

GREENPAGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE MUNDARING AND KALAMUNDA FRIENDS GROUPS AND EASTERN HILLS CATCHMENT GROUPS

May 2011

THIS MONTH...

- Dieback Update
- World Environment Day
- International Composting Awareness Week
- Community Grants Scheme



For more information contact:

Shire of Mundaring
Bushcare Co-ordinator
on 9290 6685.

Shire of Kalamunda
Environmental Reserves
Officer on 9257 9806.

Eastern Hills Catchment
Management Program—
EMRC office 9424 2216.

Red Hill Nature Reserve

By Leanne Kimberely

Red Hill Nature Reserve is located in the Susannah Brook Catchment and bounded by Macham and Crimosa Roads that run north south along the Darling Scarp. Susannah Brook runs through the park and joins the Swan River near River Rd, Millendon. The park covers a total of 278Ha and contains a number of beautiful walk tracks and gorgeous flowing seasonal waters to enjoy. The reserve has been recognised as an "A Class Nature Reserve" for just the past 18 months.



First waterfall in full flow, July 2007.
Photo: Bill Macham



Red Hill Nature Reserve before
this years fires.
Photo: Bill Macham

There are a number of threats to the park, some of which are being managed. Watsonia weed control has taken place in the park since 2002 and has covered about 200m along the riparian zone each year. The aim is to completely eradicate the Watsonia in the riparian zone of Susannah Brook this year. Other weeds present in the park are Paterson's Curse, where a biological control (a small moth) is helping reduce its spread. The moth is killed off by chemical control and here we see an example where non-chemical weed control is working well. The Cape Tulip weed is also present in the park. Other pressures to the park include

horse riding which spread weeds and dieback, sedimentation from local quarries and new proposed housing subdivisions.

Currently a developer is working with DEC in an offset re-vegetation program that funded weed control in Autumn 2010, and will also provide for the proposed planting of 5000 seedlings this year. Where the Watsonia has been controlled, natural regrowth is occurring nicely. In addition, volunteers have installed nesting boxes for homes for the Carnaby's Cockatoo and other birds, as well as possums. Lace Monitors and echidnas have also been sighted in the reserve.



Red Hill Nature Reserve during
this years fires.
Photo: Bill Macham

Recent fires in the reserve have prompted an interest from local government groups to seek funding for some revegetation works. It is hoped that this project will occur this year providing the application for funding is successful.

In 2010 a single volunteer contributed over 100hrs of work in the park, this same volunteer has supported the park since 2002 with the help of DEC. What the park needs now are more volunteers to support its rehabilitation. Participating in bushcare activities in Red Hill Nature Reserve will also give you the opportunity to learn more about bushland management techniques. Interested volunteers can contact Myles Mulvay at DEC on 9295 9115 or email myles.mulvay@dec.wa.gov.au



CATCHMENT GROUP MEETINGS

Blackadder-Woodbridge Catchment Group Incorporated

7.00pm Wednesday, 29 June 2011

Midland Church of Ascension Hall (Side Room), 17 Spring Park Road, Midland

Contact Karen Warner on 9424 2242 or email: karen.warner@emrc.org.au

Helena River Catchment Group Incorporated

7.00 pm Monday, 20 June 2011

Octagonal Hall, 52 McGlew Road, Glen Forrest.

Contact Eleanor Chaos on 9424 2264 or email: eleanor.chaos@emrc.org.au

Jane Brook Catchment Group Incorporated

7.15 pm Thursday, 23 June 2011

Parkerville Fire Station, Riley Road, Parkerville.

