



Welcome

It's here! Summer when the days are longer and so much more time is spent outside. Check out all the Sustainable news and events that are coming up for the season.

Captains Corner

The Captain has some exciting news! 2016 is going to start of with a bang thanks to the return of the Sustainable Living Festival!

After a year break the festival will make its much anticipated return in February with all your old favourites and a lot of new and exciting innovations.

For the first time the festival will have the theme of 'Backyard Feast' and it is planned to transform the Civic Green into a backyard to inspire what we all can do from home. In addition to this Community Groups are being asked to run an event – big or small, to get people out exploring the range of fantastic options in Warrnambool's backyard. The possibilities for this are endless!

Another new initiative to be introduced in 2016 is to turn the festival into a waste free event. This means the event will be using the Avoid/Reduce/ Reuse / Recycle principles for all aspects of the event.

We are currently working away lining up a wonderful range of speakers and workshops for our Backyard Feast and can't wait to release the program of events – we know you will be as excited as us.



Do you think you might like to have a display, run a workshop or host a Satellite event?
Please direct any enquiries to Helen Sheedy:
hsheedy@warrnambool.vic.gov.au
Or
Phone; 03 5559 4439

Upcoming Days

- 5th December – World Soil Day
- 11 December – International Mountain Day
- 02 February – World Wetlands Day
- 20 February – Sustainable Living Festival





Dreaming of a Green Christmas?

'Tis the season to commit to reduce, reuse and recycle – check out WCC's 12 Do's of Christmas:

1. Buy good quality decorations that can be reused again or make your own!
2. Set up a recycling station at your workplace Christmas party and make sure the signage is clear so that no matter how much fun everyone is having, they know where the recycling goes.
3. Give gifts with a lower environmental impact. Experiences like movie or show tickets and practical, durable items that meet a need are great options.
4. Use paper wrapping and reuse or recycle it afterwards. For extra points, choose recycled content paper.
5. Plan ahead to prevent food wastage. For tips on serving sizes, the best way to store food, and recipes that use leftovers, visit LoveFoodHateWaste.nsw.gov.au
6. Compost or worm farm your unavoidable food scraps.
7. Most food and drink packaging is recyclable.
8. Sort and flatten it to fit as much of your recyclable rubbish as possible to fit more in your bin.
9. IF you give or receive a mobile phone, make sure you recycle the old one through MobileMuster.
10. Give a recharger pack with any battery operated gifts – it'll save money and reduce the gifts impact
11. Ensure your car runs efficiently by inflating the tyres and tuning the engine, and recycle your old car oil, tyres and batteries.
12. Recycle your Christmas cards at home, or use them for arts and crafts.



RECYCLE YOUR
Christmas Tree

Recycle your Christmas tree

Once again you can dispose of your Christmas Tree in a Sustainable way, thanks to the good folk at the Community Gardens.

All trees will be mulched and reused at the Garden.

WHERE: Warrnambool Community Garden
cnr Grieve St and Grafton Rd

COST: Free!

WHEN: Tuesday 5th January
Friday 8th January
Saturday 9th January

TIME: 10am – 2pm



Christmas Trees only – no other green waste will be accepted



National Leftovers Day

Did you know that Boxing Day is National Leftovers Day? Australian's throw out a whopping \$8billion worth of edible food every year and leftovers make up 27% of this. On the day when fridges are stocked with leftovers, National Leftovers Day aims to educate people with the tools to stop this food going into Landfill.



To learn more visit www.foodwise.com.au





Great news from Swan Reserve.

The Friends of Swan Reserve (FOSR) was formed nearly 6 years ago with the aim of developing a first class native garden in the centre of Warrnambool. The site was originally home to the Saleyards and the Warrnambool & District Society for Growing Australian Plants established and maintained a native garden on the site in 1977 to compliment the new Tourist Information Centre building. Today, the building houses the Children's Services Centre and a kindergarten.

Since forming, members have worked on clearing and rejuvenating many of the old beds and establishing a new Endangered Species Bed. The overgrown Banksia Bed was opened up with a walking track so that people could easily view the great collection of Proteaceae species including banksias, hakeas and dryandras. An educational sign was installed explaining the plants that people can see in flower.

Swan Reserve has a strong indigenous connection so development needed to acknowledge the region's aboriginal heritage. A collaboration with the FOSR, Local elder, Rowe Lowe Senior and council staff, produced the design of a 'Marrang', (a circle within a circle within a circle) that recognises the six tribes from the Maar nation.

This meeting place is surrounded by Eucalyptus "Silver Princess" trees that will grow to over hang the site. Installed nearby, was a number of large message poles, specially painted with indigenous designs by local primary school with an indigenous artist. The transformed area was opened by mayor, Cr. Michael Neoh in November 2014 and has proven to be great and popular assets to the city.

A 'Biodiversity Bed' was established featuring local bush tucker and rare south west Victorian plants with funding from Nature Glenelg Trust. A further bed was established featuring a number of grass trees among other local species and a 'Dry Creek Bed' was also established.

