



Landcare  
Australia

# 2011 ACT Landcare Awards

## CATEGORIES AND CRITERIA

[www.landcareonline.com.au](http://www.landcareonline.com.au)



DEPARTMENT OF  
THE ENVIRONMENT,  
CLIMATE CHANGE,  
ENERGY AND WATER



ACT NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL



Australian Government



**Regional Landcare Facilitator**

Hosted by ACT Natural Resource Management Council  
for the ACT region

## ACT Landcare Awards Coordinator

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### APPLICATIONS AND NOMINEES

All applications are required to demonstrate how they have met all of the judging criteria or are working towards meeting the criteria. This should be done in a clear and concise manner. Supporting evidence will need to be provided for any claims being made.

You may nominate yourself, a group or a person from your community for any of the award categories.

### THE DEFINITION OF LANDCARE:

Landcare is a movement of individuals and groups focusing on managing the environment in their local area. Within this document, the term 'Landcare' refers to all 'care' groups, individuals and activities.

This includes: Landcare, Coastcare, Bushcare, Dunecare, Rivercare, 'Friends of' groups, Sustainable agriculture practices, Natural resource management, Junior Landcare (including day care centres, primary and secondary schools, youth groups, scout groups etc), Urban Landcare and Indigenous Landcare.

### THE DEFINITION OF LANDCARE ETHIC:

The term 'Landcare ethic' refers to the ethic of caring for the land carried out by local community groups. It is the partnership between community groups, schools, businesses and local government working together and supporting projects and plans to address local environmental issues.

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## 1. Australian Government Individual Landcarer Award

### About the Category

This award will be made to an individual who carries out and/or promotes Landcare (note: refer to definition of Landcare) through practical on-ground or community awareness activities, as a volunteer.

### Judging Criteria:

1. Implemented Landcare practices in your own area and/or helped others (including Landcare Networks, or groups) to implement Landcare practices and projects.
2. Encouraged others to be involved in Landcare (e.g. by speaking about Landcare to schools, media, landholders, groups, councils etc).
3. Trained and helped others in Landcare practices and skills.
4. Been a champion for Landcare, through achievements in Landcare projects or a primary role in planning and organising committees associated with Landcare projects.

## 2. Local Government Landcare Partnership Award

### About the Category

This award will be made to an outstanding local government organisation which is collaborating with its community to preserve and manage its local environment and natural resources. The organisation encourages a Landcare ethic (of local community groups caring for the land by addressing local environmental issues) and action in the local community, and cooperates on Landcare issues and projects with neighbouring organisations, businesses, other councils and landowners. Judges will be looking for active partnerships between Landcare groups and the Local Government organisation.

### Judging Criteria:

5. Planning, projects and programs were undertaken collaboratively with community groups and address important local natural resource management issues that generated outcomes for multiple stakeholders.
6. Strong promotion of awareness and support of community involvement through a well-structured engagement and communication strategy (e.g. funding community awareness events and projects, supporting logistical and communications needs of community groups, local environment plans, media coverage, community bulletins etc).
7. Provided incentives to businesses, groups or local residents, for supporting community group projects addressing local NRM issues (e.g. rate rebates, grants, volunteer coordination, community education, equipment/resources, free local native plants, recycling and other waste re-use and reduction programs etc).
8. Linked Landcare initiatives with other councils, businesses, organisations, neighbours, schools and community groups (e.g. through plans and cooperative projects).



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### 3. Rural Press Primary Producer Award

#### About the Category

This award will be made to a primary producer (i.e. to an individual, family or farm partnership) for their significant contribution to Landcare, shown through many years of sustained implementation of sound management practices resulting in improved productivity and environmental outcomes. Primary production includes agriculture, aquaculture, horticulture and farm forestry.

#### Judging Criteria:

1. Developed a farming system that delivers a sustainable commercial return and demonstrably maintains or improves the condition of land and water resources.
2. Improved productivity and environmental condition of the property as demonstrated by recorded changes over a minimum of 5 years in key indicators such as, but not limited to:
  - 2.1. The productivity and/or commercial return per unit of limited resources (e.g. improved efficiency in the use of rainfall, irrigation or nutrients).
  - 2.2. Carbon budgets (greenhouse gas emissions possibly to fuel, fertiliser or stock feed and carbon capture).
  - 2.3. Increased biodiversity/botanical composition.
  - 2.4. Increased ground cover, particularly during periodic seasonal feed gaps, and reduced soil erosion.
  - 2.5. Improved water quality leaving the property (with emphasis on salt and turbidity).
  - 2.6. Improved soil fertility (with emphasis on P, pH and organic C).
3. Integrating innovation, evaluation and improvement of management practices in a commercial scale farming system that demonstrates multiple benefits such as productivity, drought resilience, possible income diversity and ecosystem services.
4. Cooperated with and encouraged involvement by others in Landcare farming practices over a minimum of 5 years (e.g. with neighbours, Landcare groups, other landholders and local authorities, by sharing information, participating in field days, workshops etc).

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### 4. Toshiba Community Group Award

#### About the Category

This award will be made to an outstanding community group that is working towards sustainable land use and/or enhancing or protecting an area on behalf of the community.

#### Judging Criteria:

1. Used comprehensive plans e.g. property or group and/or catchment plans as a basis for your group activities. Provide a copy of your plans. These may show physical, strategic, management and other attributes of your group's work.
2. Repaired degraded land/environments or prevented degradation and/or developed some on-farm or community benefit from your group's activity.
3. Sought advice and worked with others, including the community, other Landcare environment/community groups, government, business and schools to develop your group, your plans and your industry.
4. Shared results to encourage others to be involved in Landcare practices, shared Landcare skills, outcomes, plans and ideas with your wider community (to others not involved in your group) e.g. through field days or education campaigns.



