Murray said she was looking forward to working with motivated and passionate people who wanted to protect the unique beaches around Walpole, Denmark, Albany and Bremer Bay.

"With my background in waterways management and community engagement, I'm hoping that people will discuss their ideas with me so I can support them in planning and implementing their projects," she said.

The next round of Coastwest grants will be available in early 2012 and Ms Murray encouraged people to start thinking about the types of projects they want to put forward for funding.

The grants are made available through a partnership between the Western Australian Planning Commission and the Australian Government's Caring for our Country program.

"The types of projects I'll be looking for need to assist in the identification, protection and maintenance of the environmental values of coastal areas. In the past this has included dune rehabilitation projects, track maintenance, litter clean-ups, fauna monitoring and coastal signage," she explained.

In the next two weeks, Ms Murray will talk to community groups and volunteers to find out what training they might require to assist with their Coastcare activities.

She will then work with the groups to develop project plans that can be inputted directly into the funding application form when the next grant round opens.

If you are interested in scoping a project or would like to volunteer to help an existing Coastwest project, contact Kirsten Murray on (08) 9845 8526.

ENDS

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