

Welcome to Term 2

Welcome to the second term of the year.

This edition includes loads of opportunities for teachers, early years educators, students and school gardeners to get involved with events and workshops happening in our catchment including SERCUL's Freshwater Fauna PD Workshop coming up in June which we encourage you to attend. We also showcase dragonflies and damselflies which are found around our waterways and are quite often mistaken for each other.

Do you teach at a school in the City of Swan? If yes, then we can present free incursions at your school. Check out page 2 for details.

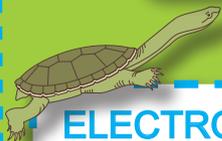
Planting season is not far away. If you would like some plants for your school bushland or would like to organise a planting session at a local rehab site then contact me now!

Amy Krupa

Phosphorus Awareness Project

Like SERCUL on Facebook and keep up-to-date with everything that is happening in landcare.

facebook 



ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

If you would like to receive this valuable resource straight into your Inbox early each term, please go to www.sercul.org.au/signup/ and subscribe to the Education Newsletter.

Please pass this information onto your colleagues. The more environmental educators we have, the happier our planet will be!

Planting Season

It's time to get dirty and help our environment!



At SERCUL we have a number of sites available where students can participate in a hands-on educational hour, half day or full day, depending on the time you have available. Not only will students be improving their local community but they will learn about the benefits of planting local native species including increasing the biodiversity of the area, creating habitat for native animals, helping to combat climate change and air pollution and improving the health of rivers and wetlands.

To get your class involved in a planting session, either at a local site, or a bushland or wetland area on your school grounds please contact:

Amy on 9458 5664
amykrupa@sercul.org.au



This year we have a limited number of bush tucker species available so if you are considering putting in a bush tucker garden at your school contact us now! This planting could coincide with a special day such as Arbor Day or Schools Tree Day (28 July). You can also organise a planting event at any time convenient to your class. All plants, equipment and fun provided.

It will be first in best dressed!

What's Happening in Term 2?

Places Still Available!

Clean Schools Workshops

This FREE PL session is for primary and secondary schools wanting to learn how to change littering behaviour at school. The Clean Schools program provides a step-by-step guide on how to run a whole school litter prevention campaign. As an added incentive, Keep Australia Beautiful offers a half-day teacher relief subsidy for up to two teachers per school to attend.

Metro Workshop

Monday 1 May
1-4pm
Emmanuel Catholic College,
122 Hammond Rd, Success, WA 6164
Register [here](#)

Webinar

Thursday 25 May
1-3pm
Register [here](#)

Please contact
Sam Culbertson for further information -
samantha.culbertson@kabc.wa.gov.au



CONSTAWA Conference

CONSTAWA is a relaxed and encouraging forum for primary and secondary science educators to exchange ideas and share resources, techniques and professional experiences.

CONSTAWA starts on Friday afternoon with a STEM Forum chaired by Prof. Mark Hackling with panel members from the Governors School STEM Award winning primary and secondary schools.

Friday 12 May 2017, 12:00pm -
Saturday 13 May 2017, 5:30pm

North Metropolitan TAFE, East Perth

To register click [here](#)

For further information go to:
stawa.net/conferences/


SCIENCE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Algae Busters Page

Phosphorus Awareness Project Resources for Schools

The Phosphorus Awareness Project is concerned about the high levels of nutrients that are causing the growth of algal blooms in the Swan and Canning Rivers and associated wetlands. The project offers opportunities to school and youth groups including:

- **Algae Buster Incursions** are interactive, fun programs where students learn about catchments, nutrients and algae through a catchment story or river food web.
- **Building a Frog Habitat** is a must have incursion if a school is considering building a frog habitat. Students learn about the frogs of the Perth Region and listen to their calls. All the essential elements in constructing a frog habitat is also covered.
- **Go Fish!** allows students to learn about the diversity of fish that live in our local waterways and what we can do to protect our native fish.
- **Clean Drains River Gains** allows students to learn about the links between drains and pollution through stencilling drains at school.
- **Planting Opportunities** allow students to plant local native species into rehabilitation sites and learn why this is important (available Jun–Oct).



- **Resource Sheets** are available based around the nutrient issue.
- **Nutrient Display** explains the problem, cause and solution to nutrients and algal blooms in our rivers in a colourful display.

For further information or to book an incursion or a display to be set up in your school please contact:
Amy Krupa on 9458 5664
or email amykrupa@sercul.org.au



FREE Freshwater Fauna PD Workshop

The South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare (SERCUL) and the Department of Parks and Wildlife are delighted to invite you to a FREE Freshwater Fauna Professional Development Workshop. Through funding from the Rivers and Estuaries Division, Department of Parks and Wildlife (who manage and protect the Swan-Canning Riverpark) we are able to provide this free PD workshop.