## 5. Westpac Education Award

### About the Category

This award will be made to a primary or secondary school or youth group – either as a whole class or special group. The award is for the school/group's contribution to raising awareness, knowledge and understanding of Landcare amongst students and the community, and for implementing Landcare practices on its own property or within the local community.

### Judging Criteria:

1. Improved understanding of environmental uses amongst students/ youth group and the community.
2. Developed the student or youth group's environmental management skills.
3. Clear indication that the group has shown leadership and inspired their school or community.
4. Helped others (e.g. other young groups and/or the wider community) learn about the Landcare ethic of local community groups, caring for the land by addressing local environmental issues.
5. Developed educational resources and formed partnerships that help young Landcarers address environmental issues.

## 6. Urban Landcare Award

### About the Category

This award will be made to a group or individual delivering projects or initiatives that inspire and involve an urban population in Landcare. Projects may be anything from on-ground works to campaigns but must have demonstrable natural resource management outcomes connected with the city.

### Judging Criteria:

1. Created greater awareness and understanding of important natural resource and environmental issues amongst an urban community. Give examples of media, events and other activities including approximate numbers of the people you have reached with these.
2. Generated partnerships support and community involvement in projects.
3. Improved long-term environmental outcomes for urban area suffering from the impacts of increasing population.
4. Provide examples such as before and after photographs, media clippings, testimonials from people etc. as relevant.



### 7. Leighton Holdings Indigenous Award

#### About the Category

This award will be made to an outstanding Indigenous community group or individual that is working towards culturally sustainable land use and/or enhancing or protecting an area on behalf of the community.

#### Judging Criteria:

1. Adopted or promoted sound land and/or coastal management practices to assist in the maintenance of Indigenous culture.
2. Integrated Indigenous ecological knowledge and cultural practices with land management practices in their work.
3. Improved the economic, social and environmental viability of the land or their community.
4. Formed partnerships, sought advice and worked with others, for example community elders, other Indigenous and non-Indigenous Landcare groups, Indigenous government agencies, Indigenous non-government organisations, and business, to develop your plans and actions.
5. Shared Indigenous Landcare practices and ideas with the young people of the Indigenous community and the wider community.



### 8. Be Natural Young Landcare Leader Award

#### About the Category

This award will be made to an individual between the ages of 15-30 who carries out and/or promotes Landcare through on-ground or awareness activities, as a volunteer.

#### Judging Criteria:

1. Implemented Landcare practices in your own area and/or helped others to implement them.
2. Demonstrated leadership and encouragement of others in promoting or implementing activities that improve Landcare/natural resource management outcomes; (e.g. by speaking to schools, media, landholders, groups, councils, etc..)
3. Trained and helped others in Landcare, through achievements in environmental sustainability projects or a role in planning and organising initiatives associated with Landcare.
4. Been a champion for Landcare, through achievements in environmental sustainability projects or a role in planning and organising initiatives associated with Landcare.
5. Provide examples of the ways in which issues are communicated (including the use of media, new media, events, speeches or presentations, posters, letters etc..)

### 9. The Quiet Achiever Award

#### About the Category

This award is to be presented to either a group or individual who has shown consistent contribution in volunteer work for the environment. This award is designed to recognise long term dedication and commitment to the environment.

#### Judging Criteria:

1. Consistent involvement in volunteer work for the environment spanning several years. This can involve commitment to either one project/activity or a number of projects/activities across a region.
2. Demonstrated contribution to improving the environment through on-ground work or building the capacity of the local community.
3. Provide examples of environmental projects preferably with evidence such as photographs, media clippings, posters etc.

### 10. The Environment Community Support Award

#### About the Category

This award will be made out to a Community Coordinator working with Landcare/ParkCare groups. This award is designed to recognise the efforts of Community Coordinators in the ACT supporting community activities.

#### Judging Criteria:

1. Recruited and encouraged others to be involved in Landcare (e.g. by speaking about Landcare to schools, media, landholders, groups etc or having a volunteer recruitment system.)
2. Demonstrated leadership and encouragement of Landcare/Park Care groups to develop and deliver initiatives in their community.
3. Demonstrated personal commitment to Landcare initiatives, either by supporting, implementing or developing Landcare projects.
4. Provide examples of either personal or community Landcare projects (or both) preferably with evidence such as photographs, media clippings, posters etc.

### PHOTO GUIDELINES

All applications and nominations must be accompanied by at least two good quality colour photographs (JPEG or TIF with a file size of 2-3 Megabytes) featuring your activities, that can be used for promotional purposes.

### THE IMAGES SUPPLIED MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING SPECIFICATIONS:

- Digital pictures are preferable
- JPEG or TIF files with a file size of 2-3 Megabytes
- To be safe, set your camera on the highest possible resolution setting
- Taken in landscape orientation (sideways, not up and down)

### TIPS FOR SUBMISSION OF PHOTOS:

- The photos should have people in them. The Landcare Awards are about recognising the dedication and commitment of the people involved – we want to see you!
- Make sure the photos you take or submit TELL THE STORY of your project – be doing something, showing something, standing in an area that's been repaired, or in the environment in which you work
- Make sure the people in the photos are looking at the camera and that we can see their faces clearly – put the people in the foreground
- Don't leave the date stamp on your camera
- For more information, go to [www.landcareonline.com.au](http://www.landcareonline.com.au) and download the media kit which can be found under tools for groups in the resources section
- Ensure the applicants understand that when they submit photos, that LAL and your organisation have the rights to use the images to promote the Landcare Awards campaign. The photos will appear in media articles, on web sites, in publications, in social media etc.
- Images must be attached to email submissions or saved as JPEG or TIF files on a CD or external USB drive. Images should not be inserted into and saved within a word document as this decreases it's resolution.



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