



# 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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
- Other items as approved by the Heytesbury & District Landcare Network.

Continued over page...

## Fencing guidelines

The fencing type and number of wires used for projects must be approved by the Network and must be of a suitable standard to be stock-proof at all times. Gates may be used where appropriate (e.g. for weed control, accessibility). Generally standard fencing construction must be based on a minimum of one treated pine post every 8m, and a minimum of four wires, two of which are electric. **HDLN does not permit the use of barb-wire**, and will only allow fences with less than 4 wires where special approval has been granted. All fencing costs are to be covered by the project proponent.

## Revegetation project width guidelines

Revegetation projects must be at least 10 metres wide to receive full funding for native plants.

## 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 (e.g. fence construction and materials)

## 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 projects are subject to Network approval*);
- Shelterbelt projects with a width less than 10 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.