

# Catchment Kids



Welcome to our First edition of  
*Catchment Kids.*

With a vision of **vibrant communities and healthy landscapes**, the **Central West Catchment Management Authority** would like to assist schools with an Environmental Education newsletter that highlights different projects, programs, awards, competitions, funding and resources that are available to assist your school with conserving, improving and managing our natural and cultural resources. We have offices in Mudgee, Bathurst, Orange, Wellington, Dubbo, Trangie, Nyngan and Gilgandra.

**Please keep your school's details up to date. As this newsletter will only be offered electronically.**

## *CMA School Survey*

The Central West Catchment Management Authority would like to thank you for your participation in our recent survey.

Through this survey we sought the guidance of K-12 teachers from all Key Learning Areas using identified **key directions** for inclusion in the revised Education Program. We would like to take this opportunity to thank those schools that participated

Your responses have assisted us to be more focussed in the development of our Environmental Education program and to provide you, the educator with resources and support you require.

The Worm Farm Winners participating in the Schools Survey were:

- Coonabarabran Primary School
- Rockley Primary School
- Narromine Public
- Orana Heights Primary School
- Wellington High School
- Borenore Public School

**Keep an eye out for a delivery coming your way!**



## **Central West CMA Primary Schools Enviro-Readers Competition**

*"Creepy Crawlies*



*Life Underground"*

This Write a Reader Competition is a fun literacy program that promotes science and environmental education in Primary Schools. The topic is "Creepy Crawlies – Life Underground" and is open to all students in Grades 3-6 within the Central West Catchment.

The development of these readers is an important learning process and teaching tool for the teachers, the students, and their parents. This competition aims to promote science and the environment in a way that kids and parents can easily identify with for mutual interaction. It aims to instil a lifetime interest in the sustainability of the local environment.

This Project is an integral component of the Education and Training sub-programme, as it aims to encourage primary students into science and agriculture based fields of study. Following the completion of this project, it is expected that the participating school children and their teachers will have a greater understanding and knowledge base of the Ecology of: Agricultural Landscapes, Interconnectivity of these systems, Identification of bugs and underground inhabitant species within their region

**Application Close:** 10<sup>th</sup> July 2009. For more information about the application process  
**Contact:** Liz Davis on (02) 63638603



## **Central West CMA Photo Competition**

Keep an eye out for our up and coming Photo Competition, **opening in July 2009.**

*vibrant communities ... healthy landscapes*

## Central West CMA Champions of the Catchment

*The second round of Champions is now open.*

Champions are individuals, groups and **schools** who care for our natural resources and work towards a better future. The Central West CMA would like to recognise the work that is being done in our region and these awards are a wonderful opportunity to share your experience, dedication and story.

Four of our Champions were finalists in the NSW State Landcare Awards in 2007 and two Champions John Blunt, ( Individual Landcare Award) and Orange City Council (Local Government Partnerships Award) were finalists at the National Landcare Awards in 2008. You don't have to be a member of Landcare to be a Champion of the Catchment. Download a nomination form and nominate your group, neighbour or friends.

Each Champions of the 8 categories will receive **\$2000** and also be automatically nominated for the NSW State Landcare Awards in September at Port Macquarie; **second prize will receive \$1000**. Categories include:

Individual Landcare Award  
Aboriginal Community Group  
Community Landcare Award  
Local Government Partnerships Award  
**Education Award**  
Primary Producer  
Rivercare Award  
Bushcare Award

Applications close on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009 and are available on our website: [www.cw.cma.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cw.cma.nsw.gov.au)  
**For further information** please contact Liz Davis on 6363 8603 or [liz.davis@cma.nsw.gov.au](mailto:liz.davis@cma.nsw.gov.au)

### **Landcare and Schools**

Our survey showed that schools would like to be involved in local Landcare projects. If your school is interested in meeting your local Landcare group or would like to be involved in projects in your community please contact us.

Liz Davis 6363 8603 or [liz.davis@cma.nsw.gov.au](mailto:liz.davis@cma.nsw.gov.au)

### **Help us promote your activities**

What is your school doing about School Environment Management Plans (SEMP)?  
Is your school involved with a Landcare group?  
We want to hear what you are doing and how we might be able to assist you. **Contact** Liz 6363 8603  
[liz.davis@cma.nsw.gov.au](mailto:liz.davis@cma.nsw.gov.au)

## Central West CMA Secondary Schools Property Planning Competition

This innovative event emphasises to the students how agricultural production and conservation work hand in hand, with a focus on management practices to provide economic and environmental sustainability.

