

Overview

Grant amount: \$1,000 (ex GST)

Number of grants: 50

The *Landcare Australia Support Grants 2016* are intended to help Landcare groups fund projects and activities which will improve the health of the environment in their local area. Groups are invited to apply for a grant of up to \$1,000 (GST exclusive) to support such projects and activities. A total of \$50,000 is available on a competitive basis.

These grants will be largely funded by Landcare Australia's Workplace Giving Program, a program that allows individuals to make regular pre-tax donations to Landcare Australia through their employer's payroll system. These generous Workplace Giving donations are combined and then applied by Landcare Australia in support of a range of activities, including distribution to Landcare groups across Australia to maximise on-ground environmental benefits.

Objective and Outcomes

Objective:

- > Enable Landcare groups to undertake effective on-ground works that will improve biodiversity and enhance sustainable land use practises.

Outcomes:

- > Protection, restoration or enhancement of the land
- > Improved capacity of Landcare groups

Timeline

28 March	Applications open
29 April	Applications close
May	Assessment
May / June	Successful groups announced
June	Funding agreements offered and executed

30 October	Groups to submit a brief report and photos
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Eligibility

- > The *Landcare Australia Support Grants 2016* program is open to all community groups across Australia that embrace the Landcare ethos, including Landcare, Bushcare, Beachcare, Dunecare, Coastcare and “Friends of” groups.
- > Schools and pre-schools are not eligible to receive funding in this program; instead they are invited to apply for a grant in the [Junior Landcare](#) stream.
- > Groups with project reports still outstanding from previous grants are ineligible for further funding until all reporting requirements are met.
- > Incomplete and late applications will not be considered.

What project activities and costs will be funded?

- > Items that support the core activities of the group (e.g. plants, tools, tree guards, machinery, etc.)
- > Items that build the capacity of the group (e.g. skills development, community engagement, etc.)

What activities and costs will not be funded?

- > Travel and accommodation
- > Food and alcohol
- > Administration costs and salaries
- > Retrospective activities

Assessment process

Landcare Australia is committed to ensuring that the assessment process for the selection of projects is fair and transparent.

The following assessment process will be undertaken for the *Landcare Australia Support Grants 2016*:

- > Stage 1: Eligibility check. Applications that are incomplete or that do not meet the eligibility criteria will be deemed unsuccessful.
- > Stage 2: Initial assessments conducted by internal Grants Team. Applications will be marked against the criteria set out in this document.

- > Stage 3: Shortlist provided to the Landcare Australia Grants Panel for review.
- > Stage 4: Successful and unsuccessful applicants notified by email.

The Landcare Australia Grants Panel consists of:

- > Two members of the Landcare Australia Strategy Forum, a group of acknowledged thought leaders and champions of the environment and/or sustainable land use, who provide expert input on future directions in education, engagement, fundraising and science.
- > Three members of Landcare Australia’s management team, representing the following areas:
 - > CEO / COO
 - > Landcare Services
 - > Corporate Partnerships / Fundraising

Landcare Australia will endeavour ensure that the geographical spread of grant recipients across states and territories is equitable. Preference will be given to groups that have not received funding from Landcare Australia in the last two years.

Assessment criteria

If a group is seeking funding for support their core activities or capacity building initiatives, it will be assessed on the following criteria:

> Need	Has the group demonstrated a need for funding?
> Feasibility:	Is the proposed activity well defined, measurable, attainable and timely?
> Expected outcomes:	Will the funding enhance the capacity or skills of the group to undertake environmental projects?
> Budget:	Is the budget realistic, appropriate and value for money?
> Quality of application:	Does the submission demonstrate the group’s ability to undertake activities to a high standard?

If a group is seeking funding to undertake a specific project, the application will be assessed on the following criteria:

> Significance:	What is the group trying to protect, preserve or sustain?
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> Feasibility:	Is the project well defined, measurable, attainable, and timely?
> Expected outcomes:	Will the project deliver tangible environmental and community results?
> Budget:	Is the budget realistic, appropriate and value for money?
> Quality of application:	Does the submission demonstrate the group's ability to undertake project to a high standard?

Conditions of receiving a grant

All funding for the *Landcare Australia Support Grants 2016* will be administered by Landcare Australia.

Successful applicants must:

- > Conduct the project according to the activities and budget for which the funding was approved and received.
- > Provide a report on outcomes of the project, including how funds were spent, within three months of receiving funds.
- > Permit Landcare Australia and partners to use project report and photos for promotional purposes.

How to apply

Groups can apply for the *Landcare Australia Support Grants 2016* on the Landcare Australia Communities Portal. To submit an application:

1. Login or register as a user on the [Landcare Australia Communities Portal](#).
2. Click on '**Landcare Australia Support Grants 2016**'.
3. Click on '**Create an application for this grant**'.
4. If you wish to leave a partially completed application, press '**Save**' and log out. You can log back in and continue to edit your application form until you are ready to submit.
5. To submit your application, select the '**Is application complete?**' checkbox and press '**Save**'.
6. You will receive a confirmation email when your application has been successfully submitted.

For questions about online submissions, please refer to the FAQs tab on the Landcare Australia Communities Portal or email help@landcareaustralia.com.au .

Successful applications

A Letter of Offer which outlines the conditions of the grant will be emailed to successful groups.

Groups are required to respond to the email within 5 business days confirming that they understand and accept the grant conditions, and then log on to the [Landcare Australia Communities Portal](#) to provide banking details.