Energy, Environment and Climate Action

Environmental volunteers and landcarers

Resources and information for Victorians caring for nature



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National Volunteer Week 2024

National Volunteer Week is held annually to highlight the important role of volunteers in our community. We have over 213,000 Victorians volunteering for the environment through a wide range of activities.

We have collated some inspiring stories from across the state which will be shared across our <u>social media</u>.

There's the volunteer effort that's planted more than 14,000 trees at Wodonga, the team in the Yarra Ranges dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of grey-headed flying foxes and the biggest citizen-science event on Victoria's marine calendar, the Great Victorian Fish Count.

Thank you so much for all that you do.



Congratulations to Beechworth!

In early May, in a remote outback community in WA, the 2024 National Tidy Town Awards were announced. Beechworth, Victoria was named the Keep Australia Beautiful National Tidy Town winner.

Beechworth secured the Victorian State award in 2023 and Iris and Anne were able to go to WA in person for the national event.

It was a 14+ hour journey and Iris was "so excited to have won. I was so proud of our community, in particular our Indigo Future Proof Action Group that won the Young Legends Category".

Olivia Lynch, CEO of Keep Australia Beautiful National Association, expressed her admiration for Beechworth, stating, "Beechworth epitomises the transformative power of community-driven environmental endeavours. The relentless dedication and perseverance exhibited by these communities serve as a beacon of inspiration.....Beechworth has undeniably emerged as front runners in environmental stewardship illuminating the path for communities nationwide".

For more information on the National Tidy Towns Awards

Grants

Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants - close 14 June

Funding of up to \$5,000 is provided for projects that involve and educate young people in valuing and actively caring for Victoria's biodiversity and natural environment.

The grants are open to all schools, kindergartens, childcare centres, Scouts, Girl Guides, youth groups and Junior Landcare groups in Victoria.

For further information and to apply, please visit <u>Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants</u>

Training

We share training opportunities on our <u>website</u>. Here is a sample of what's available.

Incorporated vs Unincorporated organisations - Tuesday 4th June 5.30pm

An informative webinar exploring the pros and cons of incorporated and unincorporated status.

Whether you're a well-established organisation or just starting out, understanding the legal and financial implications of these two options is crucial for effective governance and sustainability.

Arranged by Landcare Victoria Inc, register via Humanitix.

Cultural Safety - online - Thursday 27th June 10am

Learn about cultural safety to create inclusive, safe and welcoming spaces.

Delivered by the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO), cultural safety is about providing an environment that considers and respects the cultural identity, values and norms of the people attending your activities.

Arranged by Melbourne Water, register via Humanitix.

Biodiversity Across Borders Conference - 7 June

The theme for the 10th annual conference is "Biodiversity Conservation: Can we learn from the past to foster hope for the future".

For natural resource managers, this conference offers a valuable opportunity to gain insights into emerging applied research outcomes and their implications. It will be held at Federation University, Ballarat.

For more information and to register

Want to know more? How to get in touch...

There's a lot of information on <u>our website</u>, so take a look at some of the great resources, research and reports.

Need assistance or want to share a great story of environmental volunteering in your area? <u>Send us an email</u>.

Resources for the Victorian Landcare Program are available on the <u>Victorian Landcare</u> <u>Gateway</u>. You can find information on the Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program, events, training and more. If you have a specific question on the Victorian Landcare Program, <u>send</u> <u>an email</u>.



We acknowledge Victorian Traditional Owners and their Elders past and present as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters and commit to genuinely partnering with them and Victoria's Aboriginal community to progress their aspirations.

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