A CMA officer will visit participating schools for an information session on the competition. A field trip involves all students to participate in practical exercises relating to natural resource management in soil management, pasture management, water management, biodiversity and vegetation and sustainability.

These competitions have been held successfully in the Mudgee and Orange regions, but we are looking for more schools to participate in property planning. If your school is interested in participating in this program please contact Liz at [liz.davis@cma.nsw.gov.au](mailto:liz.davis@cma.nsw.gov.au) or 6363 8603.

## **Available Funding**

### Junior Landcare Grants Program

Junior Landcare is Landcare Australia's youth program, which aims to get kids actively involved in their environment and enable them to develop sustainable habits from a young age. It is a great, hands-on way to get kids connecting with and learning about nature, as well as encouraging them to get outdoors.

**Key dates:** Applications are accepted four times a year. In 2009, application dates are:

- 15<sup>th</sup> May
- 7<sup>th</sup> August
- 23<sup>rd</sup> October

Any school or youth group seeking to educate young Australians about the environment can apply for funding. **Contact:**

Ms Rebecca Millard  
Landcare Australia  
Phone: 03 9662 9977  
Email: [rebecca@landcareaustralia.com.au](mailto:rebecca@landcareaustralia.com.au)  
Website: [www.landcareonline.com](http://www.landcareonline.com)

### **To Subscribe to this e-newsletter...**

Send your contact details to  
[liz.davis@cma.nsw.gov.au](mailto:liz.davis@cma.nsw.gov.au)

## Eco Schools

The ultimate goal of the Eco Schools grants program is the development of ecologically sustainable schools.

Involve students in identifying local problems, designing and implementing solutions, assessing the effectiveness of the project and ongoing monitoring of the activity

Enable teachers to undertake professional development that supports their project

**Contact:** Phone: 02 8837 6093

Email: [info@environmentaltrust.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@environmentaltrust.nsw.gov.au)

Website: [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/envtrust](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/envtrust)

## National Science Awards for Teachers and Students

The National Science Teachers' Association provides information on a number of Science Awards and Scholarships available for teachers and students.

**Contact:** National Science Awards

Address: PO Box 334 Deakin ACT 2600

Phone: 02 6282 9377

Email: [asta@asta.edu.au](mailto:asta@asta.edu.au)

Website: <http://www.asta.edu.au>

## Rural Education Program

The Rural Education Program seeks to ensure that quality education remains accessible to children in rural and remote communities regardless of climatic and economic conditions.

Through collaboration with local agencies and sponsored partnerships with individuals and corporations, the Program will be able to extend the educational recourses and individualised learning support that rural students require.

The founding donors would like to invite other contributors to join with them in ensuring that the education of students in Australia's rural and remote communities continues uninterrupted.

**Contact:** Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal

Address: PO Box 41 Bendigo VIC 3552

Phone: 1800 170 020

Fax: 03 5443 8900 Email: [info@frrr.org.au](mailto:info@frrr.org.au)

Website: <http://www.frrr.org.au>

## APEC Education Foundation

### **Educational Cooperation**

Initiatives that advance cooperation and exchange of experiences and know-how among educational institutions in APEC economies on areas such as teacher professional development, distance learning and educational management training

**Contact:** Program Officer

APEC Secretariat

APEC Education Foundation

Phone: 82 2 576 7373/4

Fax: 82 2 576 5303 Email: [secretariat@apecef.org](mailto:secretariat@apecef.org)

Website: <http://www.apecef.org>

### Ian Potter Foundation

The Ian Potter Foundation is a private Australian philanthropic foundation which makes grants for charitable purposes in Australia.

Areas of interest for Ian Potter Grants include:

Education, Environment & Conservation, Arts and more.

**Contact:**

Ian Potter Foundation

Address: Level 3 111 Collins St Melbourne NSW

3000 Email: [admin@ianpotter.org.au](mailto:admin@ianpotter.org.au)

Website: <http://www.ianpotter.org>.

### Coles Local Community Support Program

Coles aims to assist the development and wellbeing of the local communities in which we operate and through our Local Community Support Program we are able to give back to the communities that support us each day. Through this program our supermarkets are supporting their communities, helping out where they can with local events, fundraisers and causes.

**Contact:** Coles Group Community Fund

[www.coles.com.au/about/community/support/](http://www.coles.com.au/about/community/support/)

### Holden Community Support Program

There are many ways that Holden provides support. The company donates cash, goods and services in kind to community groups, non-profit organisations and educational institutions across Australia.