Contact Leanne Kimberley on 9424 2245 or email: leanne.kimberley@emrc.org.au

Susannah Brook Catchment Group Incorporated

7.15pm Thursday, 9 June 2011

Gidgegannup Landcare Centre, Gidgegannup Showgrounds, Toodyay Rd

Contact Leanne Kimberley on 9424 2245 or email: leanne.kimberley@emrc.org.au

Friends of Piesse Brook

7.00 pm Thursday, 16 June 2011

215 Hummerston Road, Piesse Brook

Contact Eleanor Chaos on 9424 2264 or email: eleanor.chaos@emrc.org.au

Wildflower Society of WA Inc. *Darling Range Branch*

NATIVE PLANT PROPAGATION WORKSHOP

Tuesday, 24 May - 7.30pm

**CWA Hall
22 Central Road
Kalamunda**

Visitors Welcome

For further details, please phone Debbie:
0416 871 902

WA'S FORESTS at the crossroads

Presented by author and comedian Ben Elton
and the WA Forest Alliance at

Notre Dame University

Corner Croke and Cliff Streets, Fremantle

4pm Saturday June 11

With keynote speaker Professor Brendan Mackey - Australian
National University. For information contact 0488 777 592

www.waforestalliance.org

DIEBACK UPDATE

Phytophthora Dieback is recognized as one of the greatest threats to biodiversity in the South West as well as our own Perth Region.

The recent release of the Conservation Commission Report has triggered a number of newspaper articles and 'questions without notice' in the WA Parliament. If you are concerned about this issue you can write a letter or send an email to the Premier Barnett and the Environment Minister Bill Marmion.

To download the Conservation Commission Report, the 'questions without notice' posed in Parliament or the recent article on Dieback in the West Australian Newspaper please visit:

<http://www.perthregionnrm.com/pr-nrm-programs/natural-diversity-program/dieback/asp>



Article from PRNRM updates

1-7 MAY 2011 AUSTRALIA

INTERNATIONAL COMPOSTING AWARENESS WEEK



“Compost, Help Scrap Carbon Pollution”

International Composting Awareness Week is a week of activities, events and publicity to improve awareness about the importance of this valuable organic resource and to promote compost use, knowledge and products.

Approximately 60% of the rubbish Australians put in the everyday mixed-waste 'garbage bin' could be put to better use in the garden as compost and mulch or could be returned to agricultural land to improve soil quality.

Alarming, such a huge amount of organically-active material buried 'anaerobically' (without air) in landfill causes over 3% of Australia's total greenhouse gas emissions annually by producing *methane: a gas with 25 times the global warming potential of carbon dioxide!* If properly composted instead, this same organic waste could help to abate climate change in yet another way: by sinking or 'sequestering' carbon back into the soil.

And if combating climate change with compost isn't impressive enough, using compost on land reduces the need for water by an average of 30%!

Compost products can also regenerate ravaged areas, like mining or salinity affected sites and can even be used to help clean storm water before it travels into the ocean (as is the case of North Steyne Beach in New South Wales).

Composting is the intelligent alternative. We can compost to help scrap carbon pollution. Composting is the responsible and sustainable thing to do for our planet.

For more information and details on how to register your event please visit:

<http://www.compostweek.com.au>

Article sourced from www.compostweek.com.au



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

FORESTS: NATURE AT YOUR SERVICE | 05 JUNE

World Environment Day (WED) is an annual event that is aimed at being the biggest and most widely celebrated global day for positive environmental action. WED activities take place all year round but climax on 5 June every year, involving everyone from everywhere.



WED celebration began in 1972 and has grown to become one of the main vehicles through which the UN stimulates worldwide awareness of the environment and encourages political attention and action.

Through WED, the UN Environment Programme is able to personalise environmental issues and enable everyone to realise not only their responsibility, but also their power to become agents for change in support of sustainable and equitable development.

WED is also a day for people from all walks of life to come together to ensure a cleaner, greener and brighter outlook for themselves and future generations.

Everyone counts in this initiative and WED relies on you to make this happen! We call for action – organise a neighbourhood clean-up, stop using plastic bags and get your community to do the same, plant a tree, or better yet organise a collective tree planting effort, walk to work, start a recycling drive . . . the possibilities are endless. Check out the [WED pack](#) for interesting suggestions on what you could do.

Whatever you do, [tell us about it!](#) We will post your activities on this website and make it part of the [Wide World of WED](#) map.

So what are you going to do for WED?

For more information please visit: <http://www.unep.org/wed/index.asp>



Volunteers Welcome

Volunteers will have the opportunity to work along side a great group of youngsters while participating in a bush-care activity. Woodbridge Creek runs through the school grounds and teacher, Andy Durant has been successful in attaining grant funding for the project since 2003.