Friends of Swan Reserve love to show the public their garden and are partnering with the Australian Plants Society and Nature Glenelg Trust to participate in the Sustainable Living Festival on Saturday 20th February. A free guided tour of the garden beds will commence at 11.00am on the day.



Summer Planting in your garden.

There are an abundance of delicious vegetables you can plant in Summer.

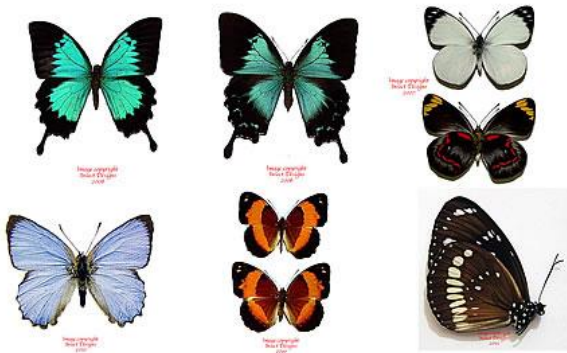
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| Beans | Leek | Beetroot |
| Broccoli | Cabbage | Chives |
| Carrot | Coriander | Cucumber |
| Lettuce | Okra | Mustard Greens |
| Oregano | Parsley | Parsnip |
| Pumpkin | Radish | Rhubarb |
| Rocket | Silverbeet | Swede |
| Turnip | Sweet Corn | Brussel Sprouts |





Attracting butterflies with native plants – Nature Glenelg Trust

Butterflies are not only beautiful creatures to have in your garden, they also play a role in pollinating plants. Come along to the Swan Reserve on the 20th February to hear butterfly expert, Bryan Haywood, speak at 12 noon about the types of butterflies you might expect in the South West. Bryan will also discuss the plants and other important components that support their lifecycles.



Information on planning a butterfly attracting garden, including garden design and suggested plant species, will be available on the day. For more information contact Rose, Nature Glenelg Trust: Rose.thompson@natureglenelg.org.au, 0437 597 685.



From Grass to Gardens – kitchen and native:

St Patricks School in Koroit has been working towards creating more variety in the school yard. The school has for a long time had a vegie patch, a few fruit trees and an abundance of grassed sports fields. So with a “greenfield” to start with, the school community has been digging and building for just over a year. With volunteered labour and making the most of donated re-useable materials the school yard now boast;



A chicken house and fenced chicken yard
An expanded orchid, 9 more trees
Two raised bed vegie/ flower boxes that also double as outdoor seating
A native garden of plant beds and gravel paths
Smart living aspects of the works include recycling, re-use and education, by;
Food scraps are making eggs, thanks to the chickens,
Re-use of old farm fence post for garden edging, has created a great rustic feel
Ongoing interaction with the gardens gets the kids into nature and hopefully instils an ongoing appreciation of it.
To quote a famous pig “everyone loves jumping up and down in muddy puddles!” and everyone at school, kids, staff and parents are really enjoying getting into the garden!



By Tim Tutt – parent and local environmental engineer





'Dinner Anyone?' – Local Meal Boxes and Bags.

Kylie Treble from The Place of Wonder is introducing her innovative idea of Local Meal Boxes.

What is the Local Meal Box?

A box containing locally sourced ingredients, cooking and preparation instructions sufficient to make a home-cooked meal for four. The box is available to annual subscribers

How often is the box available?

Once each month beginning mid May 2016

How much will it cost?

An annual subscription providing the ingredients for 48 meals (4 meals in each month's box) will cost approximately \$300.00 dollars

How do I access a box?

Meal boxes will be available to subscribers for pick up from locations across Corangamite Shire.

Is a subscription the only way to access a Meal Box?

No, a Local Meal Box will be available as a one-off purchase at selected retail outlets, markets, festivals etc.

To register a no-obligation interest in becoming a subscriber please contact The Place of Wonder info@theplaceofwonder.com.au or phone 0417 781 343

Local Meal Boxes are proudly supported by the Cobden & District Community Bank 2015 Innovative Idea of the year award.



Upcoming Sustainability Events:

Coastcare Summer by the Sea

2nd January to 27th January 2016

A full program of fun, free family friendly events relating to environment education supported by Coastcare Victoria (DELWP) and Parks Victoria and Fisheries Victoria (DEDJTR)

Full event program is available online via www.delwp.vic.gov.au

Birdlife Warrnambool – Branch outing

Sat 6th February at 2pm

Meet in the Princess Hwy carpark of Tower Hill

More info: heather & Graeme Saunders 5562 4349

Conservation Volunteer Information Sessions

2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month

Glenelg Hopkins CMA building, 241 Lava St Warrnambool

More info Hayley Pickering

warrnambool@conservationvolunteers.com.au

Green Drinks:

Green Drinks is a monthly informal networking event for anyone interested in studying or working in the environmental field.

Green Drinks are held at the Last Coach on the first Thursday of the month from 5.30pm – 7.30pm.



Contact us

If you would like more information on any of the items in the newsletter or if you wish to be removed from the mailing list please contact

Helen Sheedy (Sustainability Officer) at Warrnambool City Council on

hsheedy@warrnambool.vic.gov.au or

(03) 5559 4439

