

South Coast NRM Inc. E-News 22 January 2009

The South Coast Natural Resource Management Inc. (South Coast NRM Inc.) is the regional group for natural resource management on the South Coast 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. 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 State NRM Conference – Geraldton – Call for Presenters – 29-30 October 2009

Changing Environments – new Challenges for the Living Country

NACC (Northern Agricultural Catchments Council) will host '*Changing Environments - New Challenges for the Living Country*' Conference, the State Natural Resource Management conference, from Oct 27 - 30 this year in Geraldton.

We are seeking presenters on a range of topics which address the theme of Changing Environments across the quadruple bottom line of environment, economics, culture and society.

There are various fora within the conference for different information:

Plenary (up to 40 minutes) - on any subject which fits the theme.

- The "Can We help" Panel - technical and broad based useful knowledge
- Poster Parade - an avenue of posters will feature projects across the state and be complemented by short presentations from the project managers. (ten minutes)

DO YOU KNOW AN INTERESTING SPEAKER? Or if you've got a specific topic you want addressed. Contact Jackie Gill at NACC.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM TO DATE (note: subject to change)

Tues Oct 27	Welcome Event
Wed Oct 28	Discovery Day Sundowner
Thurs Oct 29	Plenary and "Can We Help" Conference Dinner
Fri Oct 29	Plenary and Poster Parade Afternoon Wind Down

The Conference is being organised in partnership with the City of Geraldton Greenough with support from the Midwest Development Commission.

Contact Jackie Gill, NACC Communications on (08) 9964 9774 or 0409 886 982

2 South Coast NRM Inc. Community Engagement Program (Repeat)

South Coast NRM Inc., in partnership with six community-based organisations, has commenced a new program to help more people understand the growing need to live and work sustainably within the South Coast Region. This initiative is funded out of the Australian Government's new Caring for our Country Program.

Nine Community Engagement Officers have been employed from Esperance in the east to Denmark in the west and Cranbrook in the north. The Officers will initiate activities with a broad cross section of our community (including businesses, community groups, schools, sporting clubs, urban householders, life stylers and farmers). Their aim is to raise the collective knowledge about this special part of the world and what we can each do to lessen our impact upon it.

This work may include water and energy efficiency; recycling; increasing the establishment of perennial and native plants; reducing the spread of dieback; reducing the amount of nutrient run off from the land; reducing the introduction and impact of weeds; and, managing our small land holdings.

The Community Engagement Officers are each setting a very targeted action plan for operations and welcome your contact and inquiries.

To contact your nearest Community Engagement Officer please see details below:

- Esperance – Ian Hartley and Rani Stewart, Esperance Regional Forum – (08) 9071 6129
- Ravensthorpe – Jenny Chambers, Ravensthorpe Agricultural Initiative Network – (08) 9838 1018
- Jerramungup and Wellstead – Charlotte Powis, Fitzgerald Biosphere Group – (08) 98351127
- Gnowangerup – Tristan Whiting, Pallinup Landcare Centre – (08) 9828 1086
- Broomehill/Tambellup and Cranbrook Shires – Megan Jones, Gillamii Centre – (08) 9826 1234
- Plantagenet– Murray Hollingworth, Oyster Harbour Catchment Group and Wilson Inlet Catchment Committee - 0427 346 006
- Albany – Dorothy Redreau, Green Skills – (08) 98481019
- Denmark – Craig Carter, Green Skills – (08) 98481019

For general program details, please telephone Louise Hillman at South Coast NRM Inc. on (08) 98458537 or 0419 908418.

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 Events & Activities including Conferences:
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3 "GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR SMALL PROPERTY" Workshop – 28 January 2009

Do you have a small property? Are you getting the best out of it or is it getting the better of you?

Green Skills will hold a free half-day workshop at the Green Room on Wednesday 28th January at 6.00pm focusing on improving property management and planning skills. This workshop is particularly recommended for neighbours to attend to find out how to address common problems. Refreshments will be provided.

Participants can expect to hear about soils and pasture, weed management, property planning, caring for bushland and better yet, can work out what topic they would like a tailor-made workshop on. Some potential topics include growing better fruit and vegetables, horse property management, planting trees for maximum environmental and economic returns, water management and others to suit you. Whether you have a quarter-acre block or a small holding, you are welcome. Please RSVP to Green Skills 9848 1019. The Green Room is at 146 Aberdeen Street Albany.

Dorothy Redreau, Community Engagement Officer at Green Skills, Denmark
 Phone (08) 9848 1091, email dorothy@greenskills.org.au

4 South West Australia Conservation Planning Project – 5 February

World Wildlife Fund, the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Southwest Australia Ecoregion Initiative (SWAEI) invite you and other interested people to the launch of the Southwest Australia conservation planning project.

This strategic planning project was one of only 9 WA projects funded by the Australian Government's Caring for our Country initiative and is the culmination of partnerships built since 2002. We are working with stakeholders and experts to develop a conservation strategy that identifies high priority areas for conservation and improves the effectiveness of implementation and management of these areas. The Consortium partners are also submitting a funding bid under Caring for our Country to complete the conservation planning component and begin implementation of conservation action.