The Creek has gone from a degraded creekline to a watercourse with habitat for birds and other wildlife. The revegetation effort has also reduced erosion and sedimentation in the creek as well as filtering nutrients and pollution from entering the water. This section of the Woodbridge Creek is, at present, holding water which is very surprising given the recent lack of rains. 400 students will be attending.



Where: Swan View Primary School
380 Morrison Road, Swan View
When: 9 June - 8.30am - 2.30pm





BUSH SKILLS FOR THE HILLS WORKSHOPS

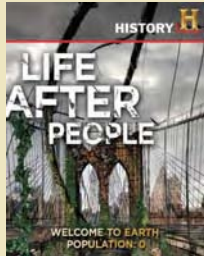
FREE MOVIE SERIES "LIFE AFTER PEOPLE"

Date: Wednesday, 11 May 2011

Time: 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Venue: Kalamunda Performing Arts centre
48 Canning Road
Kalamunda

If humans were to suddenly disappear, what would happen to our planet? What would become of the things that define our species and leave our mark on this Earth? Life After People is a thought-provoking adventure that combines movie-quality visual effects and expert investigation to demonstrate how our planet will change in our absence.



FROG DOCTOR

Date: Saturday, 28 May 2011

Time: 10.00am - 2.00pm

Venue: Lake Leschenaultia

A holistic view of habitat gardens—not just frogs! In this workshop you will learn about the biology of the frog, how to make a frog friendly garden and have a look at other animals that gardens attract, such as native bees, butterflies and what to plant to attract them.



Motorbike Frog
Photo: B Maryan
(WA Museum)

Wrestle the Reaper - Dieback Treatment

Date: Saturday, 17 September 2011

Time: 9.00am - 12.00pm

Venue: Jorgenson Park, Crescent Road, Kalamunda
(off Hummerston Rd)

Join us in the fight against Phytophthora Dieback. Come and learn how you can make a difference through practical experience in dieback treatment. Skill up and protect your local bushland.



Firewood Banksia
(*Banksia Menzeisii*)
Photo: Flora Base

Chemical Free Weed Control Workshop

Date: Saturday, 24 September 2011

Time: 9.00am - 12.30pm

Venue: Polytechnics West (formally TAFE)
Eddie Barron Drive, Midland

A talk on chemical/ herbicide use in the environment and the implication of their use. Followed by hands on weed management and advise on how to remove and treat invasive grasses, watsonia, arum lily, Arundo donax and Blackberry (time permitting).



Eremaea Pauciflora
Photo: H Bowler & E. Wajon

To register for Bush Skills for the Hills,
please call the EMRC's Environmental Administration Officer on (08) 9424 2216



Waste Authority



Community Grants Scheme - Funding Round is Now Open

The first round of CGS funding for 2011 is about to open. Community based groups including local interest groups, environmental groups, and individuals are encouraged to apply for support. Previous CGS funded projects have:

- ♦ Installed an organic waste station at a community garden to receive organic household waste, and produce organic fertiliser onsite for local residents, and prevent household waste going to landfill
- ♦ Developed, in partnership with their local Shire, a purpose built, fully equipped community based Recycling Centre to ensure that a higher volume of waste is recycled and kept out of landfill
- ♦ Educated the hearing impaired about prevention, recovery and disposal to ensure that they are competent, resourceful and able to contribute to the wider community using up-to-date information that has been delivered in their first language Australian Sign Language (Auslan).

Note - small projects are encouraged, but larger ones may be considered up to a maximum of \$20,000.

Please read the guidelines for applicants before making a submission

Applicants should submit an application which in general terms, describes their ideas, issues or proposals and the extent and/or type of support required. Applications will be assessed by the ability of the project to reduce waste generation and/or recover and recycle resources.

All relevant documents relating to CGS, including application forms and guidelines are available at Towards Zero Waste. (<http://www.zerowastewa.com.au/ourwork/supportschemes/cgs/>)

Applications must be received by 5pm Friday 27 May 2011. No late submissions will be accepted.

