

South Coast NRM Inc. E-News 14 May 2009

The South Coast Natural Resource Management Inc. (South Coast NRM Inc.) is the regional group for natural resource management in the South Coast Region of WA, funded through the Western Australian and the Australian Government.

**YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME! WE WOULD LOVE TO SHARE YOUR NEWS.**

**South Coast NRM Inc. E-News is an information and knowledge sharing service circulated throughout the South Coast Region and to many partners outside the Region. Please feel free to forward this email to others who may benefit from receiving it.**

If you would like to contribute to the South Coast NRM E-News, send your information to [info@southcoastnrm.com.au](mailto:info@southcoastnrm.com.au). Articles are to be received on the first and third Tuesday of each month for distribution in that week.

WE ARE HAPPY TO PRINT YOUR ARTICLES AND INFORMATION REGARDING CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS ETC – **HOWEVER, PLEASE REMEMBER:** Articles must be brief (max. 200 words) and include relevant contact details. Unfortunately, no pamphlets, brochures or attachments will be accepted; however web links to file downloads are permitted if included with an article.

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General News:  
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## **1 WA Coastal Awards for Excellence 2009**

On Monday 4 May 2009 the Minister for Planning, Hon John Day announced that nominations are now open for the 2009 WA Coastal Awards for Excellence.

Please see media statement at:

<http://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/WACabinetMinistersSearch.aspx?ItemId=131780&minister=Day&admin=Barnett>

The award categories in 2009 are:

1. Individual contribution.
2. Community group effort.
3. Coastal partnership.
4. Coastal culture.
5. Coastal planning and/or management.
6. Coastal/marine research or education.
7. Coastal development/design.
8. Coastal protection and conservation.

For more information and nomination form please visit the Western Australian Planning Commission, WAPC website, [www.planning.wa.gov.au](http://www.planning.wa.gov.au)

If you know of anyone or any group from the South Coast who may be interested or eligible, please pass on this information to them. The awards acknowledge the remarkable contribution many people and groups across the South Coast make towards looking after our coast line. Without these efforts many important coastal rehabilitation and marine conservation projects may never have begun and been completed. Entering the awards is a great way to showcase strengths, abilities and achievements to the wider community of the many worthy people and groups who protect WA's coastline.

Nominations close Friday 10 July 2009.

If you require any assistance or further information please contact Dylan Gleave, Coastal and Marine Facilitator, South Coast NRM Inc. (08) 9071 7685 or 0427 928 400 [dylang@southcoastnrm.com.au](mailto:dylang@southcoastnrm.com.au)

## **2 RabbitScan**

To coincide with the 150 year anniversary of the wild rabbit being introduced into Australia the national Rabbit Management Advisory Group has requested assistance from around Australia with the implementation of their new initiative – RabbitScan.

RabbitScan is a nation-wide challenge for community and schools to help scientists map where rabbits are, by asking people to 'scan' their landscape (school, farm, parkland, roadside reserves, ovals etc.) for signs of rabbits and their damage, and to register and load their results online. Registration is available now and results can be loaded from the beginning of RabbitScan Month in May 2009.

It is important for planning, implementing and assessing the effectiveness of management of invasive species over time that land managers and government authorities have up to date information on the distribution and abundance of rabbits within Australia. It is also very important to record where rabbits are not found to understand the full extent of their distribution and factors that may influence this.

For background and further information on RabbitScan and to register, please refer to the RabbitScan web site at [www.rabbitscan.net.au](http://www.rabbitscan.net.au) or go to the link on the DEC website at <http://www.dec.wa.gov.au/animals/rabbits/index.html>

### **3 Kill off Plastic Bags not Wildlife – A Planet Ark Petition**

One State, South Australia, has taken action and banned lightweight, checkout-style plastic shopping bags as of May 4 2009. If South Australia can do it why not the other States?

Environment Ministers meet on May 22. You have until then to get a message to the ministers.

If you are interested in keeping plastic bags out of our environment go to <http://plasticbags.planetark.org/petition>

### **4 Draft Southern Shores 2009 – 2030 – Opportunity to Comment (Repeat)**

The South Coast Management Group (SCMG), with support from South Coast NRM Inc., the Western Australian and Australian Government, would like to invite you to provide comments on 'Draft Southern Shores 2009 – 2030'.

This document is the product of a review of Southern Shores 2001 – 2020 and allows the South Coast community to recognise achievements in coastal management over the last eight years and identify the future needs of the coastal zone. This review will contribute to the maintenance of our natural assets and lifestyle values and promote development that is carried out in a sustainable manner, so that the coast is protected for current and future generations to enjoy.

The review process has included:

- A SCMG forum;
- Community consultation meeting in Esperance, Hopetoun, Bremer Bay, Albany and Denmark;
- Meetings with Agencies, organisations and other stakeholders;
- Site visits to coastal locations managed by Local Government and the community; and
- Preparation of a draft document for public comment.

