

# Media Release

## Local Landcare projects benefit communities and environment

Two Landcare groups in the Gippsland area have received a funding boost of \$10,000 each from the Esso/BHP Billiton Gippsland Basin Joint Venture through a partnership with Landcare Australia.

Warragul and District Urban Landcare and Mt Worth and District Landcare will undertake two projects, each of which will engage local community members with planting days and educational activities, while achieving significant environmental benefits.

Landcare Australia CEO, Tessa Jakszewicz, is delighted to be able to facilitate this funding boost for the Gippsland area.

“Working with business to support and fund local Landcare projects is at the heart of what Landcare Australia does, and I very much look forward to seeing the outcomes of these two fantastic projects at Moroka Reserve and Mt Worth State Park, which promise numerous environmental benefits including increased biodiversity and habitat creation for local wildlife. Importantly, the Mt Worth project includes hands-on learning opportunities for local students, educating and inspiring the next generation of Landcarers.”

“We’re thrilled to be able to partner with local Landcare groups to enhance the environment in Warragul and Mt Worth” said David Ffrench, Esso’s Replacement Pipeline Project Manager.

“Esso is currently replacing one of our key pipelines that runs from Longford to Hastings, with construction having been recently completed in the Warragul area. Being able to contribute to meaningful projects in the local community is a small gesture we can make to thank the community for their ongoing support,” he added.

Warragul and District Urban Landcare operates in the peri-urban areas of Warragul. The \$10,000 in funding received will see the group undertake improvements works at Moroka Reserve, a four-hectare reserve on Baw Baw Shire Council land. The project will establish a riparian corridor, protecting existing vegetation, minimising pest threats to the corridor, improving water quality, and the local landscape. Local community members will have the opportunity to get involved in planting 3,000 indigenous plants, and will reap the rewards of improved amenity along the waterway and walking tracks.

The Mt Worth State Park area is where Mt Worth and District Landcare’s efforts are focused, and the group will put the \$10,000 of funding towards a science project with the local primary school and a track restoration at Mt. Worth. Local students will get hands-on experiences to learn about forest ecology and natural recycling through the project, while the Landcare group will work with the Friends of Mt. Worth Park to restore the track, reducing damage and engaging locals in the improvement of the remnant forest area.

**For more information, please contact:**

Trish O’Gorman, Landcare Australia  
02 8440 8809/trish.ogorman@landcareaustralia.com.au

**About Landcare Australia**

Landcare Australia is a not-for-profit organisation with a vision of all Australians actively caring for the land and water that sustain us. For over 25 years, Landcare Australia has worked collaboratively with federal, state and local governments, corporate partners and sponsors, and individuals, to build capacity for the Landcare community to better manage Australia’s crucial land and water assets. Landcare Australia delivers hundreds of projects annually through the volunteer efforts of local community groups, indigenous groups, and the more than 5,400 Landcare and Coastcare groups that make up the Landcare movement.

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