

David, Chris

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**From:** Wheatbelt NRM [cdavid@wheatbeltnrm.org.au]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 June 2010 4:22 PM  
**To:** David, Chris  
**Subject:** Wheatbelt NRM E-news 29 June 2010



June 2010



**Wheatbelt NRM E-Newsletter**  
working with the community to manage our natural resources

### In This Issue

- Events
- General News
- Funding
- Opportunities
- Publications

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### Events, funding, Jobs and Landcare!

Dear Chris

Several exciting events and opportunities are coming up in July including the **Burlong Pool interpretive signage unveiling**, and the next round of the **Soil Conservation Incentives Program opening**.

There are also two great positions closing in July: **Aboriginal NRM Facilitator** at Wheatbelt NRM and **Executive Officer** for the NRM Regional Leaders Group.

We also remind you to have your say in the **Australian framework for Landcare**, the Framework has been drafted for the Landcare Reference Group made up of Landcare community members. Comments on the draft Australian Framework will close on 30 July.

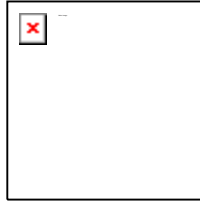
For more details on any of the above items please read below.

Kind regards,

**Wheatbelt NRM**

If this email is not displaying correctly please click on the [Web Version](#)

## Events



### Burlong Park signage unveiling

Dear Chris please join us for the official unveiling of the Burlong Pool signage during a morning tea at Burlong Park.

In the last few years a number of committed individuals and organisations have undertaken works at Burlong. The refuse has been cleared, and the site opened up which allowed for thousands of trees to be planted. Pathways have been created and linked to the Dornjt Koorliny walking track allowing people to traverse from the pool to the town center. Carparks have been fashioned and resting stations created for people that wish to visit the site and walk along the path with the 12 interpretive panels.

**When:** Monday 19th July

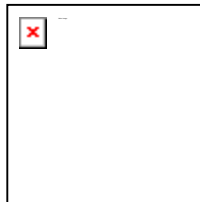
**Time:** 9.30am - 11.00am

**Where:** Burlong Pool, Burlong Road NORTHAM

**RSVP:** Nathan Heal on 08 9690 2250, 0428 969 096 or email [nheal@wheatbeltnrm.org.au](mailto:nheal@wheatbeltnrm.org.au)

Please click [here](#) if you would like to view the signs in a low res booklet.

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### 13th International River Symposium

The 13th International Riversymposium, 11-14 October 2010 will bring together a diverse audience for interactive and vibrant discussion

and will, for the first time since its inception, move from Brisbane and be held at the Burswood Entertainment Complex in Perth, Western Australia. There will be a focus on Western Australia in 2010 which will also highlight state, national and international concerns.

The Western Australian economy is highly specialised and trade dependent. Exports in primary commodities, mining and agriculture included, dominate production with water a key component in the production process. Many rivers flow from coastal areas to the sea, leaving a dry interior. Desalination plants have been a focus for future solutions as groundwater reserves decline. The complex issues of managing our rivers and catchments and yet supporting population and economic development will be discussed and debated in the diverse array of themes covered at this year's Riversymposium.

#### Who should attend ?

A wide range of professionals, working for community groups, corporate business, non-government organisations, scientific research organisations, universities and government will find that the 13th International Riversymposium is of interest to them. This year, there will be a focus on the mining and resource sectors and we encourage professionals from these industries to attend and learn more about the relationship between rivers and the resource industries.

**REGISTER ON-LINE NOW** at [www.riversymposium.com](http://www.riversymposium.com)

Earlybird Deadline 30 June 2010

Earlybird Registration Fee \$995.00

Standard Registration Fee \$1295.00

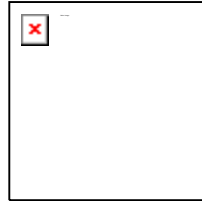
Full registration details including costs, accommodation providers, other registration types, terms and conditions are available at the above website.

For further information please contact the International WaterForum/Riversymposium office:  
Celeste Modrzyński | Riversymposium Registrar & Coordinator  
E [celeste@waterforum.org.au](mailto:celeste@waterforum.org.au) | T (+61 7) 3123 7766 ext 203

[Click here to download the program](#)

[Click here to download the brochure](#)

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### Local Government Sustainable Development 2010

**Tuesday 24th - Wednesday 25th August  
Dockside Convention Centre, Sydney**

Come and network with the experts in local government sustainability!