Southern Shores 2009 – 2030 is available for public comment from 20 April 2009 to 18 May 2009 (4 weeks). There are two documents to download from the South Coast Management Group website: <http://southcoastmanagementgroup.org.au>

1. Southern Shores 2009 – 2030 (DRAFT)
2. A Review Proforma to be used for submissions (all submissions must use this Proforma)

Submissions must to be emailed ([melanie\\_price@coffey.com](mailto:melanie_price@coffey.com)) or posted to 61 Duke Street ALBANY WA 6330 by close of business on Monday 18 May 2009.

If you have any enquiries regarding the document or the submission process, please contact Melanie Price on (08) 9892 6400

### **5 Draft National Biodiversity Strategy released (Repeat)**

A draft of the new national biodiversity strategy has been released for public consultation by the National Biodiversity Strategy Review Task Group.

The new Australia's Biodiversity Conservation Strategy sets a national direction for biodiversity conservation over the next decade.

The strategy outlines the activities that must begin straight away and those that are needed to effect longer-term change with a minimum of 10-year outlook.

All actions sit within a list of six 'priorities for change'. These priorities – building ecosystem resilience, mainstreaming biodiversity, knowledge for all, getting results, involving indigenous peoples and measuring success – reflect the essential changes that we must make urgently to achieve the strategy's vision.

The paper outlines the main threats to biodiversity as:

- Climate change (resulting in conditions such as prolonged drought)
- Invasive species
- Loss, fragmentation and degradation of habitat
- Unsustainable use of natural resources
- Changes to the aquatic environment and water flows
- Inappropriate fire regimes.

The longer-term impacts of the strategy on conserving Australia's biodiversity will ultimately determine its effectiveness. Implementation of the strategy will include the development of a long-term monitoring and evaluation framework and the incorporation of relevant monitoring actions from the strategy into existing well-established systems.

Public submissions for the draft paper close May 29 2009.

For further information go to <http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/strategy/index.html>

## **6 The Great Southern at Work Digital Photography Competition (Repeat)**

Help the Great Southern Development Commission update its image bank!

They are seeking images which show the region at work and represent the industries, facilities and products which contribute to the economic well-being of the dynamic Great Southern.

Great prizes!! Grab your camera and join in!!

First prize \$400

Second prize \$200

Third prize \$100

Ten encouragement awards of \$30 will also be made.

Enter using the electronic entry form of the Albany Gateway website at [www.albanygateway.com.au](http://www.albanygateway.com.au) from 20 April.

Terms and conditions available from the GSDC website at [www.gsdc.wa.gov.au](http://www.gsdc.wa.gov.au) from 7 April.

Opening 8:30am 20 April 2009, closing 5:00pm 17 May 2009.

## **7 NACC's 2009 BIO Diverse Photographic competition – Enter Now**

Three Categories (including an Under 18 section). Fantastic Cash Prizes.

A selection of images from the entries will go onto this year's NACC Calendar and all the images will be displayed at the State Environment and NRM Conference "Changing Environments" in Geraldton from October 27 – 30. Then the exhibition will tour the region. The 2008 BIO Diverse exhibition has been travelling and it's been extremely well received.

Enter at <http://www.thegreenerlife.com.au/Competitions.aspx> (If the competition form plays up please email [bma@nacc.com.au](mailto:bma@nacc.com.au) for an emailed version)

Newsflash! Winning Youth Pix Get Prestigious Role at Landcare Awards.

What an honour! Images taken by the entrants from the Under 18 section will feature at the Gala State Landcare Awards in Geraldton on October 28.

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Events & Activities including Conferences:  
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## **8 Garden Design Workshop – 16 May 2009**

A free one-day workshop on Garden Design will be held at Green Skills, 146 Aberdeen Street Albany on Saturday 16 May 2009 from 10:00am – 3:30pm.

Participants will be introduced to the steps required to visualize and then realize a garden that works for them, their families, their budget and our amazing wildlife.

We will examine all aspects of gardens, not only how they look and feel, but what they produce, what mood they reflect and how much or little maintenance they need. It is possible to have a garden that needs no water and no fertilizer.

Good choices can help to increase the value of a property and vastly improve the living conditions inside most homes. Vistas can be created and less appealing features disguised with good planting and landscaping.

Fire hazards and solar access will be discussed and choosing plants will be simplified. Participants can expect to go home with a clear idea of what they want and how to go about creating it.

Participants will need to bring a plan of their garden, drawing materials, photographs of their garden and pictures of what they really like.

Please register on (08) 9848 1019 or email [Dorothy@greenskills.org.au](mailto:Dorothy@greenskills.org.au)

The workshop is part of the South Coast NRM Inc. Community Engagement Program, funded by the Western Australian and Australian Government.

## **9 Incorporated Associations Information Sessions – 18 May 2009**

Associations and Clubs do you want to know more about:

- The legal obligations of your association?
- Member's rights?
- The committee member's responsibilities and liabilities?
- Changing your rules?
- The benefits of being incorporated?

The Department of Commerce (formally DOCEP) is holding free information sessions for members and committee members of those clubs and associations already incorporated, or considering becoming incorporated.

Incorporated Associations Information Sessions:

Albany – two sessions

Date: Monday 18 May 2009

Times: 12:30pm – 1:30pm\* and 5:30pm – 7:00pm

Venue: Eclipse Building

Western Australian Museum – Albany

Residency Road, ALBANY

\* The lunchtime session will be slightly condensed version of the full presentation.