DARLING RANGE NATURALISTS CLUB MEETING

When: Friday 13 May - 7.30pm
Speaker: Mikael Siverson
Topic: "Australia's Extinct Megafauna"
Venue: CWA Hall
 Central Rd, Kalamunda

Visitors welcome

For further details, please phone:
9293 1676 / 9294 1044

Wildflower Society of WA Inc. Eastern Hills Branch Meeting

When: Friday 27 May - 7.30pm
Speaker: Andrew Brown
Topic: "New Orchid Discoveries"
Venue: Octagonal Hall
 McGlew Rd, Glen Forrest

Visitors Welcome

For further details, please phone:
9298 8645 / 9294 1044

COMMUNITY NEWS, EVENTS & INFORMATION



SWAN 2030 - Community Engagement Opportunity

Understanding our community is the key to making decisions for our future.

The City of Swan is conducting a major consultation and planning program to develop our Strategic Community Plan. This plan will affect the way we live in the City of Swan.

Community members and other stakeholders are encouraged to be a part of this process, to play an active role in this very important project.

When: Wednesday, 4 May
9.30am - 12.30pm

When: Thursday, 5 May
6.00pm - 9.00pm

Venue: Midland Junction Arts Centre
276 Great Eastern Highway
Cnr Cale Street
Midland

Venue: Percy Cullen Oval
Toodyay Road
Gidgegannup

RSVP: Tuesday, 3 May

RSVP: Wednesday, 4 May

We invite you to join us to identify ways in which we could achieve our shared goals.

Your early RSVP would be of great assistance

For further information or to RSVP contact Sian on 9267 9374

ANNUAL WILDFLOWER PLANT SALE

Come along with a box or wheelbarrow and brighten up your garden!

When: Saturday, 7 May
9.00am - 2.00pm

Venue: Octagonal Hall
McGlew Road
Glen Forrest

Plants, seeds and books for sale.
Advice and refreshments will be available.

For Further Information,
Please Telephone: (08) 9289 8645
or (08) 9294 1044



Swan Volunteer Centre



Volunteering Information

OPEN DAY

Thursday 12th May 2011

2pm – 7pm

Old Midland Courthouse,
Helena Street, Midland

An opportunity to speak directly to local Not-For-Profit organisations about the variety of volunteer positions that are available.

Information on how to become a volunteer in your local community.

Come and get your volunteering questions answered.

Suitable for all ages.

For more information:

Swan Volunteer Centre

T 08 9278 9690 | E swanvolunteers@swan.wa.gov.au
F 08 9274 4430 | W www.swanvolunteers.com.au

www.swan.wa.gov.au

one city diverse places

Greater Protection for Internationally Significant WA Conservation Reserves

Environment Minister Bill Marmion today announced the Conservation Commission of WA was seeking community comment on a draft management plan for parks and reserves in the Peel area, including the internationally significant Muir-Byenup Ramsar wetlands.

Since the 1970s the world's most significant wetlands have been internationally recognised under a treaty that was first signed in the Iranian city of Ramsar. The outstanding biological diversity of the Muir-Byenup Ramsar site was formally recognised in 2001.

The draft plan is available from <http://www.dec.wa.gov.au/haveyoursay> and from DEC offices at Kensington and Manjimup. Submissions can be made via an online form on the website, sending an email to planning@dec.wa.gov.au, or by posting a written submission to the Planning Unit, DEC Reply Paid 62342, Bentley Delivery Centre WA 6983.

The public comment period closes Friday, 3 June 2011.

2011 Bush Conservation Skills Workshops

FREE WORKSHOPS!



Revegetation skills

**Saturday 7th May
9am—12noon**

Cockburn Wetlands Education Centre
184 Hope Rd, Bibra Lake

Come and learn about:

- ❖ seed collecting
- ❖ species selection
- ❖ growing your own native plants
- ❖ revegetation by direct seeding, tubestock & natural regeneration

Land management

**Saturday 28th May
9am—12noon**



Wandi Clubrooms next to Wandii Hall
De Haer Rd, Wandii

Get down-to-earth looking at:

- ☞ soil types & keeping them healthy
- ☞ weed identification & control
- ☞ land use planning for sustainability
- ☞ integrating native vegetation for productivity & conservation

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL!

