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1. Don't be a Drifter Herbicide spraying workshops - Only 3 places left.

Interested in learning more about herbicide application?

Are you a landholder in the ACT or in the Googong or Upper Murrumbidgee catchments south of the ACT? Want to upgrade your chemical application skills, ensure your machinery is working correctly, you have up to date records ensure you gain your reaccreditation? If so Southern ACT Catchment Group is organising a herbicide use training course for the 30/31 August to be held at Westwood Farm near Kambah. The concept is to deliver an advanced practical/theory session in one day, which will include observing, using UV light, droplets of water coloured with dye, applied to stubble, leaves or grasses at different rates, nozzles and pressures. To reinforce the workshop information the day will be followed by small group half day sessions where spray applicators can bring along their own equipment and have their questions answered, guided by an experienced operator. The workshops have a mixture of RELEVANT theory and practice. Assessment is relevant to the participants, for example: preparing a diagram for the farm paddock and putting in the relevant buffer zones. Demonstrating how to keep the necessary records in a simple format, ensuring they have the MSD's they need and only the ones they need.

Chemical user accreditation (AQF3) or reaccreditation is available if required.

All costs will be covered through funding to the catchment group from ActewAGL and the ACT NRM Council.

Bookings essential: Contact Steve Welch on 6296 6400 or email info@sactcg.org.au

2. Radio Landcare

For an interesting update on local landcare listen to Radio Landcare:

2XX FM 98.3 Tuesdays 9 - 10am

QBN FM 96.7 Sundays 8 - 9am

Southern ACT Catchment Group has a regular spot on 2XX every third Tuesday of the month. Contact Steve or Martin if you have a desire to be involved.

3. Next Catchment Group meeting

The next SACTCG General meeting is on Tuesday 26th July at SACTCG Office starting at 4.30pm. Agenda items to info@sactcg.org.au

4. Landcare Week: 5th – 11th September 2011

If you are organising an event during Landcare Week, please register this by emailing info@sactcg.org.au . Send us the date, time and location of your event, as well as a contact name and phone number or email address, and we will advertise this through our website. Please also include what type of event you are running and what people need to bring on the day.

5. Landcare Landscape - 2011 Landcare Volunteering Survey

Participate in the 2011 Landcare Volunteering Survey. Everyone who fully completes the survey will go into a draw to receive one of 20 grants worth \$500 for their group.

<http://www.landcareonline.com.au/news/archive/the-landcare-landscape-2011-landcare-volunteering-survey/>

6. Weed Alert - Spanish Heath Invasion in ACT Woodland

A recently discovered large infestation of Spanish Heath (*Erica lusitanica*) at Percival Hill Reserve. This environmental weed has flowers that look a bit like the native Peach Heath (*Lissanthe strigosa*), but the leaves are very different. The leaves of Spanish Heath look a bit like the Native Small-leaf Parrot-Pea leaves (*Dillwynia retorta* var *phyllicoides*). Report any sightings to Steve Taylor at P&C steve.taylor@act.gov.au . Further information:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/act_parks/5959718079/in/photostream &

<http://www.weeds.org.au/cgi-bin/weedident.cgi?tpl=plant.tpl&ibra=all&card=E43>

7. Field Naturalist's meeting – Thursday 4th August

Here are the details of the presentation that Terry Korodaj (pronounced Koroday) will give to the Field Naturalists Association during their meeting on 4th August at 7.30pm. Meet at ANU's Gould seminar room, Building 116 off Daley Road, ANU.

SACTCG members, guests and friends are very welcome to attend. There will also be copies of an excellent, illustrated book on Fish of the Murray Darling Basin available at no charge.

Terry Korodaj is the Senior Program Coordinator for the *Native Fish Strategy*, a program for rehabilitating native fish in the Murray-Darling Basin. Terry's background is varied with an early career focussed on 'people' issues and organisational change. As a field ecologist he has worked on Yellow-footed Antechinus, birds in pine forests and now fish! Terry has a strong interest in community engagement and the development of practical adoption and extension efforts.

Native fish populations in the Basin have declined by 90% since European settlement. The *Native Fish Strategy* aims to bring native fish populations back to 60% of their estimated pre-European settlement levels over the next forty years. Underpinned by science, the Strategy works with community to develop and implement local and regional initiatives to improve river health. Terry's presentation to the August meeting will essentially be fishy, with a slightly human dimension.

Further information Rosemary Blemings 6258 4724

8. Clean Energy Future – Update from the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency

As you would be aware on 10 July 2011 the Australian Government announced the Clean Energy Future package. This email provides some further information on the package which may be of interest to you.

An update on the progress of the Carbon Farming Initiative legislation is also provided.

The Clean Energy Plan has four pillars under which several new initiatives have been introduced:

- [carbon price](#)
- [renewable energy](#)
- [energy efficiency](#)
- [land use](#).

We would like to draw particular attention to the land use components of the Clean Energy Future package which are complementary to the Carbon Farming Initiative. These include:

- Carbon Farming Futures Assistance for landholders to participate in the Carbon Farming Initiative
- Biodiversity Fund Support for projects that establish, restore, protect or manage biodiverse carbon stores
- Indigenous Carbon Farming Fund Grants to support Indigenous participation in the Carbon Farming Initiative
- Regional Natural Resource Management Planning for Climate Change Fund Support for regional Natural Resource Management (NRM) organisations to incorporate climate change mitigation and adaptation components into existing regional NRM plans
- Carbon Farming Skills Funding available for training and accreditation of carbon brokers and aggregators so landholders have access to credible, high quality advice and carbon services
- Carbon Farming Initiative Non-Kyoto Carbon Fund Government purchase of land sector abatement that is not counted towards Australia's emissions targets under current accounting rules
- Land Sector Carbon and Biodiversity Advisory Board Establishment of a permanent, expert board to provide advice on implementation of the measures. Further information about other measures for regional Australia is available at <http://www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au/regional-australia/>.

More information on the Land Sector measures can be found in Chapter 9 of the Clean Energy Plan www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au/clean-energy-future/our-plan/.

The Clean Energy Future plan is available at www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au.

9. Provincial Plants & Landscapes

Provincial Plants & Landscapes are offering some freebies looking for homes and discounts on a large range of plants for those of you planting on Tree Day 31st July

All the details are on <http://treeday.planetark.org/coords/resources.cfm> or call Lee in Pialligo and Megan at Wandella.

Provincial has free selected plants to schools and non profit organisations and 15% discount to the general public (up to 29th July)

First in best dressed and happy planting!

Contact Lisa at lisaroberts@plantsandlandscapes.com.au