Holden is particularly interested in projects that have a national focus and seek to educate and involve the Australian community in:

**Contact:** Holden

Address: GPO Box 1714 Melbourne VIC 3001

Email: [communitysupport.holden@gm.com](mailto:communitysupport.holden@gm.com)

# Resources

## **Central West Catchment Management Authority**

We have information about the catchment, Best Management Practices, fact sheets, newsletters and upcoming events. [www.cw.cma.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cw.cma.nsw.gov.au)

## **The Gould League**

Gould League has a long and proud history working productively with children, teachers, parents and whole school communities to deliver outstanding

results. <http://www.gould.edu.au/html/schools.asp>

## **Australian Sustainable School Initiative**

The **Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative** (AuSSI) involves a holistic approach to education for sustainability with measurable environmental, financial, educational and social outcomes. It implements improvements in a school's management of resources and grounds and integrates this approach into the existing curriculum and daily running of the school. Students participate in an action learning - or learning by doing - process.

<http://www.environment.gov.au/education/aussi/resources.html>

## **Keep Australia Beautiful NSW**

Australia's volunteer and community network for litter prevention including Waste Watchers Primary aged curriculum linked activities

[www.kab.org.au/](http://www.kab.org.au/)

## **Learnsapes Trust**

Helping schools develop their schools grounds for educational outcomes

## **www.learnsapes.org** **Oz GREEN**

Community and school based programs for improved waterway and catchment health

[www.ozgreen.org.au](http://www.ozgreen.org.au)

## **State Forests of NSW**

NSW State Forest Management

[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/forests](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/forests)

## **Streamwatch**

Information for catchment health studies for schools and communities

<https://www.streamwatch.org.au/streamwatch/connect/Streamwatch>

## **Land Management**

Australian Conservation Foundation

[www.acfonline.org.au](http://www.acfonline.org.au)

NSW Department of Agriculture

[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture)

Conservation Volunteers Australia

[www.conservationvolunteers.com.au](http://www.conservationvolunteers.com.au)

Greening Australia

[www.greeningaustralia.org.au](http://www.greeningaustralia.org.au) **Animal Welfare**

Animal Welfare League

[www.animalwelfareleague.org.au](http://www.animalwelfareleague.org.au)

Royal Society for the Protection & Care of Animals

[www.rspca.org.au](http://www.rspca.org.au)

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

[www.peta.org](http://www.peta.org)

World Wildlife Fund

[www.wwf.org](http://www.wwf.org)

## **Indigenous People**

Aboriginal Land Council of NSW

[www.alc.org.au](http://www.alc.org.au)

Department of Indigenous Affairs (WA)

[www.dia.wa.gov.au](http://www.dia.wa.gov.au)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

[www.aiatsis.gov.au](http://www.aiatsis.gov.au)

Nat. Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Education

[www.natsiew.nexus.edu.au](http://www.natsiew.nexus.edu.au)

Oxfam International

[www.oxfam.org](http://www.oxfam.org)

## **Recreation**

National Parks & Wildlife NSW

[www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au)

## **Environmental Conservation Organisations**

UNEP -World Conservation Monitoring Centre

<http://www.quin.unep-wcmc.org/>

Friends of the earth

[www.foe/.org.au](http://www.foe/.org.au)

Greenpeace

[www.greenpeace.org.au](http://www.greenpeace.org.au)

Manly Environment centre

[www.mec.org.au](http://www.mec.org.au)

Coastal Environment Centre Narrabeen

[www.mhl.nsw.gov.au/www/cec](http://www.mhl.nsw.gov.au/www/cec)

Marine Discovery Centre Bondi

[www.marinediscovery.org.au](http://www.marinediscovery.org.au)

## **Atmospheric and Climate Science**

Australian Climate group

[iag.com.au/pub/iag/sustainability/publications/climate/intro.shtml](http://iag.com.au/pub/iag/sustainability/publications/climate/intro.shtml)

Global Warming Information Centre

[www.globalwarming.net](http://www.globalwarming.net)

The Sierra Club Global Warming Campaign

[www.sierraclub.org/globalwarming/](http://www.sierraclub.org/globalwarming/)

Clean Air Society of Australia and New Zealand

[www.casanz.org.au](http://www.casanz.org.au)

## **Water Conservation**

Save Water Organisation

[www.savewater.com.au](http://www.savewater.com.au)

NSW Dept of Environment & Conservation (water)

[www.environment.nsw.gov.au/water/index](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/water/index)

Murray Darling Basin Commission

[www.mdbc.gov.au/](http://www.mdbc.gov.au/)