

## **Tuggeranong Lake (and Catchment) Carers - TLC- Lake Cleanup**

On Sunday 21 October volunteers met at Lake Tuggeranong to begin a spring cleanup in a response to an upswell of community concerns about the health and condition of the lake. These concerns were articulated at a series of public consultations and led to the formation of the Tuggeranong Lake *and Catchment* Carers (TLC). The TLC aims to look at ways to ensure a master plan is developed to manage the catchment with a view to:

- Reduce the problems that cause lake closures i.e. reduce blue green algae outbreaks by establishing wetlands on the lake and in its tributaries
- Reduce rubbish around the lake, and
- Foster community awareness of the issues

Volunteers collected 40 to 50 bags of rubbish from around the lake. They commented that there was a significant reduction in the number of plastic bags collected with only 2 bags of plastic rubbish compared to the 6 bags that have been collected on previous occasions – “rock on the plastic bag embargo” – it is certainly making a difference.

Special thanks to Lindell McConnell, who liaised with Cleanup Australia to get necessary supplies and organised and ran the BBQ, and, to Southern ACT Catchment Groups’ (SACTCG) Waterwatch coordinator, Martin Lind, for help throughout the day.

Once again the community spirit came to the fore with volunteers saying they are looking forward to future events to help support Lake Tuggeranong.

The next activity planned by the TLC is to begin planting around the lake on the 25 November. If you are interested and want to be involved please ring the SACTCG on 6296 6400.