-- Register now and receive the early bird discount. --

The Local Government Sustainable Development Conference 2010 is designed to assist local government practitioners to identify, plan and implement best practice sustainable development solutions.

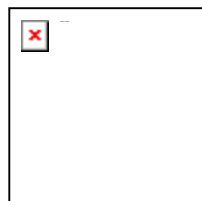
The peak national local sustainable development conference will showcase leading edge examples of outstanding environmental initiatives by Australian local governments, including the current winner of the Australian Sustainable Cities award, and the Community Sustainability award winner at the UN-endorsed International Liveable Communities Awards.

To view the Agenda and to register go to [www.halledit.com.au/lgsd2010](http://www.halledit.com.au/lgsd2010)

or contact Denise McQueen on 03 8534 5021 or [denise.mcqueen@halledit.com.au](mailto:denise.mcqueen@halledit.com.au)

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## General News



### The Australian Framework for Landcare has been released for public comment

The Hon. Tony Burke MP, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry is supporting the Landcare community to develop an Australian Framework for Landcare to guide Landcare over the next 20 years.

The development of the Australian Framework for Landcare is your opportunity to have a say about the way forward for Landcare.

#### Framework development

The Framework has been drafted by the Australian Framework for Landcare Reference Group which is made up of Landcare community members. The reference group has been working to ensure that views expressed by the Landcare community during the

extensive community consultation period are accurately reflected in the Framework document. The consultation period commenced in April 2009 and concluded with discussions at the recent National Landcare Forum. The process for the development of the framework has been fully supported by the Australian Government.

[Click here to download the draft framework](#)

#### Have your say

Comments on the draft Australian Framework for Landcare are welcome and you can have your say online. The submission period is currently open and will close on **30 July 2010**.

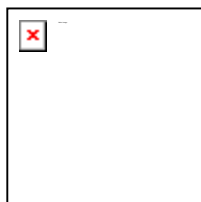
More information on the Australian Framework for Landcare, including input from all state and territory conferences, is available from the National Landcare Facilitator.

The submission period to comment on the draft Australian Framework for Landcare is currently open and will close on **30 July 2010**.

The website is [http://www.daff.gov.au/natural-resources/landcare/the\\_australian\\_landcare\\_framework](http://www.daff.gov.au/natural-resources/landcare/the_australian_landcare_framework)

**The advertised feedback close date is 30 July 2010.**

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#### RED CARD PROGRAM REWARDS RFDS

A program designed to tackle the problem of rabbits and foxes, has stolen the stage at one of the state's biggest sheep sales.

A \$15,000 cheque was handed to the Royal Flying Doctor Service at the June Special Sheep Sale in Katanning last Friday.

The money was raised after the Stockbrands Company paid five dollars for each fox culled during the "Red Card for the Red Fox" shoots held in February and March.

The \$15,000 donation will go to the RFDS Flying 1000 Club, which fits out and maintains regional aeroplane equipment.

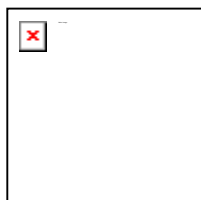
This year more than 40 local groups comprising about 800 farmers scoured their properties to cull 3000 foxes, 160 feral cats, 2300 rabbits and 40 wild pigs.

Over 25,000 1080 fox baits were laid by more than 500 farmers during the two-month Autumn baiting period.

Some farmers said they had noticed a significant increase in lambing numbers since the reduction of the fox population.

Work has now begun on a website to improve communication including results, baiting incentive programs, a focus on spring baiting - and of course the 2011 coordinated autumn baiting and shooting programs.

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#### AVONGRO recipient of WNRM Small Grants

AVONGRO Wheatbelt Tree Cropping is just

one of the many groups to have been successful in the recent Wheatbelt NRM Small Grants funding round. AVONGRO will use the funding to film broadacre farmers within the Avon River Basin who have successfully incorporated tree crops as part of their farming enterprises.

Five segments with five different land managers will showcase the land managers' experiences, the NRM benefits of their tree crop, why they chose a particular tree crop, how they fit into their farming system and their visions for the future. Tree crops of focus will be a mix of sandalwood, oil mallees, and brushwood.

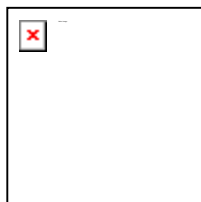
The resulting DVD will be available for groups and individuals interested in tree crops, will be appropriate for showing at workshops and events and will also be available on the internet. The five segments can be watched individually or as an entire sequence.