Please phone Green Skills on 9360 6667 or
email murdoch@greenskills.org.au
www.greenskills.org.au



Zig Zag Prologue Sunday 29 May 2011

Time-Trial Cycle Event

Zig Zag Scenic Drive to the top of Haynes Street Kalamunda

7am - 12.30pm

Register online

www.kalamundachamber.com

Proudly brought to you by the
Kalamunda Chamber of Commerce



Birds Australia Conservation Forum 2011

Hosted by Birds Australia Western Australia
Preceeded by the Birds Australia AGM
University of Western Australia, Perth
Saturday 21 May 2011

Carnaby's Black-Cockatoos photo by Chris Tarrant

Theme: IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS AND THE CONSERVATION OF BIRDS IN SOUTH WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The South West of Western Australia is one of the world's 34 internationally recognized terrestrial hotspots for biodiversity and the only one recognised in Australia and has 26 of Australia's 80 bioregions. Birds Australia has the expertise and capacity to advise and advocate on what is needed to protect our birds and biodiversity including threatened species such as Carnaby's Black Cockatoos.

Birds Australia WA will host this years AGM and Conservation Forum

Date: Saturday, 21 May- 11.00am

Venue: University of Western Australia

Please visit <http://www.birdsaustralia.com.au/whats-on/conservation-forum.html>
for more information and registration



Midland Campus - COURSES IN CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

Understanding Bushland Plants

Learn the language of botany and how to identify local plants of the Hills and nearby. Understand each plants' specific value to natural areas.

The bushland plants are still in their summer dormancy but this is the best time to learn the basics and get ready for the wildflower season with this "taster" course.

When: Wednesdays 11 May to 15 June
(includes a weekend activity)
Time: 6.00pm - 8.30 pm
Cost: \$71.54 concession available



Further information contact

Anne Taylor 0414845064 / 93746314 anne.taylor@polytechnic.wa.edu.au or
Ted Johnson 0414896626 / 93746314 ted.johnson@polytechnic.wa.edu.au

CONTACT DETAILS

Brad Thompson

Bushcare Co-ordinator
Shire of Mundaring
Telephone: (08) 9290 6685

Karen Warner

NRM Co-ordinator, EMRC
Telephone: (08) 9424 2242
Mobile: 0428 101 223
Email:
karen.warner@emrc.org.au

Leanne Kimberley

NRM Officer, EMRC
Telephone: (08) 9424 2245
Mobile: 0439 095 263
Email:
leanne.kimberley@emrc.org.au

Shenaye Hummerston

Environmental Reserves Officer
Shire of Kalamunda
Telephone: (08) 9257 9806
Email:
shenaye.hummerston@kalamunda.wa.gov.au

Eleanor Chaos

NRM Officer, EMRC
Telephone: (08) 9424 2264
Mobile: 0427 088 213
Email:
eleanor.chaos@emrc.org.au

Plant of the Month

Acacia celastrifolia — Glowing Wattle

Acacia celastrifolia is, as its common name implies, a 'glowing' wattle with rich yellow blooms that make winter bushland a delight from April to August when grey skies can predominate. Its species name of *celastrifolia* is derived from the Greek *celastrus*, meaning holly-like or privet-like and *folia*, meaning leaves. Unfortunately, the leaves in the photograph do not demonstrate this characteristic very well.

Acacia celastrifolia is a glabrous bushy shrub reaching 3m and favouring the lateritic soils of the Darling Range and the red soils of the western edges of the wheatbelt. It grows in *Eucalyptus* woodland from Mogumber south to Wagin.

Acacia celastrifolia is a common species and is quick to colonise after fire or disturbance. Look for it in the bushland and along roadside verges during autumn and winter.

Text and photo sourced from: <http://florabase.dec.wa.gov.au/potm/>



If you would like to receive the Greenpage by email please contact the Administration Officer at EMRC at envirotemp@emrc.org.au with "Subscribe to Greenpage" in the subject heading and your contact details.

If you do not have email and would like to receive the Greenpage by post, please contact Administration Officer by telephone on (08) 9424 2216.



The Greenpage newsletter is compiled by EMRC, utilising multiple resources and authors. The views and opinions expressed within do not necessarily reflect those of EMRC or the project sponsors listed below.

Proudly supported by

