



E-News 20 August 2009

South Coast Natural Resource Management Inc. is the regional group for natural resource management in the South Coast region of Western Australia. As an independent not-for-profit organisation, we work with the community to improve the environment by preserving and protecting unique plants and animals, managing agricultural land and waterways and sharing knowledge and skills in natural resource management.

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General News:

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- 1 South Coast NRM to hit the road**

Join us in September as we highlight and celebrate our achievements with communities at eight destinations on the South Coast. This is your opportunity to hear speakers from South Coast NRM and local community groups outline their achievements from projects delivered over the past five years, and reveal plans for the future.

South Coast NRM members, partners, friends and the general public are welcome to attend these free events. Finger foods and refreshments will be provided. **RSVP IS ESSENTIAL.**

Please note the following dates and venues;

RAVENSTHORPE Mon 7th Sept

Venue: Ravensthorpe Sporting Complex
Address: South Coast Hwy, Ravensthorpe
Time: 6.30pm start

ESPERANCE Tue 8th Sept

Venue: Esperance Yacht Club
Address: The Esplanade, Esperance
Time: 6.30pm start

BREMER BAY Fri 11th Sept

Venue: Bremer Bay Sports Club
Address: Frantom Way, Bremer Bay
Time: 5.30pm start

CRANBROOK Tue 15th Sept

Venue: Town Hall Supper Room
Address: Great Southern Hwy, Cranbrook (opp. Shire office)
Time: 6.30pm start

ALBANY Thur 17th Sept

Venue: South Coast NRM boardroom
Address: 39 Mercer Road, Albany
Time: 6.30pm start

MOUNT BARKER Mon 21st Sept

Venue: Mt Barker Golf Club
Address: Albany Hwy, Mount Barker
Time: 6.30pm start

DENMARK Wed 23rd Sept

Venue: Denmark Boating and Angling Club
Address: Ocean Beach Rd, Denmark
Time: 6.30pm start

BORDEN Thurs 24th Sept

Venue: Borden Pavillion
Address: Stone St, Borden
Time: 5.30pm start

Please RSVP your attendance to Jenelle Carter on (08) 9845 8521 or email jenellec@southcoastnrm.com.au by 5pm Friday, August 28th. Numbers are strictly limited.

- Free shuttle buses are being arranged for guests travelling from Jerramungup to Bremer Bay on Friday 11th September and Walpole to Denmark on Wednesday 23rd September. Seats are limited so please be quick. Once reserved, details for pickup and drop-off will be provided.

2 Tree planting sets burning pace

The Pink Lake Fire Brigade used its muscle for a very different cause last weekend, helping to plant an impressive 4,000 trees on a local property with guidance from the Esperance Regional Forum (ERF).

Members of the brigade braved the wintry conditions on Sunday to plant trees on the property of Andrew Kuss in the Lake Warden Recovery Catchment.

The major tree-planting effort had been proposed for some time but thanks to the facilitation of Lake Warden Project Officer Cindee Hage, South Coast NRM funding and DEC for lending equipment, it was finally able to get underway.

Ms Hage said results from the weekend were very rewarding for the Lake Warden Recovery Project, which aims to keep Esperance wetlands protected from inundation by planting native vegetation and perennial pastures.

Earlier this month it was the Esperance Scout Group's turn to plant trees, teaming up with ERF, landholders Bruce and Marie Campbell and their neighbours to plant 1,300 seedlings.

In the past two years alone, 320,000 native seedlings have been planted, achieving about 5,000 hectares of perennial pasture coverage and 160 kilometres of fencing to protect remnant vegetation and help pastures establish.

"It's a long term project but the key stakeholders are taking a positive approach and with the engagement of the landholders, we are finally making progress," she said.

"It's great to be able to bring members of the community together to help us. It's a win-win situation because we get the job done, the kids learn about conservation and restoration and the clubs get a worthy donation towards their own cause."

For further information on how you can be a part of the Lake Warden Recovery Catchment project, please contact Cindee Hage at Esperance Regional Forum on (08) 90 71 6129 or mobile 0429 831 154.

3 Sydney Wattle paints the town yellow

The invasive yellow Sydney Golden Wattle is back with a vengeance this year in gardens and reserves across Albany, spreading at a fast rate and choking endemic vegetation in its path.

