



Landcare In Focus Update

On the Farm and in Town - Every week is Landcare Week: Next week marks the annual celebration of Landcare Week when we recognise the contributions of people of all ages and backgrounds across the Landcare movement. While we use Landcare Week to raise awareness, it is important to recognise the thousands of people who throughout the year work on farms, public and indigenous lands and support projects across the country to deliver Landcare outcomes that benefit not only them, but also the rest of the nation. You sometimes hear it said that these individual contributions are “too small” to make any difference. On the contrary, each action is important and it is the collective action by Landcare in its various forms that has made it one of the most significant social movements in this nation’s history delivering productive, environmental and social benefits. So next week we should take the opportunity to celebrate Landcare and its diversity and the people that make it a success.

Research shows value of Landcare: The preliminary findings of a survey by ABARES called “Drivers of practice change in land management in Australian Agriculture” were recently released, specifically to inform the current review of the Sustainable Practices component of the Caring for our Country Program. The research highlights that Landcare still has significant support and recognition amongst farmers and that both environmental and financial factors are key motivators for the adoption of land management practices. To find out more go to ABARES.com.au.

Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI) Legislation Passes the Senate: The public consultation process has also finished for the first four methodologies to go through this process. The Federal Government has also released draft regulations for activities that would be considered additional and eligible to participate in the Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI) and which activities that would be ineligible. Comments are being sought on the draft regulations and the consultation runs until 16 September 2011. For more information go to: <http://www.climatechange.gov.au/cfi>.

Farm Ready Grants: Now open again and have been widened to include primary producers, wild game harvesters and indigenous land managers. Reimbursement grants for approved courses of up to \$1500 and \$500 per financial year to assist with excess travel, accommodation and childcare expenses per financial year are available. For more information go to www.farmready.gov.au.

Important Dates & Events

- **NSW Landcare Conference:** Parkes 5-7th September www.parkslandcare.org.au
- **Qld Landcare Conference:** Ayr 22-23rd September www.landcare.org.au/CONFERENCE.htm
- **Tasmanian Landcare Conference:** Stanley 9-10th October www.taslandcare.org.au/tlca.html
- **Territory NRM & Landcare Forum:** Darwin 13th October www.territorynrm.org.au/news-events/2011-nt-landcare-awards/landcare-forum
- **25 Years of Landcare in Victoria Celebrations:** <http://www.landcarevic.net.au/25years>

For more information or to sign up for the monthly e-newsletter go to: www.landcarefacilitator.com.au or call Brett de Hayr on 0457 750 815.

Other Contacts

- **Caring for Our Country Regional Offices, Weeds, Departmental Contacts:** www.nrm.gov.au/contacts
- **Landcare Australia Limited:** www.landcareonline.com.au