Members of the project's Working Group and Stakeholder Reference Group will be present, and the morning will include brief overviews of the 2009 project, stakeholder and community engagement across Southwest Australia, and developing ideas regarding implementation of the project. Australian Government representatives may also be present; this will be confirmed.

Professor Bob Pressey, a world leader in systematic conservation planning, will speak on systematic conservation planning and how we will use conservation planning tools and experts to identify high value areas for conservation action across Southwest Australia.

Where: Department of Agriculture and Food Theatre, 3-5 Barron Hay Court, Kensington, Perth WA (sign in at front reception)

When: 9:00am to 11:00am Thursday 5 February
Light refreshments will follow.

RSVP by Close of Business Monday 2 February to: David McFarlane, Administrative Officer, WWF.
Phone (08) 9387 6444 or email dmcfarlane@wwf.org.au

5 Timber 2020 and CSIRO Seminar – 5 February

Timber 2020 and CSIRO invite you to their first seminar for 2009.

Date: Thursday 5 February
Venue: Department of Agriculture and Food
Time: 10:00am to 3:00pm

This seminar has been structured to include a discussion at the end of the day where it is intended to collect your thoughts and ideas from the information presented and ascertain work to be addressed on the relevant topics in 2009 and beyond

RSVP by Thursday 29 January to Julia Levinson Mobile: 0427 416 681
Email: jlevinson@agric.wa.gov.au

6 Conservation Week 2009 – 28 March-5 April

Conservation Week 2009 – Connecting Community and the Environment – March 28- April 5

There will be a statewide "Conservation Week" between Saturday 28th March and Sunday 5th April 2009. This week celebrates our unique environment and promotes awareness and action towards a sustainable future. It aims to connect the community and the environment as well as celebrate the work of conservation organisations, community groups and individuals across the state. Community groups, environment organisations, schools, local businesses and individuals are invited to participate by registering an event already happening during the week or consider organising a special event to communicate the importance of the environment to host during the week. It's a great opportunity to showcase the fantastic work being done to protect the environment in your local community. To find out how to get involved visit www.conservationwa.asn.au or contact Jessie Cochrane on 08 9420 7266 or clo@conservationwa.asn.au

7 What does your garden grow? – Train the Trainer workshop – 19 February 2009 (Repeat)

Who should attend:

This workshop is designed for all production and retail nursery staff, council or environmental officers, TAFE Teachers, community group leaders, NRM professionals, and staff in Government Departments concerned with the environment etc.

Background:

The nursery and garden industry is playing an important and significant role in educating the public about invasive plants. The **What does your garden grow?** course is a tool to assist in increasing awareness of the huge impact weeds have on our unique Australian environment and to provide basic knowledge of how to deal with weeds in private gardens.

About the workshop:

This workshop aims to provide knowledge and tools to deliver good and informed advice to customers, community groups, and the general public about local, national, environmental, noxious and declared weeds. It will assist you to educate the general public in how to protect their environment as you garden. The resource covers introductory information on where weeds are a problem, how weeds spread and the theory and practice behind control measures. One key topic relates to managing weeds in our gardens, including suitable alternatives, ensuring they will not have a negative impact on our environment.

When, where and cost:

9:00am to 3:00pm

Thursday 19 February 2009

Esperance – St John Ambulance Centre, 54 Windich Street

Cost

*\$200 per person including GST

Cost includes resource kit, tuition, lunch and morning tea.

(*Community Group representatives & volunteers registration cost will be subsidized for the Esperance workshop and Cost will reduce if new funding is made available)

Places in the workshop will be limited to 20, so please register to:

Robyn Cail, Biodiversity Implementation Officer East, South Coast NRM Inc.

Phone: (08) 9071 7685

Fax: (08) 9072 0499

Email: robync@southcoastnrm.com.au

This workshop and information resource has been developed by the Cooperative Research Centre for Australian Weed Management (Weeds CRC), and is supported by South Coast NRM Inc. and the Esperance Weeds Action Group.

http://www.weedscrc.org.au/education_training/what_does_your_garden_grow.htm

8 Centre for Sustainable Living – January 2009 Tea Talks & Tours Program (repeat)

Saturday 24 January

Getting the Most out of your Small Property

10:30am to 12:30pm

Meet Craig Carter at Centre for Sustainable Living; discuss soil improvement, water management, horse care, caring for bushland and environmentally friendly gardening. Includes question and answer session, and what assistance is available to you.

Wednesday 28 January

How Life Writing changes the subject

3:30pm to 4:30pm

Christina Houen, PhD candidate in Life Writing, will discuss life writing as a powerful means of recreating and releasing old selves, illustrated with examples from her own life and writing.

Where: Centre for Sustainable Living, South Coast Highway, Denmark
Cost: Fees range from \$5-\$20, family prices and concessions available.
To Book: Phone (08) 9848 3310 Email csl@denmarkcsl.com.au
www.denmarkcsl.com.au

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South Coast Natural Resource Management Inc. - communities managing natural resources since 1994

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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.