

PERTH METRO COAST e-news

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CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

Community volunteers green the Perth metro coast

From Two Rocks in the north to Singleton in the south, community volunteers in the Perth Region NRM area have been planting natives in the coastal zone this winter. The metro planting program aims to rehabilitate priority coastal reserves within the nine local government areas that fringe the coast.

Anticipated outcomes of the planting program include reduced dune erosion, increased habitat for native fauna and increased diversity of plant life as coastal species lost from sections of the coast are re-introduced. The range of species being planted include Rottnest Island Pine (*Callitris preissii*), Dune Moses (*Acacia lasiocarpa*), Beach Spinifex (*Spinifex longifolius*), Coastal Sword-sedge (*Lepidosperma gladiatum*) and Coastal Daisybush (*Olearia axillaris*) amongst others.

While each project site has its own challenging aspects, one of the biggest this year for all sites is the late arrival of significant rain! This means that groups have either chosen to delay planting until the ground is a little wetter, or have been hand-watering their seedlings to give them a good start – which can be very time-consuming. All volunteers should be congratulated on putting such a huge effort into the planting season this year!



Community Coastcare volunteers planting at Kwinana Beach, Kwinana.



Joondalup Coastcare planting at Mullaloo Beach



Stirling Natural Environment Coastcare planting at North Beach



Community Coastcare volunteers planting at Coogee Beach, Cockburn.



Cottesloe Coastcare planting at Mudurup Rocks

Upcoming Events in 2010

North Metro Coastcare

Saturday 17 July:

Planting with JCCCF at Iluka Foreshore Reserve
9.00am

Monday 19 – Thursday 24 July:

Planting with Stirling Natural Environment Coastcare
and CVA at North Beach / Watermans Bay 9.00 –
3.00

Thursday 22 July:

Cape to Cape Sea Level Rise Workshop, Curtin
University

Sunday 1 August:

Quinns Rocks Enviro Group planting at Long Beach
Foreshore 9.00 – 1.00

Monday 16 August:

Planting with West Coastcare at Mettam's Pool 9.00

Sunday 19 September:

City of Wanneroo Environmental Festival

South Metro Coastcare

Sunday 25 July:

Planting at Golden Bay, Rockingham

Friday 27 August:

Coastal Tour for Local Government Officers

20 to 24 September:

National Coastal Conference, Adelaide

Cambridge Coastcare Coastal Tea Tree Project

Cambridge Coastcare is currently undertaking a major woody weeding program targeting Coastal Tea Tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*).

The work is funded under a Caring for our Country Community Coastcare Grant and forms part of Cambridge Coastcare's long term goal to eradicate Coastal Tea Tree from the coastal zone of the Town of Cambridge.

Coastal Tea Tree, with its dense, bushy habit tends to form vast monocultures that exclude all native vegetation. More than 80 adult plants, many exceeding 3 m in height have been removed from three target sites identified within the Town of Cambridge's Coastal Natural Areas Environmental Management Plan.

Cambridge Coastcare members and volunteers are this winter planting local dune species in the areas where the Tea Tree has been removed.



After Tea Tree removal



Coastal Tea Tree within the Town of Cambridge



Tea Tree site 7 months after removal and planting

Caring for the Coast

Caring for the Coast is a BHP Billiton – Nickel West sponsored project implemented by the South Metro Coastcare Officer in association with Town of Kwinana and City of Rockingham.

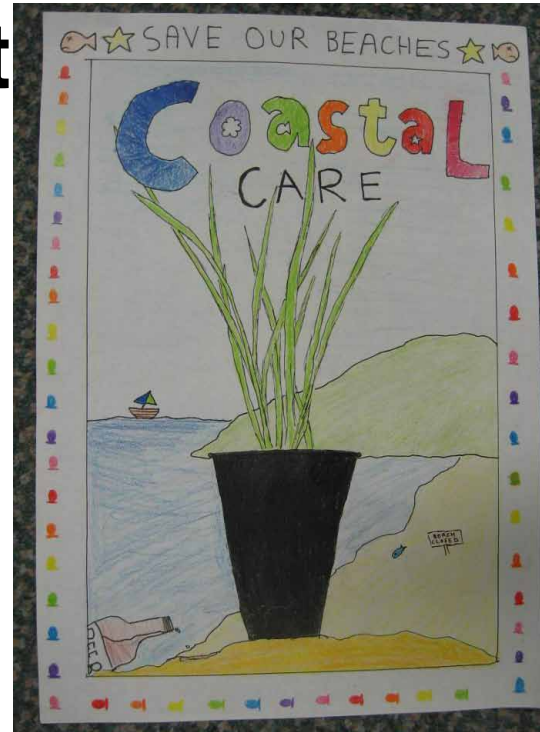
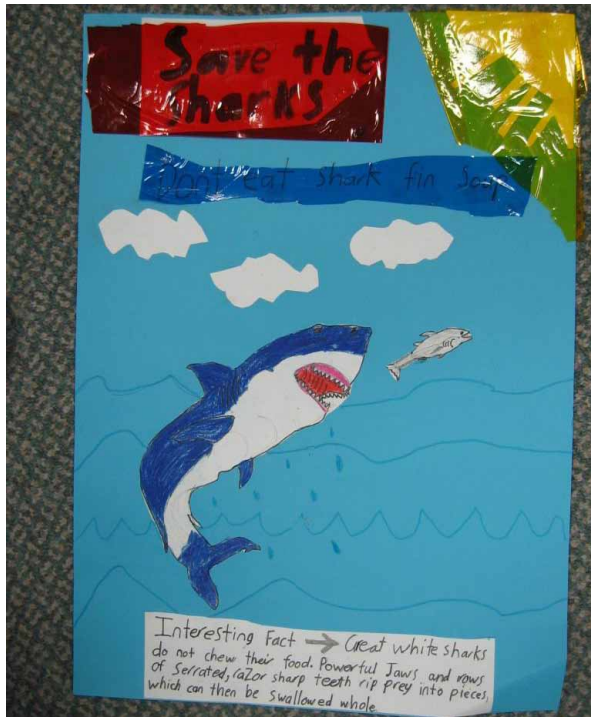
To encourage awareness of the coast a Poster Competition for Primary School students was recently completed and over 120 students from the South Metro area submitted entries.

