



# 2017 Greater Sydney Regional Landcare Awards

## Categories and Selection Criteria

### About the awards

Welcome to this year's Regional Landcare Awards. If you are involved in protecting or improving your local environment, farm, coastline, bushland, wetland, waterway, school, region, catchment or backyard, there is a category in this year's awards to suit you.

### How to nominate

To nominate, please click on awards category link below to submit an entry.

### **PLEASE NOTE YOU CANNOT SAVE AND RESUME THE NOMINATION FORM.**

Please work on your nomination offline and then cut and paste your response to each criterion in one sitting. Each selection criteria has a strict 300 word limit.

Details of the selection criteria for each category are provided below.

Microsoft Word versions of nominations will also be accepted but they must strictly adhere to the 300 word limit for each criterion.

Each nomination also allows you to upload up to five pieces of supporting documentation and requires the details of two referees.

Entries close on 30 April 2017. Winners will be announced at the Greater Sydney Regional Landcare Bushcare Forum held at Taronga Zoo on Friday 20th May 2017.

All category winners will be nominated up to the New South Wales Landcare Awards to be held in Albury in October 2017.

If you have any issues or questions please contact Vanessa Keyzer, Greater Sydney Local Land Services Regional Landcare Facilitator, on (02) 4724 2118 or email [vanessa.keyzer@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:vanessa.keyzer@lls.nsw.gov.au)

## Categories & Selection Criteria

**Individual Landcarer** - This award will be made to an individual volunteer who carries out and promotes Landcare through practical on-ground or community awareness activities.

Selection Criteria:

1. Demonstrate how the individual has implemented Landcare activities and has helped others to implement Landcare activities in their area.
2. How has the individual encouraged others to be involved in Landcare activities? (e.g. by speaking about Landcare to schools, media, landholders, groups, councils etc)
3. How has the individual assisted in training and helping others in the development of skills for the Landcare activities undertaken?
4. Provide examples of how the individual has been a champion for Landcare, either through their achievements with Landcare projects or in a primary role in the planning and organisation associated with Landcare projects.
5. Describe any challenges the individual has faced in the development and implementation of Landcare projects and the strategies they used to overcome these challenges.

**Government Partnerships with Landcare** - This award will be made to a local or regional authority for innovation and excellence in creating partnerships with their Landcare community. Local or regional authorities in this award category may include a local council, natural resource management regional body, or another local or regional agency.

Selection Criteria:

1. How has the organisation or authority developed strong partnerships with Landcare groups/networks to ensure community engagement and involvement in achieving outstanding natural resource management outcomes? You will need to include a copy of or excerpt from your authority's engagement and communication strategy.
2. Describe how the organisation or authority has engaged with Landcare or community groups in innovative ways to support or address its priorities.
3. Demonstrate how the organisation or authority used a multi-disciplinary approach in planning and partnership development. The authority should show how they have incorporated environmental/production, community/social and financial strategies for achieving outstanding natural resource management outcomes.
4. How has the organisation or authority linked Landcare initiatives with other groups or programs including other agencies, businesses, organisations, neighbours, schools and community groups? Provide copies or excerpts from plans and / or list cooperative projects.
5. Applicants must include two letters from Landcare groups/networks that acknowledge how the organisation or authority has partnered with the group/network to improve capacity and increase participation in on-ground work.

**Landcare Community Group** - This award will be made to an outstanding community group that is working towards sustainable land use and/or is undertaking on-ground action to protect, enhance or restore an area on behalf of the community.

*Selection Criteria:*

1. Demonstrate how the group has developed a cutting-edge approach or process to achieve outstanding environmental outcomes.
2. Show how the group has used comprehensive plans, as a basis for their group's activities. Include a copy of these plans and demonstrate the physical, strategic management or other attributes of the group. Plans may include property and/or group and/or catchment plans.
3. Provide examples of how the group has repaired degraded land/environments, prevented degradation and/or has achieved some on-farm and/or community benefit from its on-ground activities.
4. Show how the group has sought advice, worked with and involved the wider community, other Landcare/community groups, government, business and schools, in the development and implementation of its plans.
5. Demonstrate how the group has shared and communicated its ideas, plans, skills, and results (e.g., through field days or education campaigns), to encourage others (i.e. not involved in the group) to participate in Landcare practices and projects.
6. Describe any challenges the group has faced in the development and implementation of cutting-edge Landcare practices or projects, and the strategies used to address these challenges.

**Junior Landcare Team** - This award will be made to a youth organisation or young Landcare team that contributes to raising awareness, knowledge and understanding of Landcare amongst young people up to the age of 18, and implements Landcare practices on its own property or within the local community. For this award, youth organisations include primary schools, secondary schools and youth groups such as scouts.