When: Tuesday 6th June 2017, 4.00pm - 6.00pm

Where: Woodlands Reserve Interpretive Centre, Whiteman Park



During this two hour workshop teachers will learn about the freshwater fauna species that live in our freshwater ecosystems, including Bennett Brook, through interactive activities. 'A Teacher's Guide to Freshwater Fishes, Crayfishes and Mussels of South-Western Australia' year level booklets will be showcased and teachers will learn how to implement this curriculum linked resource into their classroom (includes one Teacher Guide package valued at up to \$180 per school). Please refer to the flier attached to this newsletter for further details about this workshop. This workshop is for teachers in Years 1 - 10 and for Science/Environmental Coordinators. There is a limit of two teachers per school but if other teachers at your school are interested in attending please get them to register and if space is available they may be able to attend.

RSVP to Amy Krupa on 9458 5664 or amykrupa@sercul.org.au



FREE Incursions for City of Swan Schools

Do you teach at a school in the City of Swan? If yes, then SERCUL's Phosphorus Awareness Project can present FREE *incursions* to any year level at your school. All of the incursions are linked to the curriculum and teach students how to look after our waterways, such as Bennett Brook, or about the animals and plants that live in our waterways. These incursions can be presented at any time suitable for your school. There is a limit of four incursions per school but if other teachers at your school are interested in these incursions then we may be able to accommodate them.

The Phosphorus Awareness Project is being implemented in and near the Bennett Brook catchment through funding from the Department of Parks and Wildlife. The Bennett Brook flows into the Swan River and contributes nutrients to the river. We are educating the local community and school children about how to reduce nutrient levels.

Contact Amy Krupa on 9458 5664 or amykrupa@sercul.org.au to book an incursion.

School Gardener Training

The School Gardener Waterwise Training Course is specifically tailored for a school ground environment and covers a general understanding of waterwise and fertilise wise best practice within the horticultural and landscaping industry. This two day training course is applicable to school gardeners at any level.



5 & 12 July 2017

Department of Education, Statewide Services Centre,

33 Giles Ave, Padbury

8am – 4pm (lunch is provided)

The course is FREE for Waterwise Schools. For non-participating Waterwise Schools or if more than 1 gardener from your Waterwise School would like to attend, you will need to pay the course fee of \$284.66 (including GST).

Go to www.watercorporation.com.au/home/education/events/school-gardener-training for registration details.



Little Green Steps WA

- supporting education for sustainability in the early years

Little Green Steps WA (LGS WA) is a not for profit program that supports Education for Sustainability (EFS) in early learning centres in Western Australia. This includes childcare centres, preschools, family day care, kindergartens, after school care and long day care services for children aged 0-8 years.

LGS WA has a number of workshops coming up that may be of interest to you and your centre:

Reducing Waste Together Workshops

4th May, 3.00pm - 6.00pm, Unicare, Nedlands

Presented by the Waste Authority, this workshop is free for early years service educators in the Western Metropolitan Regional Council area: Nedlands, Subiaco, Mt Claremont and Swanbourne.

5th June, 4.30pm - 7.15pm, Mindarie Waste Education Centre

Presented by the Waste Authority, this workshop is free and is for early years service educators in the Towns of Cambridge and Victoria Park and the Cities of Perth, Vincent, Stirling, Wanneroo and Joondalup.

Learn about waste and the problems it can cause; see what happens to waste after it goes into the recycling bin; explore links to the NQS, EYLF and Australian Curriculum; hear what others are doing to reduce waste in their early childhood services; and take away a free electronic copy of the Reducing Waste Together Kit.

Day to Day Sustainability in Early Years Settings Workshops

27th April, 9.30am - 1.30pm, Nido Early School, Willétton

This workshop is free to attend for early childhood professionals from the City of Canning.

11th & 18th May, 2 x split evening sessions, 6.30pm - 8.45pm, Bibra Lake

This workshop runs over two Thursday evenings and is free for early childhood professionals from the City of Cockburn.

Using a holistic approach, explore the ecological footprint and social handprint, waste solutions relative to your local area, green cleaning and connecting children with nature.

To find out more about any of the above workshops and to register now go to:
www.littlegreensteps.wa.org.au/events

Little Green Steps WA is a program proudly run by the Australian Association for Environmental Education (WA Chapter) and supported by SERCUL.

