



**STATE
& TERRITORY**

LANDCARE AWARDS

Who are our landcare heroes?

Landcare is extraordinary Australians, identifying local problems and finding solutions for them. The Landcare and Coastcare network are proof that 'think local, act global' really works. It is through the actions of thousands of groups across Australia that this country will tackle the biggest environmental challenges we face – climate change, loss of biodiversity, and long term sustainability.

The good news is that this quiet environmental revolution is happening right across rural and urban Australia.

This year, help us make some noise! Nominate yourself, your group, or your local environmental heroes for your state's top prize and you'll be inspiring people and action across your state.

For inspiration, or to vote, visit www.landcareheroes.com





STATE & TERRITORY LANDCARE AWARDS⁰⁹



& STATE TERRITORY

THE STATE AND TERRITORY LANDCARE AWARDS

are a highlight of Australia's environmental calendar. Now in their 18th year, these Awards are about finding and recognising the achievements of those dedicated people who give up their time to care for our precious land and water resources.

Landcare is on the look-out for individuals, groups and community networks who deserve to be recognised for their work in tackling environmental issues from the ground up.

THERE'S A CATEGORY FOR EVERYONE

You don't need to be in a landcare group to enter the Landcare Awards. Landcare is a broad environmental movement that works in many areas of our community.

The 10 categories of the Landcare Awards aim to capture the breadth of the landcare movement and are open to:

- Individuals
- Landcare, Coastcare and other Community Environmental Groups
- Schools and Universities
- Catchment Management Authorities and Regional Groups
- Natural Resource Management Regions
- Local Councils
- Primary Producers
- Indigenous Groups

IT'S EASY TO ENTER

The Landcare Awards follow a simple process that makes it easy for you to enter. You must fill the separate entry form that relates to your State/Territory and make sure you tick off the items on the "Checklist for Entries" found in this brochure.

All nominees will have an online profile that can be viewed on the Landcare Heroes website at www.landcareheroes.com

HOW THE LANDCARE AWARDS WORK

Each State and Territory will run its own Landcare Awards during 2009 – including a call for entries, judging and a special Landcare Awards presentation. Winners from each category in the 2009 State and Territory Landcare Awards automatically go on to become finalists in the 2010 National Landcare Awards, to be held at Parliament House in Canberra. If you become a finalist in the National Landcare Awards, one of your representatives will be flown to Canberra to attend the gala dinner and ceremony, and the national winner will receive a cash prize of \$1,000.

JUDGING

Each Landcare Awards category is judged by specialists and those involved in landcare. Judges can include people from the farming, environmental, scientific, education, business and government sectors and may also include past winners. Judging panels will be made up of at least three judges, with most judging based on the entry and independent references alone.

Phone interviews may also be conducted with nominees where necessary.



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the PEOPLE'S CHOICE award

For the first time, the public get to vote for their favourite WA finalist out of all ten national award categories. The chosen finalist will become the state's first ever winner of the People's Choice Award.

It's easy to vote – you can check out all the finalists from each category at www.landcareheroes.com from September onwards. Read about our finalists and their landcare achievements and then vote for the nominee you think most deserving.

Thanks to the public's votes the inaugural state People's Choice Award winner will be announced in December.



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& CATEGORIES & CRITERIA

Local Government Landcare Partnerships Award

This award will be made to an outstanding local government organisation which is collaborating with its community to preserve and manage its local environment and natural resources, encouraging a landcare ethic and action in the local community, and cooperating on landcare issues and projects with neighbouring organisations, businesses, other councils and landowners. Judges will be looking for active partnerships between landcare and the Local Government organisation.

Judging criteria – Please show how your organisation has met, or is working towards each of the following criteria:

1. Planning, projects and programs are undertaken collaboratively with community groups and address important local natural resource management issues that will generate highly valued outcomes for multiple stakeholders.
2. Strong promotion of awareness and support of community

involvement in managing local natural resources through a well structured engagement and communication strategy (e.g. funding community awareness events and community projects, supporting logistical and communications needs of community groups, local environment plans, media coverage, community bulletins, mayoral columns etc).

