

Northern Bendigo Landcare Group

Volunteer Skills and Interests Form

*It is important to us that volunteers are able to communicate their interests, along with skills that they have or would like to gain. This helps us match volunteers to activities more effectively and ensures volunteers feel valued, needed and rewarded for their efforts.*

Please complete the form and return to dnhowie@bigpond.com ; or bring along to a meeting; 4th Wednesday in Jan, March, May, July, September and November

It will then be placed in the group’s confidential Volunteer Register.

**Personal Details**

Mr Mrs  Miss  Ms **Age**  16 – 29  30 – 49  50 – 69  70+

**Name ­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Home Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ When necessary, can we text you ? \_\_\_\_\_**

**How did you find out about volunteering with us ? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**How often would you like to volunteer ?**  Regularly  Sometimes  One off \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred volunteering times** Week days Weekends (Sat or Sun ?)  School holidays

**Skills / Experience**

**List the skills / experience you feel you could contribute to our Landcare group:**

**List the skills / experience you would like to develop through volunteering with our Landcare Group:**

**Interests**  **Tick the activities below that you would be interested in assisting with: (see overleaf for explanations)**

Rubbish Clean Ups Community events  Seed Collection

Propagation Public Space projects Citizen Science surveys

Nest Box building/monitoring Project Planning Youth events/workshops

Revegetation Pest plants and animals  Promotion/publications

Administrative tasks Native Gardening Cultural connections

**Rubbish Clean ups** – Our group participates in Keep Australia Beautiful’s Adopt-A-Roadside program. We clean up our adopted section of the Midland Highway, north of Huntly, four times per year (Feb, May, Aug, Nov). We meet at the roadside stop approximately 6km north of the Huntly Post Office. We provide the collection bags, gloves, hi-vis vests, hand-held rubbish grabbers and utes. You bring yourself, water bottle, hat, sunscreen and wear sturdy shoes. We spend 1.5hrs on site.

Remember, if you are willing to help out, you can choose your level of involvement ranging from participation, to assisting with organisation or maybe even full organisation. When needed, training will be provided.

**Community events -**  Our group has held several successful community events ranging from a Sustainable Living Field Day and Huntly Cemetery 140th Anniversary Commemoration Day through to treeplanting days and field days at our Bendigo Creek Restoration site. Organisation might include planning the program, booking speakers, arranging catering / toilet hire / transport / venue hire, advertising and all aspects of running the actual day.

**Seed Collection –** Currently, we collect Whirrakee Wattle seed each year in December / January. We also hope to collect other species indigenous to our area, including grasses.

**Propagation –** Our group owns a shadehouse and we currently propagate Whirrakee Wattle seed each year both in-group and with students of Huntly Primary School. This usually occurs in August. If possible, we would like to experiment with propagating other species as well.

**Native Gardening –** We have installed the Huntly Community Indigenous Demonstration Garden (beside the Huntly General Store) and worked with Huntly Fire Brigade, Huntly Kinder and Huntly PS to plant native gardens. We are open to other opportunities to develop native gardens in public places and they need maintenance from time to time.

**Citizen Science Surveys -** We currently monitor one site on Bendigo Creek each month as part of the North Central Waterwatch program. Other sites could be included if we had more volunteers. Other opportunities include flora and fauna surveys with the INaturalist App, bird surveys with the Birdata App, etc.

**Nest Box Building / Monitoring –** We have many nest boxes installed in our area for birds and mammals and these need to be mapped, maintained and monitored with a special nestbox inspection camera our group owns.

**Project Planning –** We are always keen to have help with project planning. This might involve identifying problem areas in our district or opportunities for events/collaborations, devising plans of attack and sourcing funding.

**Youth events /workshops –** Our group has conducted lots of field days, talks and hands-on activities with youth ranging from kinder children, primary school groups and TAFE / BTEC students to Cubs groups and the Family Nature Club. Organisation might include liaising with groups, planning activities, gathering equipment, running the event.

**Revegetation –** Treeplanting and enhancing understorey is a big part of what we do. We need willing workers to be involved in site preparation, the actual planting and ongoing maintenance including watering and guard removal.

**Pest plant and animal control –** We currently employ a contractor to do the big jobs in our Bendigo Creek Restoration Project but there are often other jobs such as follow up spraying, weed control ahead of revegetation, rabbit surveys, ongoing monitoring and good old hand pulling for species such as Gazania and Bindii around our communities.

**Promotion/publications –** We try to present an information display at community events and sometimes need help staffing the stall. We have developed interpretive signage and brochures in the past and have new ideas in the pipeline if this is something you like to do. We could do with some help to administer our Facebook Group.

**Administrative Tasks –** This might involve maintaining our group’s website, writing press releases, preparing advertising, keeping monitoring records, completing OHS paperwork, etc

**Public Space projects –** Huntly and Epsom are growing and there are opportunities to help develop and green our public spaces; creek corridors, bike paths, bushland reserves, wetlands, town squares, etc.

**Cultural Connections –** We would like to expand our capacity to embed cultural perspectives into our on-ground works, events, projects and publications by connecting with [Djaara (Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation).](https://djadjawurrung.com.au/)