BEES Day

The Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences Day (BEES Day) is a one day event on Friday 8th September 2017 for Year 9, 10 and 11 students that showcases some of the exciting careers and investigations that are related to these subjects. It is designed to increase students' awareness about the wide range of opportunities available through studying these sciences and motivate students to consider these when making their subject selections.

It is held at North Metropolitan TAFE, 140 Royal Street, East Perth and is supported by the Australian Association for Environmental Education WA Chapter.

Please register your schools interest at:
business.erc@nmtafe.wa.edu.au



Canning River Eco Education Centre

CREEC offers a number of K-Yr 12 programs which allows students to learn about the local natural environment in interactive ways.

NEW Middle Childhood Weir-d Science

The Kent Street Weir on the Canning River provides a unique location to compare two river ecosystems.



Students have the opportunity to investigate the role of the Weir, how it has altered the river system and how plants and animals have adapted to changes in the physical environment.

\$7 per student (1.5 hrs)

NEW Early Adolescence Rivers at Risk

Students are introduced to natural and ecological hazards associated with river systems within an urban catchment such as drought, introduced species and eutrophication.

\$7 per student (1.5 hrs)

Woodloes Homestead

Looking for an excursion that links with local history? Woodloes Homestead in Cannington is a wonderful example of a traditional colonial home built in the 1870's.

Guided tours and curriculum-linked resources are available to schools.

Contact CREEC for school bookings, contact details are below.



Contact CREEC Education Officer,
Hayley Bullimore on 9461 7160 or
creec@canning.wa.gov.au
to book your excursion now!



SERCUL

South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare

ALGAE BUSTER



PHOSPHORUS
AWARENESS
PROJECT

The SERCUL Educators wish to thank our major sponsor.



Department of
Parks and Wildlife



SWAN CANNING
RIVERPARK

SERCUL is a proud member of:



SUSTAINABLE
SCHOOLS WA



AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
(VIA CHAPTER)

For further information please contact:

Amy Krupa

Education and Promotion Manager
amykrupa@sercul.org.au

P| 9458 5664

W| www.sercul.org.au

1 Horley Road, Beckenham, WA

Important Dates – Term 2, 2017

24 Apr	First Day of Term 2
7-13 May	International Compost Awareness Week http://www.compostweek.com.au/core/
10 May	World Migratory Bird Day http://www.worldmigratorybirdday.org/
23 May	World Turtle Day https://www.worldturtleday.org/
27 May-3 Jun	National Reconciliation Week http://www.reconciliation.org.au/nrw/what-is-nrw/
5th Jun	World Environment Day http://www.un.org/en/events/environmentday/
8th Jun	World Oceans Day http://www.un.org/en/events/oceansday/
30 Jun	Last Day of Term 2
2-9 Jul	NAIDOC Week http://www.naidoc.org.au/
28 Jul	Schools Tree Day http://treeday.planetark.org/schools/index.cfm



Mildew Mania 2017 - Citizen Science Project

Curtin University would like to invite schools to help with an ongoing citizen-science research project aimed at protecting West Australia's barley and wheat crops from the damaging effect of powdery mildew disease. We are looking for keen students and teachers to help us again this year.



When: May - November 2017

Who: Primary and secondary classes

Cost: Free. Schools will have to supply ~\$30 of equipment

Registrations: mildewmania2017.eventbrite.com.au

Please note - we are working on one kit per registered group. Registrations close end of April.

For more information go to mildewmania.com.au/ or email scienceoutreach@curtin.edu.au

Did You Know?

Dragonflies and damselflies are large, conspicuous insects often found close to fresh water. The Order Odonata is divided into two suborders, the Anisoptera containing the dragonflies, and the Zygoptera containing the damselflies.

There are over 6,000 species worldwide and 320 species known from Australia. The larvae are aquatic or semi-aquatic and are known as nymphs or mud-eyes. Both adults and larvae are predatory. Adults are often found close to water, where they hunt flying insects. Adults' legs point forward, forming a basket to capture prey in mid-flight.

Dragonflies are generally more powerful fliers than damselflies and most dragonflies have large eyes that almost meet at the top of their head. Damselflies often rest with their wings folded along their backs. Dragonflies usually rest with their wings held straight out from their body.

Some dragonflies live for more than a year. Nymphs can live for 40 days to seven years! When the development is finished and the weather is warm, the nymph crawls out of the water up the stem of a plant. At this time it metamorphosis into a dragonfly. It sheds its skin onto the plant stem to emerge as a dragonfly. The skin left behind is called the 'exuvia'!