3. Provides incentives to local residents, businesses and groups for engaging with, and supporting community group projects addressing important local NRM issues (e.g. rate rebates, incentive programs, grants, volunteer coordination, community education, equipment/resources, free local native plants, recycling and other waste re-use and reduction programs, support programs etc).
4. Links landcare initiatives with others including other councils, businesses, organisations, neighbours, schools and community groups (e.g. through plans and cooperative projects).

Australian Government Coastcare Award

This Award will be made to a community group for excellence in activities that have contributed to the significant improvement of local coastal and/or marine environments, including estuaries, coastal and marine wetlands and saltmarsh ecosystems.

Judging criteria – Please show how you have met, or are working towards the following criteria:

1. Undertaking projects that increase community awareness and engagement with coastal NRM issues linked to local and regional natural resource management plans, and where relevant 'Caring for our Country' targets.

2. Contributes to improving the sustainable use and/or management of coastal natural resources (provide examples of results).
3. Targets the causes as well as symptoms of coastal environmental problems.
4. Develops local and regional partnerships for Coastcare activity.



Landcare Primary Producer Award

This award will be made to a primary producer (i.e. to an individual or family or farm partnership) for their significant contribution to landcare, shown through developing and implementing sound management practices resulting in sustainable productivity. Primary production includes agriculture, aquaculture, horticulture and farm forestry.

Judging criteria – Please show how you have met, or are working towards the following criteria:

1. Developed a farming system that delivers a sustainable commercial return and demonstrably maintains or improves the condition of land and water resources.
2. Improved productivity and environmental condition of the property as demonstrated by recorded changes in key indicators such as, but not limited to:
 - the productivity and/or commercial return per unit of limited resources (e.g. improved efficiency in the use of rainfall, irrigation or nutrients)
 - carbon budgets (greenhouse gas emissions possibly related to fuel, fertiliser or stock feed and carbon capture)

- increase in biodiversity/botanical composition
 - increase in ground cover, particularly during periodic seasonal feed gaps, and reduced soil erosion
 - improved water quality leaving the property (with emphasis on salt and turbidity)
 - improved soil fertility (with emphasis on P, pH and organic C)
3. Integrating innovation, evaluation and improvement of management practices in a commercial scale farming system that demonstrates multiple benefits such as productivity, drought resilience, possible income diversity and ecosystem services.
 4. Cooperated with and encouraged involvement by others in landcare farming practices (e.g. with neighbours, other landholders and local authorities, by sharing information, participating in field days, workshops etc).

Education Award

This award will be made to a primary or secondary school or youth group – either as a whole class or special group. The award is for the school/group's contribution to raising awareness, knowledge and understanding of landcare amongst students and/or the community, and for implementing landcare practices on its own property or within the local community.

Judging criteria – Please show how you have met, or are working towards the following criteria:

1. Improved understanding of your student/youth group and/or the community on important environmental issues and developing their skills to better manage them.

2. Implemented education projects that encourage enthusiasm and a sense of achievement in young landcarers (i.e. you extend learning and skills-development classes into practical on-ground activity).
3. Helped others learn about landcare (e.g. other young groups and/or the wider community).
4. Developed educational resources and formed partnerships that increase the capacity for young landcarers to learn about improving important environmental issues.

Indigenous Award

This award will be made to an outstanding indigenous community group or individual that/who has adopted/ promoted sound land management practices on public or private land, is working towards culturally sustainable land use and/or enhancing or protecting an area on behalf of the community.

Judging criteria – Please show how you have met, or are working towards the following criteria:

1. Adopted or promoted sound land and/or coastal management practices to assist in the maintenance of indigenous culture.
2. Integrated indigenous ecological knowledge and cultural practices with land management practices in their work.

3. Improved the economic, social and environmental viability of the land or their community.
4. Formed partnerships, sought advice and worked with others, for example community elders, other indigenous and non-indigenous landcare groups, indigenous government agencies, indigenous non-government organisations, and business, to develop your plans and actions.
5. Shared indigenous landcare practices and ideas with the wider community.