The Friends of the Bila Boya and King River Reserves group is urging Albany residents to remove the Sydney Golden Wattle (*Acacia longifolia*), an invasive species native to the eastern states.

According to the group's spokesperson Justin Hardy, the Sydney Golden Wattle has taken a foothold around Albany and reduced biodiversity, especially around Mt Melville, Little Grove, Oyster Harbour and Lower King.

"The Sydney Golden Wattle produces millions of seeds every year that are spread by birds and germinate in the ground quickly. It's so much easier to remove the saplings when they're small and before they become heavy seed producing trees, which is usually in their second or third year," Mr Hardy explained.

The group is working hard to stop the wattle from building up in the King River area and estimates it has removed over a thousand trees in the past five years.

Mr Hardy said more has to be done to stop the spread and a coordinated effort was required between government departments, community groups and landowners.

The best way to remove the large wattles is with a basal-bark application and the smaller wattles can be simply pulled or cut down, mulched and removed from the site.

South Coast NRM has recently provided the Friends of the Bila Boya and King River Reserves group over \$10,000 to step up its weeding efforts together with Oyster Harbour Catchment Group and Greenskills.

As part of the initiative, for a limited time eligible King River locals have been offered the chance to have the Sydney Golden Wattle removed from their properties in exchange for free local native plants.

For more information on how to identify and remove the Sydney Golden Wattle, call Justin Hardy on 9844 3554 or South Coast NRM invasive species coordinator Matthew Kennewell on 9845 8520.

4 Esperance Regional Forum: Stokes Inlet Foreshore Vegetation Assessment Project (Repeat)

The Stokes Inlet Foreshore Vegetation Assessment Project brief is now available for download. Visit www.southcoastnrm.com.au and follow the links on the left of page.

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Events & Activities including Conferences:
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5 A day on the farm

Would you like to learn how to maximise perennial pasture coverage on your property and help our precious wetlands recover?

Then don't miss the Esperance Small Land Owners Group's Small Farm Day on Sunday August 30th 2009 at Lot 6, Helms Drive in Esperance.

The event, supported by Esperance Regional Forum and South Coast NRM, will assist landholders looking to develop their properties by demonstrating fencing, perennial pasture in deep sands, bore drilling and how best to keep hooved animals on small farmlets.

A team from Waratah fencing products will be on hand to build a portion of fencing suitable for horses and establishing good perennial pasture cover.

Join the festivities from 10am for the demonstration of horse fencing followed by a presentation by Department of Agriculture and Food research officer Kira Tracey, where she will explain how perennials can be established on difficult sandy soils.

Local resident Rob Jose will also be on hand to provide advice on drilling a bore on your property

The day will end with a barbecue lunch and a plenty of time to network.

RSVP's are essential if you would like to join the barbecue. The lunch will attract a small fee of \$10 for non-members and \$5 for members.

For further information or to RSVP, please contact Cindee Hage by Wednesday 26th of August on (08) 9071 6129 or 0429 831 154.

6 Getting the weather right!

The Ravensthorpe Agricultural Initiative Network and South Coast NRM would like to invite you to an interactive presentation by Dr David Stephens.

Dr Stephens is the research officer for the Department of Agriculture and Food WA Climate Risks and Opportunities Project. Respected as “the weather man that gets it right” Dr Stephens will be talking on:

- Understanding the role of climatology (where it has come from and where it is heading) and particularly demystifying the modelling
- How we can make best use of the information provided
- Current seasonal outlook information and its implications
- How we can value add to better integrate the information into forward planning to improve production and NRM outcomes

When: Wednesday 26th August from 7pm to 7.30pm

Where: Upstairs Ravensthorpe Entertainment Centre

Refreshments provided.

For further information please contact Jenny Chambers or Rodger Walker at the RAIN office 9838 1018 or Peter Thompson at South Coast NRM on 9845 8509.

- The Fitzgerald Biosphere Group will also host an interactive presentation with Dr David Stephens.

When: Thursday 27th August from 4pm to 5.30pm.

Where: Cameron Business Centre, Jerramungup

Refreshments provided.