'We are thrilled to have been successful in obtaining the funding', said AVONGRO Executive Officer Monica Durcan, 'There is nothing more inspiring than seeing the enthusiasm of a land manager talking about their trees, standing on their own farm. It will be a great resource for the region.'

AVONGRO are also running a Tree Crop Peer Mentoring service thanks to funding from WNRN's Soil Conservation Incentives Program. Peer Mentors are available to talk one-on-one with land managers within the Avon River Basin who are considering tree crops and just want to chat with another, more experienced tree cropper, before getting started. Peer Mentors are located throughout the Avon River Basin and are experienced in growing sandalwood, oil mallees and brushwood. If you are interested in being put in touch with a Tree Crop Peer Mentor contact Monica on: 9291 8249, 0418 934 870 or [mdurcan@iinet.net.au](mailto:mdurcan@iinet.net.au)

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## Funding



### Soil Conservation Incentives Program Round 3 opening soon

Round 3 of the Soil Conservation Incentives Program will open to farmer groups or individuals in the Avon River Basin during July.

\$5 000 - \$50 000 is available for implementing recommended farm management practices that protect the soil resource from wind erosion.

Three main categories of project are available from which single or multiple management strategies can be selected:

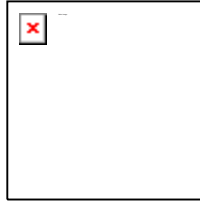
- Integrating tree crops into farm systems
- Trial or demonstration of recommended grazing management practices
- Trial or demonstration of recommended cropping management practices

Applications will be assessed on the suitability of proposed works and the applicant's commitment to sharing skills and knowledge about the project with their local community. Projects will be supported up until the end of 2012 to maximize learning about the costs and benefits of incorporating the practice into a farm enterprise.

To register your interest and receive a copy of the guidelines and application contact:

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## Opportunities



### Aboriginal NRM Facilitator vacancy at Wheatbelt NRM

*(re-advertised)*

**Northam, Western Australia**

**Salary range: \$48,730 to \$83,322; Full-time, fixed-term contract (General Calling level 2, 3, 4 or 5 with Specified Calling available).**

*To be eligible for this position you must be of Aboriginal or Torres Straight Islander descent (having reference to Section 51(d) of the Equal Opportunity Act 1984).*

Working closely with the Avon catchment stakeholders and community, the role will be responsible for implementing the Aboriginal Natural Resource Management program, including activities to facilitate the integration of traditional ecological knowledge into Natural Resource Management in the Avon River Basin.

For more information on Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management refer to the website listed below.

To apply for this position you will need to provide a covering letter and resume, as well as provide a written respond to three questions.

Position documentation is available at:

<http://www.wheatbeltnrm.org.au/about-us/employment> or by contacting Liz Kington at: [ekington@wheatbeltnrm.org.au](mailto:ekington@wheatbeltnrm.org.au) or telephone: (08) 9690 2250.

**Applications close 5pm WST Friday, 16th July 2010.**

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### Executive Officer Natural Resource Management Regional Leaders Group (WA)

Location: Perth

Salary/Conditions: 12-month, part-time role (up to \$100,000 contract)

Expressions of interest sought

The Natural Resource Management Regional Leaders Group (WA), representing the six WA NRM regional organisations is seeking applications from enthusiastic and suitably qualified individuals for a 12 month part-time role (up to \$100,000 contract) as our Executive Officer.

NRM RLG (WA) is the Council coordinating the State-wide interests of the NRM organisations, working with Government and industry bodies.

Applications will need to address selection criteria, include the cover sheet and a resume of qualifications and experience to be

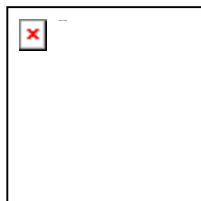
received by 5pm on Monday the 12 July, 2010.

Further details, the position description and selection criteria can be obtained by visiting: <http://www.nrmrlg.com/eoi.php> or emailing: [applications@nrmrlg.com](mailto:applications@nrmrlg.com) or contacting Todd Hutchison on: 0422-532-775.

Visit: <http://www.nrmrlg.com/eoi.php>

**Closing date: 12 July 2010**

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### Nominate your Environment, Sustainability or Water project now!

The statewide regional search has begun for individuals, businesses, environmental groups, leaders, communities, Local Government best practice initiatives and community groups that are making a difference in their local community.

