Energy, Environment and Climate Action

## **Environmental volunteers and landcarers**

Resources and information for Victorians caring for nature



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### **Biodiversity Quest**

#### Join our Great Biosecurity Quest - Pest Trapping Activity!

The Great Biosecurity Quest is back – you can join and help us protect Victoria from unwanted pests and diseases, including the invasive brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB) which is a serious threat to Australia's biosecurity. These bugs can feed on or damage up to 300 types of fruit, ornamental trees and vegetable crops.

We are now looking for keen gardeners, environmental volunteers or citizen scientists to join a pest trapping activity in November - December. This involves putting an insect sticky trap in your garden and reporting back to us, to provide valuable surveillance data about biosecurity pests, and in particular, the brown marmorated stink bug.

For more information about this activity and how you can join us, visit <u>agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurityquest</u>, or look at the information in the attached fact sheet, and complete the form to register – we would love to hear from you!

### EVM Grow - Tuesday 3 December 2024

Calling all Environmental Volunteer Managers!

We're thrilled to formally announce that this year's EVM Grow will be held Tuesday 3rd December.

EVM Grow is your opportunity to connect with other environmental volunteer managers, learn from one another and engage in interesting conversations.

The free event will be taking place in Melbourne, 5 regional hubs and also available to attend online from wherever you are across the state.

For further information and to secure your place please visit Humanitix.

We look forward to seeing you.

The EVM Grow Team.

### **Volunteer Management Survey and Forums**

Volunteering Victoria are conducting an in-depth survey of volunteer management in Victoria. This is open to all volunteer managers, coordinators, and leaders across the state, in either a paid or unpaid capacity.

They will also host 24 forums across metro, regional, rural Victoria and online to better understand the distinct needs of different demographic groups, and the opportunities, barriers, challenges and levers to create a thriving, inclusive volunteering culture in Victoria.

If you engage volunteers at your organisation, community group, club, or charity they would love to hear from you!

For more information on completing the survey and upcoming forums please visit: <u>Volunteering Victoria</u>

### **TreeProject**

#### Can you grow native seedlings for TreeProject in your backyard?

Since 1989 <u>TreeProject</u> volunteers have propagated more than two million native plants, which have been planted across Victoria. The TreeProject is a registered not-for-profit, and needs the help of more volunteers who can grow native seedlings in their backyards, which will assist groups and landholders with their revegetation projects.

To become a TreeProject grower please go to <u>Grower Application</u> for more information and how to apply. Questions? please email <u>admin@treeproject.org.au.</u>

### **Citizen Science - The litter bird-en**

#### Be a part of a citizen science project to help understand how litter impacts birdlife!

"The litter bird-en" is a citizen science project conducted at Federation University. Litter poses a significant risk to birds, as they often ingest, get entangled in, or use it as nesting material. By observing and documenting these interactions, citizen scientists like you can play a critical role in highlighting the extent of this issue.

To participate, simply photograph any bird-litter interactions you observe—such as birds carrying, nesting with, or becoming entangled in litter—and upload the images to the following <u>website</u> or email them to <u>ho.faraone@federation.edu.au</u> with the location details.

For more information on ethical birdwatching, check out BirdLife Australia's guidelines

### **Grants and Training Opportunities**

#### Green Links Grants- closes Thursday 5 December

Green Links is a \$10 million investment to improve habitat, water quality, and provide cool green spaces for communities around our urban creeks, rivers and waterways.

The program aims to fund up to 200 hectares of revegetation projects over 3 years. Green Links builds on work underway to protect our iconic urban waterways from inappropriate development and complements the aspirations of Traditional Owners and the community for our waterways.

For more information and to apply visit water.vic.gov.au

# Community of Practice on Engaging Multicultural Communities - Monday 25 November 2024

We are excited to invite you to our upcoming Community of Practice event, focused on engaging multicultural communities in environmental volunteering!

This event will explore strategies and share insights on involving culturally diverse groups in environmental action. Learn from guest speakers with experience in fostering inclusivity and community engagement in the environmental space.

#### Date: Monday 25 November Online via Teams: 11am - 12pm

If you'd like to receive an invitation for this event, please register your interest please email <u>landcare@deeca.vic.gov.au</u>

#### Wurundjeri on Country Cultural Education Session - Thursday 14 November

Join Landcare volunteers and other NRM professionals on a cultural education training day with Wurundjeri in Parkville, Melbourne.

For more information and to register visit Humanitix

### Landcare News

#### Become a Landcare magazine subscriber

Want to become a subscriber to receive future issues of the <u>Victorian Landcare magazine</u> (via email alert or post)? You can subscribe to receive the magazine by completing this <u>form</u>.

Each issue features specific topics, and you can read the Spring 2024 issue <u>here</u>, which is a feature on revegetation and restoration.

We also encourage you to consider making the switch to an online subscription of the magazine. Reading online helps us reduce paper, printing, and postage to be more sustainable. If you're ready to make the change, please email Landcare Victoria Inc. at info@landcarevictoria.org.au.

Note - you don't need to a Landcare group member to become a Landcare magazine subscriber.

#### Nominations are open for the Bob Hawke Landcare Award!

Do you know a sustainable agriculture champion in your community?

Nominate an individual, group or organisation today for a chance to receive a \$30k package prize by going to <u>Bob Hawke Landcare Award.</u>

Nominations close Saturday 31 December 2024 and finalists will be celebrated at the 2025 National Landcare Awards Gala Dinner on 23 September.

### 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>. On the Victorian Landcare Gateway, you can also 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 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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