For further information, please contact Anne Sparrow at the FBG office 9835 1127 or Peter Thompson at South Coast NRM on 9845 8509.

7 Healthy Pastures = Healthy Horses

Want to know how to transform your sick and tired paddocks into a healthy, nutritious oasis for your horse? Then this free field day is for you...

Presented by Chris Ferreira.

Learn how to:

- Select pasture to suit you soil type and stock
- Establish perennials and nutritious clovers
- Manage grazing and manure and break the worm cycle
- Reinvigorate degraded pastures and bare areas
- Water and fertilise wisely
- Control weeds
- Caring for your horses and keeping them happy

Saturday 12 September

WA College of Agriculture (Denmark)
South Coast Highway
10am to 1pm

Sunday 13 September
Albany Racecourse
Roberts Road
1pm to 4pm

For registration or further details go to www.greatgardens.info , phone the hotline on 1300 369 833 or contact Craig Carter at Green Skills on (08) 9848 1019

8 Stop Herbicide Resistance on your Farm workshop

Integrated Weed Management (IWM) for grain growers.

A one-day workshop for grain growers on IWM.

Kojonup 27 August 2009
Mount Barker 28 August 2009

Stop herbicide resistance on your farm.

Herbicide resistance in key cropping weeds is expanding rapidly, with herbicides failing at an alarming rate.

A one-day workshop on the practical implementation of weed management strategies to combat resistance will equip growers to better identify and manage the cropping weed challenges they face. This workshop is targeted to broad-acre grain growers and mixed crop/livestock producers.

Key areas covered include:

- Herbicide resistance
- Weed seed-banks
- IWM tactics – their impact & use
- Agronomy & crop rotation
- Integration of IWM into the farming system

Workshops will be delivered by specialist weeds consultant Andrew Storrie Agronomo Consulting (WA), Dr Dave Minkey, WANTFA.

This workshop has been developed with support from the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) has enabled grower registration fees to be kept at a nominal \$50 per person.

Contact Andrew Storrie on 0428 423 577. Space will be limited to 20 per workshop so be quick.

9 Women Leading Change (Repeat)

The Wheatbelt Area Consultative Committee is hosting a 'Women Leading Change' - Regional Conference in Northam on September 9 and 10, 2009. This event provides an opportunity for networking and professional development among regional women. Men are also welcome to participate.

The Wheatbelt ACC has secured a range of talented presenters and workshop facilitators including, *Dr Carmen Lawrence, Dr Peter Dingle, Matt Hern, Shelley Taylor-Smith and Ros Worthington.* The

conference is supported by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Registration forms must be returned by fax, post or email by Friday 28th August 2009 - unless sold out beforehand (please be advised that due to limited seats available and interest shown to date, payment will be requested to confirm registration and issue tickets). If you would like further information telephone 9575 1888, Mobile 0428 372 178 or email admin@wheatbeltacc.com.au

10 2009 Environmental Management Systems Conference & Awards (Repeat)

15-17 September 2009, Bunbury WA

Sponsored by: JAS-ANZ, Custom Composts, Baiada Poultry, drumMuster, Ecosure and the Department of Agriculture & Food WA

You are invited to attend the 2009 Environmental Management Systems Conference in WA in September. This is a great opportunity to increase your knowledge of EMS and contribute to its development and use in Australia. Many large industries, government agencies, small businesses and land managers are using an EMS to improve their financial performance and business sustainability

The conference features a range of presenters speaking in formal and informal sessions on:

- Specific environmental issues being addressed with the EMS process
- Use and application of Standards
- The need for rigorous assessment and reporting of outcomes
- Needs and ways to embed improved performance into sustainable business practices
- Bridging the gaps between managers, regulators, consumers and customers

Conference registration fees are \$550 for members of Best Farms and EMSA and \$660 for non-members.

Student and single day registration available. Group bookings to attend one day of the conference and field trip costs \$330.

The full program can be viewed on the website: <http://www.ems.asn.au/events/2009/>

Conference Workshops

Pre and Post Conference Workshops can be booked independently of the Conference. Follow the same process as if registering for the Conference and choose the Workshop Only option. There is an administration fee of \$25 plus the workshop cost.

