

Carbon comes to town: Landcare CarbonSMART forum for landholders

Australia's leading not-for-profit carbon trading organisation, Landcare CarbonSMART, is launching in the Riverina and South West Slopes region of NSW with an information session for landholders taking place on 27 October at Wagga Wagga's Business Enterprise Centre.

The forum will show how easy it is for landholders to enter the realm of carbon trading, carbon sequestration and carbon offsetting, notions that are gaining more currency as the debate over climate change and the impact of emissions intensifies.

"Our information sessions will outline Landcare CarbonSMART, a program that offers landholders the opportunity to enter the growing carbon trading market in a manner that is no-cost, low-risk and low-management," says Landcare CarbonSMART Managing Director, Matthew Reddy.

"We believe the Landcare CarbonSMART model of assisting rural landholders to regenerate land parcels not being used for agriculture is the best model out there. Not only does it deliver the landholder an income stream from carbon credits, it also delivers the inherent benefits of revegetation including stock and crop protection, improvement of erosion and soil salinity problems and invigorated biodiversity, all of which promotes greater productivity on the land."

Reddy says that the information sessions will offer a good general grounding in the overall concepts of carbon trading and the basic premises behind the market, giving landholders a broader understanding and so ability to engage the market with confidence.

Australia's only double-accredited not for profit carbon management organisation, Landcare CarbonSMART provides financial incentive for landholders to maintain eligible carbon credit vegetation on their land. The amount of carbon absorbed by vegetation is calculated and sold to individuals and businesses to help them take responsibility for carbon emissions. Uniquely, landowners retain ownership of the carbon and can exit the partnership at any stage.

Landcare CarbonSMART operates as a carbon pool with a majority percentage of sales paid to the landholder, a percentage to a reserve fund (in case of vegetation failure or unavoidable destruction cause by fire or disease) and a percentage to the management and operation of the pool.

Landholders receive annual payments and when the price of carbon rises, so too will payments to landholders. The global carbon market is expected to be worth US\$3.1 trillion by 2020 according to energy and environmental market forecaster Point Carbon (www.pointcarbon.com).

An initiative of Landcare Australia Limited, Landcare CarbonSMART was launched in March 2007 and now operates in all states and territories.

Landcare Australia is a not-for-profit organisation that supports landcare, the country's biggest environmental volunteer movement. Landcare CarbonSMART is supported by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, along with corporate supporters Westpac, Holden, Elders, Kraft and Freehills.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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INFORMATION SESSION DETAILS

Landcare CarbonSMART event held for landholders located across the Riverina and South West Slopes region of NSW.

DATE: Monday, 27th October
TIME: 7:00pm-8:30pm Training Room 1
LOCATION: Wagga Wagga Business Enterprise Centre
66-70 Coleman Street
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

Please RSVP to: Mari Le Grange
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(02) 9412 1040
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*******MEDIA ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND*******
Managing Director Matt Reddy and
Landcare CarbonSMART assessors will be on hand for interviews

FOR MORE INFORMATION: **Matt Reddy, Managing Director**, Landcare CarbonSMART
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Landcare CarbonSMART. Rewarding revegetation across Australia.

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