



Department of
Sustainability
and Environment



Media Release

From the Department of Sustainability and Environment and North East Catchment Management Authority

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NEW RESTORATION AND REVEGETATION GUIDE FOR THE NORTH EAST

The management and growth of native vegetation in the North East received a further boost last Friday with the launch of a new restoration and revegetation guide developed by the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE).

The guide is aimed at assisting landowners, land managers, gardeners, landcare or community groups with the selection of locally native trees, shrubs and ground cover plants that may suit particular parts of the landscape, for a given area or 'zone'.

Representatives from various Natural Resource Management organisations, including DSE, NE CMA, Indigo Shire, DPI, Greening Australia, Parks Victoria and North East Water, as well as Landcare and environmental groups applauded the new guide at its launch on the Barnawartha property of Tim (president of the Indigo Valley Landcare Group) and Ro Lavers.

Guest speaker Fleur Stelling, who wrote the original Revegetation Guide for North Eastern Victoria in 1994, was equally pleased with its update.

"Tales of land degradation are common but we have cause for optimism," she said at the launch.

"The understanding of native vegetation now is more sophisticated than before, with more people understanding the importance of remnant vegetation for the future.

"Today, there has not only been an increase in the farming community working on regeneration of native vegetation but there has also been a huge increase in government and organisational support.

"All of us can learn to look at our landscape and see if there is any regeneration or understorey and act to stop the degradation of native vegetation before it's too late.

"This guide provides a holistic way to look at our native vegetation, by understanding the groupings of plants and where they occur in the landscape".

"It will also allow us to value, look after and love our native vegetation more."

Speaking at the launch, DSE Project Manager Sue Berwick, who worked on the project with Mary Titcumb, said her idea of success is the frequent usage of the guide.

"I want to see these guides being used, worn out, and additional plants scribbled into the margins," Ms Berwick said.

For further media queries, please contact Mary-Anne Scully from North East CMA on (02) 6043 7600 or 0408 685 225, or Victoria Brown from DSE (North East) on (03) 5761-1618 or 0417-155-109.



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Consisting of a series of brochures, the guide provides lists of locally native (indigenous) plant for different Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) within 20 different sub-regions in the North East catchment area. The EVC's are those that occur largely on private land, but are not alpine or sub-alpine vegetation (which are available in greater detail in other guides). Additional brochures provide background to the guide, as well as a worksheet on 'how to choose a plant list'.

The research, updating and expansion of the new guide, using an innovative database designed by Charles Sturt University in Thurgoona, was made possible due to funding from the Australian Government through the North East CMA's Regional Catchment Investment Plan and DSE.

The guide will be available at various DSE and local council offices and can be downloaded from DSE's website on www.dse.vic.gov.au/nativevegetation (Vegetation Information, then scroll down to 'Restoration and Revegetation Guides' and select "Restoration and Revegetation Guide for North Eastern Victoria").

The attached photo 001 is of (Left to Right) Guest Speaker Fleur Stelling, DSE Project Manager Sue Berwick, and DSE Native Vegetation Management Officer, Mary Titcumb.