Australian Government Landcare NRM Region Award

This Award will be made to one of Australia's 56 Natural Resource Management Regions, for excellence and innovation in creating partnerships with their Landcare and/or Coastcare community, for natural resource and environmental management. The organisation must demonstrate that its Catchment Management Plan contains strategies to achieve a high level of engagement with Landcare and Coastcare community groups and networks. The NRM Plan does not have to be fully implemented, however you must show that significant steps towards implementing the Plan, and building community partnerships are in place, and that there is support or understanding within your community, for implementing the Plan.

Judging criteria – Please show how you have met, or are working towards the following criteria:

1. Developed strong partnerships with Landcare and Coastcare community groups to ensure community engagement and demonstrating how this is contributing to the success of your Catchment (or sub-catchment or regional) Plans.

2. Clear demonstration of community group engagement strategies and support in addressing catchment plan priorities.
3. Use of a multi-disciplinary approach in your planning and partnerships (and including environmental/production, community/social and financial strategies for achieving best practice NRM results in your catchment/region).
4. Strongly supported regional community groups involved in NRM (e.g. funding, coordination, facilities, in-kind etc).
5. Strong achievements or benefits arising from your plan, showing both community and environmental benefits and outcomes (with particular emphasis on community group support) and third party investment achievements.



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COUNTRY

Individual Landcarer Award

This award will be made to an individual who carries out and/or promotes landcare (includes landcare and/or Coastcare and/or sustainable agriculture) through on-ground or awareness activities, as a volunteer. You may nominate yourself or a person from your community for this award.

Judging criteria – Please show how you have met, or are working towards the following criteria:

1. Implemented landcare practices in your own area and/or helped others to implement landcare/coastcare/sustainable agricultural practices.

2. Encouraged others to be involved in landcare (e.g. by speaking about landcare/coastcare/sustainable agriculture to schools, media, landholders, groups, councils etc).
3. Trained and helped others in landcare practices and skills.
4. Been a champion for landcare, through achievements in landcare projects or a primary role in planning and organising committees associated with landcare projects.



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Landcare Community Group Award

This award will be made to an outstanding community group that has adopted sound land management practices on public or private land and is working towards sustainable land use and/or enhancing or protecting an area on behalf of the community.

Judging criteria – Please show how you have met, or are working towards the following criteria:

1. Uses comprehensive plans e.g. property and/or group and/or catchment plans as a basis for your group activities. Provide a copy of your plans. These may show physical, strategic, management and other attributes of your group's work.
2. Has repaired degraded land/environments or prevented degradation and/or developed some on-farm and/or community benefit from your group's activity.
3. Has sought advice and worked with others, including the community, other landcare environment/community groups, government, business and schools to develop your group, your plans and your industry.
4. Has shared results to encourage others to be involved in landcare practices, shared landcare skills, practices/outcomes, plans and ideas with your wider community (others not involved in your group) e.g. through field days or education campaigns.

Young Landcare Leader Award

This award will be made to an individual between the ages of 15-30 who carries out and/or promotes landcare (includes Coastcare/sustainable agriculture/general sustainability) through on-ground or awareness activities, as a volunteer. You may nominate yourself or a person from your community for this award.

Judging criteria – Please show how you have met, or are working towards each of the following criteria:

1. Implemented landcare practices in your own area and/or helped others to implement them.
2. Demonstrated leadership and encouragement of others in promoting or implementing activities that improve landcare/natural resource management outcomes; (e.g. by speaking to schools, media, landholders, groups, councils etc).
3. Trained and helped others in landcare/sustainable agricultural practices and skills.
4. Been a champion for landcare, through achievements in environmental sustainability projects or a role in planning and organising initiatives associated with landcare.
5. Provide examples of the ways in which issues are communicated (including the use of media, new media, events, speeches or presentations, posters letters etc).