We invite you to nominate your group or organisation, or alternatively nominate someone you know that deserves recognition for their commitment to community contribution.

Great prizes are on offer including a share in \$22,000 in Bank Accounts from the Commonwealth Bank.

Nominations close Tuesday 17th August 2010 and winners will be announced at a Gala Awards Presentation Dinner to be held on Friday evening 12th November 2010 at the Perth Convention Exhibition Centre.

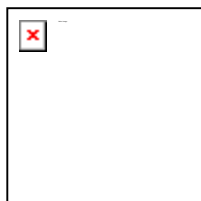
Please help us along with WIN Television, Farm Weekly and RadioWest Network to promote these important awards. We would be delighted if you would consider nominating or nominate someone and also forwarding this email on to your contacts/clients/members.

For more information or if you have any questions please call the Awards office on 9201 1155 or email: [wa@awardsaustralia.com](mailto:wa@awardsaustralia.com) or nominate online via [www.awardsaustralia.com/RACA\\_wa.html](http://www.awardsaustralia.com/RACA_wa.html)

[Please click here to download the nomination form](#)

[Please click here to download the criteria.](#)

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### Wheatbelt 2010 Photography competition

Regional Development Australia Wheatbelt Inc. (RDAW) in conjunction with the Wheatbelt Development Commission (WDC) and BHW Consulting are running a PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION to showcase our diverse and amazing Wheatbelt at the forthcoming 2010 Dowerin Field Days.

Amateur photographers of all ages are invited to share their view of the Wheatbelt. We want photographs from the top to the bottom of the Wheatbelt and everywhere in between capturing our unique landscapes, events and communities. With cash and a multitude of prizes to be won, there has never been a better time to start snapping. Your entry may even be selected to feature in a range of

regional publications and websites promoting the Wheatbelt.

So what are you waiting for? Grab your camera and start photographing today!

Categories include:

- Wheatbelt Community Spirit
- Wheatbelt Nature, Landscapes & Landmarks
- Industry in the Wheatbelt
- What we love about the Wheatbelt

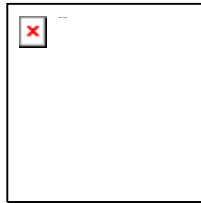
For all enquiries and further information, please contact:

Michelle Blackhurst - RDAW by email:  
[michelle.blackhurst@rdawheatbelt.com.au](mailto:michelle.blackhurst@rdawheatbelt.com.au) or telephone (08) 9622 8700.

[Click here to download an entry form](#)

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## Publications



**Proposed guidelines for treating acidic drain water in the Avon catchment, Western Australia: adapting acid mine drainage treatment systems for saline acidic drains**

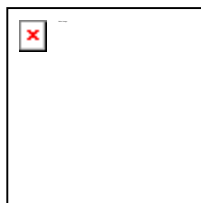
**By Dr Brad Degand, Department of Water**

Using deep drainage in the WA Wheatbelt to manage shallow saline groundwater in broad valley floors can lead to discharge of acidic saline water that may require treatment of the acidity and removal of metals and minor elements before disposal or further use. The low pH and high concentrations of metals and other elements can pose environmental risks where water is discharged to creeks, floodways and lakes. The sustainable use of deep drains in managing dryland salinity will depend on meeting the pressing need to develop low-cost, practical, and effective options to treat acidity.

Wheatbelt NRM funded an initiative to trial potential treatment options and to develop guidelines for designing and installing acidity treatment systems in Wheatbelt drains. The proposed guidelines are intended to provide landholders, contractors and others involved in managing acidic drain waters with sufficient information to design and install a treatment system consisting of a single option or combination of treatment options and to manage the operation of the system. The options have been adapted for use in Wheatbelt drains from an exhaustive range of international options developed to treat acid mine drainage and acidic drainage from acid sulfate soils.

[Click here to Download the Publication](#)

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**Using composting beds to treat acidity in saline drain water**

Acidic saline water is common in drains used to manage shallow saline watertables in the

Wheatbelt. The water often has high concentrations of dissolved aluminium, iron and trace metals such as lead, nickel, copper and zinc (Shand & Degens 2008). Such drain water would threaten aquatic and bird life in waterways and lakes if it reached these environments (Shand & Degens 2008). Treating the water to neutralise the acidity and remove dissolved metals may be needed to manage these risks.

[Click here to download the publication](#)

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OUR  
COUNTRY



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