For further information or to confirm attendance please call 1300 30 40 74

Alternatively, you can confirm with our Albany Regional Office on (08) 9842 8366

Information sheets will be available and staff will try to answer any questions you might have about Associations and Clubs incorporated under the *WA Associations Incorporation Act*.

## **10 Climate Change What Does it Mean to You? Community Forum – 25 & 26 May 2009**

South Coast Natural Resource Management Inc. invite you to attend a Forum to find out more about the implications of Climate Change in the South Coast NRM Region.

Date:	Monday 25 May	Tuesday 26 May
	General Information	Risk Assessment & Adaptation
	6.30pm-9.30pm	8.30am-5.00pm

Venue: South Coast NRM Inc. Boardroom  
39 Mercer Road, Albany.

To attend, please RSVP to Melanie Price on (08) 98926412 or [melanie\\_price@coffey.com](mailto:melanie_price@coffey.com) by Thursday 21st May.

Can't Attend? Ask Melanie about alternative information sessions as there will also be information sessions in Mount Barker, Denmark, Gnowangerup, Jerramungup, Ravensthorpe and Esperance over the following weeks.

Facilitators:

Melanie Price & Martine Scheltema, Coffey Environments  
Phil Pickering, Marsden Jacobs Associates  
Mick Rogers, MP Rogers and Associates  
Piers Higgs, Gaia Resources  
Miriam Lang, Department of Agriculture and Food  
James Duggie, Western Australian Office of Climate Change

Objectives:

- Outline the possible impacts for the South Coast's biodiversity, land and coastal areas
- Assess risks associated with Climate Change
- Identify how we can adapt to changes

If you have any queries, contact Melanie Price on (08) 98926412 or [melanie\\_price@coffey.com](mailto:melanie_price@coffey.com).

*This project is funded by South Coast NRM Inc. through the Western Australian and Australian Governments.*

## **11 State Environment and NRM Conference Western Australia 27-30 October 2009**

Expressions of interest for registration OPEN NOW!! [ea@nacc.com.au](mailto:ea@nacc.com.au)

*Changing Environments: New Challenges for the Living Country*

TUESDAY OCTOBER 27 – FRIDAY 30 - Geraldton, West Australia

For program details, go to [www.changingenvironments.com.au](http://www.changingenvironments.com.au)

The Conference is being organised by Northern Agricultural Catchments Council (NACC) in partnership with the City of Geraldton Greenough with support from the Midwest Development Commission. *NACC is supported by the Western Australian Government and the Australian Government's Caring for Our Country Program.*

## **12 Green Skills Professional Home Sustainability Assessment Training (Repeat)**

Green Skills is offering two courses for the price of one!

Training includes the Professional Home Sustainability Assessment course (needed to apply to become an assessor in the DEWHA Green Loans Program) and the nationally accredited short course in Home Sustainability Assessment (21854VIC)

Perth training dates: 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 26 June

Denmark training dates: 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13, 14 August

It is an excellent value for money with 7 days face to face training at a cost of only \$1500

For enrolment information contact Michelle Yeomans (08) 9360 6667 or email

[myeomans@greenskills.org.au](mailto:myeomans@greenskills.org.au)

## **13 Community Engagement Project Workshops (Repeat)**

Green Skills Community Engagement Officer Craig Carter is running several free workshops over the coming months. For more information, to register or receive a flyer, please ring Green Skills on (08) 9848 1019. Bookings are essential.

You can also email Craig at [ccarter@greenskills.org.au](mailto:ccarter@greenskills.org.au)

May 22: Native Plant Propagation workshop in Denmark (9:00am-1:00pm)

June 6: Fungi workshop Scotsdale Hall (9:00am-4:00pm)

Mid June: Horse Management (Date to be fixed)

## **14 Fungi Workshop (Repeat)**

Green Skills is running a free Fungi Workshop

Saturday 6 June 9:00am to 4:00pm

Scotsdale Hall

- Local expert Katrina Syme
- Field foray in Harewood Forest
- Learning to identify the fungi found
- Presentation at lunch time
- Morning and afternoon teas provided
- Bring 10x lens if you have one
- Wear suitable clothing

Limited numbers. RSVP by Thursday 4 June.

For bookings for either workshop contact Craig Carter at Green Skills on (08) 9848 1019

**15 Native Plant Propagation Workshop (Repeat)**

- Local expert Mark Parre
- Growing natives by seed including breaking seed dormancy by smoke
- Producing clones by striking cuttings
- Morning tea provided

Friday 22 May 9:00am to 1:00pm

Free Workshop

The Shire of Denmark Works Depot Zimmerman Street Denmark

RSVP by 21 May

For more information and bookings for either workshop contact Craig Carter at Green Skills on (08) 9848 1019

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 Employment Opportunities/Tenders/Expressions of Interest:  
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South Coast Natural Resource Management Inc. is the peak regional group for natural resource management on the South Coast of WA. Funding is provided by the Australian Government and the Government of Western Australia.