Monday 14 September - Fundamentals of EMS

A full day workshop for EMS novices and those wanting to brush up on their knowledge and use of an EMS. The workshop will be conducted by Genevieve Carruthers, Environmental Systems Specialist NSW DPI and Mick Dawes, Manager, Environmental Management Unit, Medicare on behalf of the EMS Association.

Cost: \$165 (inc GST)

Friday 18 September - An Easy Small Steps Process to an Effective Environmental Management System

A full day workshop presented by Jean Cannon who has been helping businesses implement ISO 14001 EMS systems for 11 years. If you're concerned about our planet, worried about how your business is going to cope with climate and legislative changes, and you are wondering what you as a business owner can do to not only help the planet but also save money into the bargain, then this workshop is the most important you have ever attended.

Cost: \$220 (inc GST)

EMS Awards

The 2009 EMS Awards will be presented at the Conference Dinner on Wednesday 16 September. Why not be recognised for your efforts in developing and using an EMS? **Entries are open for small businesses, farmers and local governments until 31 July.** All winners will receive free registration to the 2009 EMS conference and the dinner. Premier winners in the farmer and small business categories will be supported to travel to Bunbury. More information:

<http://www.ems.asn.au/awards/index.htm>

Registration and more information - <http://www.ems.asn.au/events/2009/>

EMS Association

P: 02 4369 6006

E: contact@ems.asn.au

11 Albany Hour 2009 (Repeat)

This is series of seminars on specific Fridays at 3:30pm, Department of Agriculture Albany Conference Room. Please contact Sally Peltzer on (08) 9892 8504 for more details and note that the seminar dates will be subject to change.

August 21

Svetlana Micic

Integrated Pest Management and the implications for broad acre cropping.

September 4

Peter Dawson

Developing strategic alliances to foster potato exports (or – taming a national team, not to mention the Indonesians)

October 16

David and Rachel Low

Mapping and other things.

12 Torbay Catchment Group Speakers (Repeat)

The Torbay Catchment Group is hosting the following speakers at their regular community meetings as follows:

Wednesday 16 September: Keith Smith on Native Orchids – Hidden Treasures of Torbay.

Wednesday 28 October: Dr Paul Close – Environmental Water Requirements of Marbellup Brook and Torbay Inlet.

All meetings are held in the Elleker Hall on Hassell Street, Elleker and start at 7:30pm. All welcome.

For further information please call Lesley Hart on (08) 9841 0119 or email

Lesley.hart@water.wa.gov.au

13 Weeds Workshop (Repeat)

Thursday 25 August or **Saturday 29 August** (Repeat workshop, two dates to choose from)

1:00pm – 4:30pm
Elleker Hall, Hassell Street, Elleker

Presenters:
Diane Harwood – Denmark Weed Action Group (Tuesday and Saturday)
John Moore – Department of Agriculture and Food (Tuesday only)

Learn about the common weed species found in Torbay Catchment, including how to identify and best control them.
The workshop includes a one hour practical component in the field demonstrating some weed control techniques.

Attendance at the workshop is free and afternoon tea will be provided.
For bookings please RSVP to Lesley Hart on (08) 9841 0119 or email Lesley.hart@water.wa.gov.au
This workshop has been generously funded by South Coast Natural Resource Management Inc.

You don't have to live in the catchment to attend this workshop and the weeds that will be discussed are relevant throughout the region.

14 WANTFA No-Till Workshops (Repeat)

Workshops will be held throughout the Great Southern during August to provide a forum to learn about practical no-till farming ideas.

This is a great way to interact with other growers and industry.

All events are free of charge, although bookings must be made prior to the event.

To register for the event or to make an enquiry please contact Kaye Phillips-Webb at kaye@wantfa.com.au or phone 0427 233 395.

Held in conjunction with the North Stirling Pallinup Group and the North Kojonup Production Group

LAST EVENT: 27th August – Kojonup Tourist Bureau, Kodja Place (Full Day)

Workshops funded by GRDC and Caring for Our Country

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Employment Opportunities/Tenders/Expressions of Interest:
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NA

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WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE?

Send your information to info@southcoastnrm.com.au. Articles are to be received on the first and third Tuesday of each month for distribution in that week. They 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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