

## Landcare / Lantana Report

Tabled at 12<sup>th</sup> October 2016  
Executive Committee Meeting

Since the first meeting of the Nangarin Landcare Group held 4<sup>th</sup> June 2016 much has progressed in our efforts to regenerate the bushland corridors within the Nangarin Estate.

We currently have ten enthusiastic residents as members of the Nangarin Landcare Group, affectionately known as “Nangarin Weed Warriors”, who generally meet at 9:00AM on the first Saturday of each month for a three-hour working bee to hand remove and treat lantana. To date our Landcare team has generously volunteered a total of 85 hours to removing lantana from the bushland corridor adjacent to The Grange.

The Landcare Group has met on two occasions with officers from Local Land Services (NSW) [LLS] for advice on ‘best practice’ treatment techniques and identification of weeds. LLS have assisted with providing herbicide applicators and a first aid kit to complement the tools purchased with Landcare funding (\$2000) approved by the EC.

LLS also provided information and advice on Landcare Grants available under ‘Greater Sydney Community Landcare Grants – Round 3’. The Nangarin Landcare Group submitted an ‘Expression of Interest – Stage 1’ for a Grant to remove Lantana and other invasive weeds and to assist in the regeneration of native species endemic to the ecology of Cumberland Plain Woodland (3.8 ha).

Our Grant application is a finalist in the first stage of assessment and shortlisted for preparation of a detailed project plan, with the assistance of Peter Ridgeway from LLS. Applicants will be notified in November as to whether they have been successful and what funding is approved from this round of Grants.

Our Nangarin Landcare Group would welcome the involvement of other residents to assist either occasionally or on a regular basis to ensure we have coverage of times when team members are away.



*Attacking areas of mature lantana using ‘cut & paint’ technique.*



*Cut lantana is stacked to dry out before crushing at a later time.*



*Work is undertaken in pairs for removal of isolated pockets.*

We have found that the three hours work is not exhaustive, but very effective and satisfying in what can be achieved. Sessions have proved to be a great way to get to know other residents; it's not all work, we enjoy the social breaks for morning tea and the occasional BBQ lunch and chat.

The next session is scheduled for Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October at 9:00AM, meeting point is the picnic table at the top of The Grange. For more information please contact Reg Collins ([regcol39@gmail.com](mailto:regcol39@gmail.com)).

**Pile Burn**

A burn permit was granted by WSC for piles in the open area behind the STP during the non-fire season. Lakesland RFS inspected the piles and were satisfied the timber is sufficiently dry and suitably placed to burn. However, weather conditions and availability of the Lakesland crew have not coincided during the non-fire season. One reason for the delay relates to the wetness of the track beside the STP and the RFS are concerned that vehicles may become bogged. It is recommended the EC consider the possibility of a compacted rubble covering of this strip to enable all- weather access.

We have now applied to Council for a permit to burn during the fire season and Lakesland RFS will arrange for the necessary RFS permit to burn. It is intended the Community Fire Unit will assist with the burn.

*Reg Collins 6/10/2016*



*Social side of the day with an ad hoc BBQ after the work is done.*



*Map of Lantana removal by Landcare Group as at 2/10/2016*



*Nangarin 'Weed Warriors'*