*Selection Criteria:*

1. How has the organisation's activities led to an improved understanding among their team members and/or the community about environmental issues and further developed skills to better manage the challenges associated with these issues?
2. Provide examples of projects that the team has implemented that have inspired their school, group or community to extend their learning and skills-development classes into practical on-ground activity.
3. How has the team helped others learn about Landcare? e.g. other young groups and/or the wider community learn about Landcare and environmental issues?
4. Describe how the team has developed its educational resources and formed partnerships to increase the capacity of young landcarers to learn about and address environmental issues
5. Describe any challenges the team has faced in the development and implementation of Landcare projects and the strategies used to address these challenges.

6. Describe any challenges the organisation or authority has faced in the development and implementation of this Landcare partnership and the strategies used to address these challenges.

**Innovation in Sustainable Farm Practices** - This award will be made to a primary producer or enterprise which has implemented innovative farm and/or land management practices to improve natural resource management and productivity outcomes. The term innovation in this award should be defined as the demonstration of early adoption, excellence and/or leading-edge projects or practices. Eligible primary producers or enterprises may include an agricultural co-operative, network, agricultural industry association, research group, private business or primary producer.

Selection Criteria:

1. How has the primary producer or enterprise demonstrated innovative farm and/or land management practices that deliver improved productivity and commercial outcomes while improving natural resource management? The key natural resources targeted are soil, water quality, native vegetation and the marine environment. The following are examples of activities that could be used to demonstrate success in this area. This is not an exclusive list.
2. Describe how the innovative farm and/or land management practices undertaken by the primary producer or enterprise have improved productivity outcomes on commercial scale operations. This can be demonstrated through any of the suggested methods outlined below:
3. Give examples of how the primary producer or enterprise has cooperated with and encouraged involvement of others in sustainable/innovative farming practices.
4. Describe any challenges that were encountered by the primary producer or enterprise in the development and implementation of new or innovative practices and the strategies used to address these challenges.

**Coastcare Award** - This award will be made to a community group/network for excellence in activities that have contributed to the significant improvement of local coastal and/or marine environments, including estuaries, coastal and marine wetlands and salt marsh ecosystems.

Selection Criteria:

1. Describe the projects undertaken by the group/network that have increased community awareness and engagement with coastal environmental issues linked to local and/or regional environmental/ natural resource management plans.
2. How has the group/network's activities improved the sustainable use and/or management of coastal natural resources? Provide examples of results.
3. Demonstrate how the group/network's activities have targeted the causes and symptoms of local coastal environmental issues.
4. How has the group/network developed local and/or regional partnerships for Coastcare activity? For example with local councils, businesses, school, other community groups, academic institutions etc.
5. What challenges did the group/network encounter in the development and implementation of coastal protection activities and the strategies used to address these challenges?

**Young Landcare Leader** - This award will be made to an individual between the ages of 15-35 years who carries out and/or promotes excellence in Landcare through on-ground or awareness raising activities, as a volunteer or paid employee. You may nominate yourself or a person from your community for this award.

Selection Criteria:

1. Provide examples of cutting-edge and/or excellent Landcare practices that the individual has implemented in their local area, and/or how they have helped others implement these practices.
2. Demonstrate how the individual has displayed leadership, and encouraged others in promoting or implementing activities that improve natural resource management outcomes; (e.g. by speaking to schools, media, landholders, groups, councils etc).
3. How has the individual trained and helped others in developing their Landcare practices and skills?
4. Describe how the individual has been a champion for Landcare, through their achievements in environmental sustainability projects or their role in planning and organising Landcare- associated initiatives.
5. Provide examples of the ways the individual has communicated environmental/natural resource management issues or raised awareness about Landcare to a wider audience (including the use of media, social media, events, speeches or presentations, posters, letters etc).
6. Describe any challenges the individual has faced in the development and implementation of cutting-edge and/or excellent Landcare projects, and the strategies used to address these challenges.

**Indigenous Land Management** - This award will be made to an outstanding indigenous community group or individual that is working towards improving land use and/or enhancing or protecting an area on behalf of the community.

Selection Criteria:

1. Describe how the group or individual looks after country including land and / or sea. What sort of work has been undertaken?
2. How has the group or individual used indigenous ecological knowledge and traditional or other land management practices in their work?
3. What kind of impact has the group or individual had in the community by looking after country? For example, has the work created jobs for Indigenous people in the community, have young people learned new skills or had traditional ecological knowledge passed on to them?
4. Demonstrate how the group or individual has worked with others on the project. For example with community elders and others within the community, or any other groups or external organisations.
5. How has the group or individual shared Indigenous land management practices and techniques with the wider community?
6. What challenges has the group or individual experienced in working on country and how has the group or individual responded to these challenges?