Urban Landcare Award

This award will be made to a group or individual delivering projects or initiatives that inspire and involve an urban population in landcare. Projects may be anything from on-ground works to campaigns but must have demonstrable natural resource management outcomes connected with the city.

Judging criteria – Please show how you have met or are working towards each of the following criteria:

1. Created greater awareness and understanding of important natural resource and environmental issues amongst an urban community. Give examples of media, events and other activities and approximations of the numbers of people you have reached with these.
2. Generated partnerships, support and community involvement in projects targeted at improving the protection, rehabilitation or sustainable use of natural resources in or around your urban environment.
3. Generated improved longer-term environmental outcomes for areas in or around urban areas suffering the stresses of greater population intensity.
4. Provide examples such as before and after photographs, media clippings, testimonials from people etc as relevant.



TIPS & RULES

- The 2009 State and Territory Landcare Awards are open to anyone within Australia.
- Incomplete entries will not be accepted.
- You need not have met all criteria, but you should show how you are working towards each one.
- You don't have to be in a landcare group to enter.
- 2006 and 2008 National Landcare Award winners cannot enter this time around (finalists who didn't win can enter this year).
- Landcare Australia may retain State and Territory entries for use in developing case studies, media materials and landcare publications.
- Photographs submitted with your entry may be used for publicity purposes by Landcare Australia and partners.
- State/Territory Landcare Award winners may be ambassadors for the sponsor associated with their category, and must be willing to be recognised in sponsor marketing.
- Entries may not be returned – do not include original material.
- It is preferred that entries submitted via email.
- The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. The closing date is non-negotiable.

CHECKLIST FOR ENTRIES

Each entry must include the following. (Please note, entries that do not include each of these items may not be accepted):

- Completed entry form, including contact details for two referees. This is attached separately.
- Project summary highlighting the main points of your entry (300-500 words).
- Quote from one of your referees (40-50 words).
- Your actual entry. This will address each of the criteria for your category as outlined in this brochure (no more than 200 words per criteria).
- Supporting documentation. This must be relevant and must show how you have addressed the criteria. Could include copies of plans, maps, publications, before and after photos and/or media coverage. Photos of people with works underway are particularly useful. **DO NOT** include originals.
- At least two, good quality colour photographs featuring your activities, that can be used for promotional purposes. Please see guidelines for more information.
- Details of local media (Radio, print, TV).



GUIDELINES AND TIPS FOR PHOTOGRAPHS

- Digital pictures are preferable. If you post your submission, please include these on a CD with your entry.
- Please submit JPEG or TIF files with a resolution of 3-5 megapixels and 300dpi when the photo size is 10cmx15cm.
- To be safe, set your camera on the highest possible resolution setting.
- Take photographs in landscape orientation (sideways, not up and down).
- Photographs with people are preferable. The Landcare Awards are about recognising the dedication and commitment of the people involved – we want to see you!
- Do not leave the date stamp on your camera.

CLOSING DATES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information about the 2009 State and Territory Landcare Awards, please contact the following Landcare Awards Coordinators or go to www.landcareheroes.com

State/Territory	Closing Date	Contact Information
ACT	10 July 2009	Esther Duffy • Phone: (02) 6205 2913 • esther.duffy@act.gov.au
NSW	10 July 2009	Bridget Kent • Phone: (02) 6627 0232 • bridget.kent@environment.nsw.gov.au
NT	10 July 2009	Anna Cooke • Phone: (08) 8941 0905 • anna.cooke@nt.gov.au
QLD	1 July 2009	Natalie Mogg • Phone: (07) 3252 7154 • natalie@qwalc.org.au
SA	14 August 2009	Cherie O'Neill • Phone: (08) 8463 6860 • oneill.cherie@saugov.sa.gov.au
TAS	TBC	www.landcareonline.com
VIC	1 July 2009	Clare Millen • Phone: (03) 9637 9824 • clare.millen@dse.vic.gov.au
WA	7th August 2009	Amy Green • Phone: (08) 9368 3869 • amy.green@landcareaustralia.com.au



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