



Heytesbury & District Landcare Network

Project Expression of Interest Guidelines

HOW DO I APPLY FOR LANDCARE FUNDING FOR MY PROJECT?

To apply for funding for your project, just follow these easy steps;

- 1. Membership.** If you are not already, become a member of a Landcare group within the HDLN region. If you are a group, you must also be insured and incorporated.
- 2. Complete & return Expression of Interest Form.** Complete all sections of the Heytesbury & District Landcare Network's Expression of Interest Form. If required, the HDLN can assist you in completing this form. **All forms must be received by no later than 30th September to be considered for funding for the following year.** Forms submitted later than this will not be considered for funding, unless alternative funding becomes available prior to the project assessment process.
- 3. Project assessment.** The HDLN projects committee will assess and prioritise your project against funding criteria, and source appropriate funding.
- 4. Notification of funding success.** You will be notified by mail regarding the success of your Expression of Interest by late March. If successful, you will be sent a letter of offer and funding agreement. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified and their Expressions of Interest will be reconsidered for funding the following year.
- 5. Commence project.** You are ready to begin your project. All projects must be completed by late December, unless otherwise approved by Heytesbury & District Landcare Network.
- 6. Final inspection.** Following completion of your project, the project site will be inspected.

WHAT PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES WILL BE FUNDED?

The Heytesbury & District Landcare Network will fund;

- Protection, enhancement or linking of existing native vegetation;
- The planting of local native vegetation for biodiversity, shelterbelts, waterway protection, erosion control, salinity management, or educational reasons; and
- Other projects, depending on the availability of suitable funding and resources, and potential benefits to natural resource management and the local community.

Eligible items for funding include;

- Direct seed (*Contractor labour & purchase of seed, but not generally site preparation costs*)
- Native seedlings
- Seedling guards
- Fencing materials (*offered as a per metre reimbursement paid following successful completion of works to an adequate standard*)
- Other items as approved by the Heytesbury & District Landcare Network.

Fencing guidelines

For projects involving fencing, a per metre fencing rate is offered depending on the fence type. Landcare cannot fund the use of barb-wire, and will only fund fences with less than 3 wires where special approval has been granted.

Fence type	Reimbursement rate (per metre)*
Standard: 5 plain wire fence	\$2.00/ metre
4 plain wire fence	\$1.50/metre
3 plain wire fence	\$1.00/ metre
Ringlock fencing	\$2.50/ metre
Fencing remnant vegetation	Add an extra 0.30c per metre onto fencing type

NB: These reimbursement rates are given as a guide only; fencing rates may change due to available funds.

Revegetation project width guidelines

Revegetation projects must be at least 10 metres wide to receive full funding for native plants. Projects that are 7-9 metres wide will receive funding for only half of the native plants required for the project. Projects less than 7 metres wide will not be funded.

Matching contributions

All funding provided from the Heytesbury & District Landcare Network must be equally matched by the project applicant through cash contributions (i.e. purchase of herbicides) and/or in-kind contributions (i.e. labour to construct fence)

WHAT PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES WILL NOT BE FUNDED?

The following activities are **not** eligible for funding, unless the Heytesbury & District Landcare Network grants special approval;

- Projects that commenced prior to being approved;
- Site preparation activities (i.e. ploughing of direct seed sites);
- Activities that are the legal responsibility of the landholder (i.e. boundary fencing);
- Landscaping or amenity plantings, unless for a community project;
- Revegetation plantings using non-indigenous plant species (*farm forestry project are subject to Network approval*);
- Shelterbelt projects with a width less than 7 metres; and
- Projects that do not have matching contributions from the applicant.

HOW WILL MY PROJECT BE ASSESSED?

Your project will be assessed using the following criteria;

- Environmental & community benefit;
- Ability to provide long-term benefits beyond the term of funding, including providing long-term maintenance of the project site;
- Good value for money in relation to the quantity & quality of the project;
- Links to local, region and state priorities;
- Applicants who have completed DairySAT or Environmental Best Management Practices will be assessed as a higher priority;
- Landcare membership; and
- Number of times applicant has received Landcare funding.