

MEDIA RELEASE

3 August 2015

Huon Valley volunteer Care groups urged to apply for Council grants

Are you part a volunteer Care group in the Huon Valley? Could your group benefit from project grants to help and protect the Huon Valley landscape?

The Council is now calling for applications for the 2015-2016 volunteer Care group grants program.

The project grants, up to the value of \$2,000, are given by the Council each year to support and maintain the 'Care' network in the Huon Valley. The network consists of the following volunteer Care groups, including Landcare, Bushcare, Rivercare, Coastcare, Waterwatch and 'Friends of' groups as well as schools, community groups and individuals. Council has allocated \$10,000 for 2015-2016 to support Care groups in their operation and on-ground work.

Huon Valley Care groups work across a variety of land tenures, including Council reserves, Crown land, private land and school grounds.

In the past, Care groups have undertaken important work to help manage and protect coastal and marine environments, waterways, bushland, wildlife habitats and native species in the municipal area. Projects must be able to be completed by 30 June 2016.

Mayor of the Huon Valley Council, Peter Coad, says the grants are a great initiative to help improve and protect the Huon Valley landscape.

"These grants help volunteer care groups to undertake important work to manage natural resources in the area.

"Our care groups do a great job in looking after and protecting our coastal and marine environments, waterways, bushland, wildlife habitats and native species in the Huon Valley. The work they do has a direct effect on local habitats, and they are to be commended for their hard work and dedication.

"By providing financial assistance we can help these care groups to continue their valuable work throughout the valley," Cr Coad said.

To receive a grant, care groups must demonstrate that the proposed works meet one of the criteria outlined in the Huon Valley Council Natural Resource Management Strategy. The proposed works can include (but are not limited to) weed control, revegetation, fencing of priority habitats such as



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threatened vegetation, waterways and wetlands, community events, training or equipment for community groups.

A copy of the strategy, guidelines, application forms and information on how to apply for a care grant are available from the Council's website at www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au.

The Council's Natural Resource Management team can advise on project development and application preparation.

Completed applications can be lodged in person at the Council's Customer Service Centre at 40 Main Street in Huonville, by post at PO Box 210, Huonville, Tasmania 7109 or via email at hvc@huonvalley.tas.gov.au

Applications close at 5pm Tuesday, 18th August 2015.



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