



Wangaratta Landcare & Sustainability

WLS Vision, purpose, approach

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Background

After twelve months of COVID-19 interruptions to the integration of Wangaratta Urban Landcare Group and Wangaratta Sustainability Network into Wangaratta Landcare & Sustainability Inc (WLS) this framework aims is to continue the smooth transition to an effective integrated WLS.

Framework includes: Purpose, Vision, Mission, Values and Behaviours, Project themes and activities.

Purpose:

- *Care for the environment that sustains us by providing opportunities for community participation and education.*
- *Be a voice for a sustainable and liveable environment.*

Vision *(where we aspire to):*

A voice for sustaining a healthy liveable environment.

Mission *(what, who, why):*

Wangaratta Landcare and Sustainability Inc. (WLS) is a voluntary organisation which cares for the environment that sustains us, through projects and activities, and by providing a voice on its behalf.

Values:

- *Mutual respect for diverse people and ideas,*
- *Evidence based actions and decisions,*
- *Inclusive engagement,*
- *Optimist about what is possible,*
- *Trustworthy in our dealings,*
- *Act with Integrity,*

Behaviours:

- *Welcoming and inclusive of diversity,*
- *Freely and honestly sharing information,*
- *Acting in the best interest of Wangaratta, people, community & environment,*
- *Being our best self,*

WLS Project and activity themes:

Natural Assets: protection, restoration, and enhancement

Protecting existing natural remnant vegetation and encouraging native plant species regeneration on public and private land

Reducing invasive weeds and supporting native plant species regeneration on public land in natural areas and along waterways including Kaluna Park, Kaluna Island, Wenham's Reserve and Mullinmur Billabong

Promoting biodiversity conservation

Mullinmur Billabongs restoration

Promoting Native fish conservation and carp removal

Clean up and protection of roadsides, waterways, and catchment by encouraging rubbish removal. and water monitoring.

Sustainable living:

Sustainable food

Waste minimisation & recycling

Sustainable, energy efficient living and housing

Climate Change: Net Zero Emissions, safe climate economy through: mitigation, adaptation, advocacy

Reduce local energy consumption and emissions

Advocate for actions to reduce livestock emissions and reducing the food chain carbon foot print

Encourage installation of solar panels

Make and use renewable energy locally

Active removal of greenhouse gases from atmosphere by sustainable land use

Drawing down carbon and adapting to changing climate by native tree planting for greening parks and corridors

Preserving biodiversity by retention and enhancement of native habitat and planting appropriate native plants species

Community engagement, education, advocacy:

Bpangerang recognition

Mullinmur Education Hub

Provide local wildlife and natural environment information, including guided walks.

Sustainability Matters - newspaper articles on local actions which can enhance sustainability.

Community forums, information displays and activities

Project & activity team coordinators roles

- *Provide a point of contact, coordination and reporting;*
- *Establish terms of reference that, identify the issues being addressed, clarify their purpose, focus, organise activities, and agree on how the team will function;*
- *Provide opportunities for membership, community participation in activities, events, education, and;*
- *Enable connection to the WLS Committee, wider organisation, and community.*