

29 July 2010

Bush regeneration team leads National Tree Day plantings

One of Shoalhaven City Council's crack Bush Regeneration Teams will take part in two tree plantings on National Tree Day on Saturday 1 August at Bendalong and Ulladulla's Warden Headland.

Ronnie Carberry and Edward Farrell from the Jerrinja Aboriginal Community have been employed as Bush Regenerators with Council for two years. The team has worked on several bush regeneration projects including Mt Coolangatta, Shoalhaven Heads, Culburra Beach, North Nowra, St Georges Basin and Bendalong.

Both have completed their Conservation Land Management Certificates through TAFE and together they have regenerated more than 100 hectares of public reserves in the City.

"These Bush Regenerators are a wonderful example of how Council and staff have been able to transform degraded land back to Australian bushland," Shoalhaven City Mayor Councillor Paul Green said. "The bush regenerators work as a team in specific areas on public reserves that Council manages. They are working to sustain these wonderful environments and to enhance the natural beauty of Shoalhaven by removing noxious and rampant weeds such as lantana on Mt Coolangatta or bitou bush from around Bendalong Headland.

"Ronnie and Edward enjoy working in these beautiful coastal areas and Council wholeheartedly supports the work as it is our responsibility to look after the land, which includes all of the native plants and animals."

Currently the Bush Regeneration team is working on a large project to regenerate areas of crown reserve surrounding the Bendalong Headland Tourist Park which includes control of lantana, bitou bush and cassia as well as other environmental weeds.

This project has received support and financial assistance from the Australian Government's Caring for Our Country Community Coastcare program and funding from Council's Holiday Haven Tourist Parks.

National Tree Day at Bendalong and Warden Head, Ulladulla

Shoalhaven City Council and Holiday Haven Tourist Parks are organising two National Tree Day community planting events in the southern Shoalhaven and are urging the community to roll up their sleeves and chip in on the day.

The Bendalong Day will be held on Sunday 1 August from 10am to 12pm at the Bendalong Boat Ramp Reserve adjacent to Sting Ray Beach at the eastern end of Boronia St.

The Warden Head day will be held at the Dancing Grounds, on Sunday 1 August 10am to 12pm with the public to meet at the Lighthouse oval car park in Deering St, Ulladulla.

There will be a BBQ lunch following both tree planting events

Council is hoping to have more than 1,000 local native trees, shrubs, grasses and groundcovers planted at both sites. The plantings will help boost the local Bushcare groups efforts already being done on the sites.

For more information on the tree planting days contact Project Officer Cate Brooks, on 0439 981 971 or Council's Shoalhaven Bushcare Coordinator Alasdair Stratton on (02) 4429 3592.

All participants are asked to wear long pants, covered boots, a hat and bring gloves. All other tools for the plantings will be provided by Council.

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