The following winning students and their school each received a prize of a digital camera.

Category: Favourite animal or plant from the beach. Bailey Davies, Baldvis Primary School (bottom left)

Category: Protect the beach from erosion or sea level rise. Jeannie Wotherspoon, Fremantle Primary School (top right)

Category: Reduce littering and pollution from the beach. Calib Bornhede, Leda Education Support Centre (bottom right)



Indigenous tour of Coogee Beach

Twenty community members were treated to a fascinating guided walk by indigenous elder Noel Morrison. After a heart warming Welcome to Country, participants were invited to sing along with Noel and to celebrate the rich indigenous history of the Coogee Beach area. Noel spoke of how Aboriginal people would move from wetlands in the east westward to the coast in search of seasonal food. Participants learnt about bush tucker plants such as Bain (Pigface) and Kerbein (Coastal Sword Sedge) and how the seasons would dictate movement through the landscape. Noel told stories of the creation enthraling participants while enjoying the natural coastal scenery.

City of Cockburn Mayor Logan Howlett attended the event and commented on the importance of holding cross cultural activities such as the tour. At the end of the walk, participants came together for morning tea and the opportunity to ask Noel questions. This activity was supported by Caring for Our Country as part of the Coogee Beach Dune Rehabilitation project run by the City of Cockburn.



Noel Morrison, centre, guiding the tour at Coogee Beach.

Stirling Natural Environment Coastcare –National Landcare Finalists 2010

Stirling Natural Environment Coastcare were the deserving winners of the State Landcare Awards (Coastcare category) for 2009/2010 – this achievement meant they progressed to become finalists in the National Awards, which were presented at a ceremony held at Parliament House, Canberra on Thursday 24 June.

This year the ceremony celebrated 20 years of community environmental volunteering in Australia, with 88 individual and group projects in the running for a prestigious award.

Unfortunately SNEC were not the overall winners on the day, however Rae Kolb (Convener of SNEC) was able to take the trip over to Canberra on the group's behalf to deliver a presentation of the group's projects, and to later attend the Awards ceremony. Rae was able to meet and network with many other environmental volunteers and hear all about the other State Coastcare Award winning projects. She also met up with other WA Landcare award winners and heard the top project award winners from around Australia telling their stories. Rae said it was a terrific and energizing experience, and an honour to be in such excellent company. She enjoyed herself thoroughly and has come back feeling inspired! Maybe next time we will have a WA winner...



National Coastcare Award finalists

KIC Coastal Short Film and Photo Competition 2010

The competition, sponsored by the Kwinana Industries Council, provided an opportunity for amateur photographers in the south metro area to submit entries that capture diverse aspects of the coast.

Over 50 entries were received covering a wide range of coastal locations, plants, animals and people interacting with their coastal environment. Feedback from the entrants was positive with many people recounting the enjoyment they received from their interaction with the coastal environment.

Winning and selected entries will go on tour in the Kwinana and Rockingham areas to highlight the beauty of the local coast. Fran Rhodes and India Martin-Cogger were the winners in the short film section with their depictions of coastal life at Kwinana and Rockingham.



Winner Open Category: A.A. Los Banos



Competition winners from left Oceana Scarrott, A.A. Los Banos, India Martin –Cogger, KIC Director Chris Oughton and Kaye Gordon



Winner Student Category: Oceana Scarrott



Winner Mobile Phone Category: Kaye Gordon