



April 2026 Newsletter

Produced by The Lismore Land Protection Group Inc.

Lismore Land Protection Group, Weering-Eurack Landcare Group, Leslie Manor Landcare Group, Cundare-Duverney Landcare Group, Weerite Landcare Group & Mt Elephant Community Management.

The Corangamite Lakes Landcare Area is on Wadawurrung and Eastern Maar Country. We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

G'day Land carers,

April has been a jammed packed month with some exciting events coming up. Post-fire recovery is continuing with lots of trees coming back. Memberships will be due soon. Drought-resilient data collection will be starting shortly.

2026 Tree Planting Program and Fencing Rebate - Tree Planting Support

Orders are now closed for the 2026 Tree Planting Program, including the new Fencing Rebate to support eligible plantings. To ensure the process is fair and manageable, strict guidelines apply to the fencing rebate. The committee will have the final say on fencing support distribution.

If you have submitted your tree order form and require the ripper and moulder, please get in contact with Jake. It is also a good time to start thinking about preparing your sites for planting. Weed control is an important factor when planting trees. Weeds can steal moisture and nutrients from your freshly planted trees, leaving them stressed and struggling to survive. Ensure you spray twice before planting to get better results.

Available trees

We still have around 2000 trees left, so if you feel like you've missed out, get in now and secure your trees. They won't last long. Get your tree order forms in as soon as possible to avoid missing out. It will be a first in first serve arrangement from now on.

Postfire tree recovery.

After the two major fires in the area, trees are starting to grow back through both seed regeneration and epicormic growth. Mass regeneration of Blackwoods from seed has started across the region. Blackwoods are one of the first species to grow from seed after fire and are an excellent recruitment species.

Upcoming Events

- Ballarat Biodiversity Conference Friday 5th of June. Jake will be presenting a poster at the Biodiversity Across Borders Conference at Federation university.
- 2026 Otway's Ecological Research Forum. Tuesday 25th August 2026.
- Bonfire and BBQ at the Bradvale Recreation Reserve to show gratitude to BlazeAid for supporting fire affected farmers. Sunday 17th May 12 PM.

Desert Ash Removal

Desert Ash are an introduced species that rapidly grow in waterway areas. They have become widely naturalised in Victoria and often outcompete other native species with their dense canopies and root suckers. They can quickly form monocultures using their effective wind-dispersed seeds. They are considered a significant environmental weed in waterways as they absorb moisture and nutrients often leading to bank instability. Members of the community alongside SW Vermin have removed and poisoned multiple Desert Ash below and

surrounding the bridge in Lismore. Allowing for other native species to take their place.

Key Characteristics:

- Height: 10-20m
- Width: 5-10m
- Growth rate: Fast
- Lifespan: Moderate (typically 40-60 years)
- Form: Upright to spreading canopy
- Leaves: Bright green, compound leaves that turn yellow in autumn
- Flowers: Small, inconspicuous (spring)
- Fruit: Clusters of winged seeds (samaras)



Membership Renewals,

Membership renewals for the 2026-2027 cycle will be starting soon. If you're an existing member, you will be emailed an invoice in the coming weeks. We are also welcoming any new members who are keen to join the Landcare network. If you have any questions about how Landcare works, you can look on Landcare Victoria's website or give Jake a call. It is also important to note that you cannot receive trees or the fencing rebate unless you are a member of land care.

2025 tree data collection

The Lismore Land Protection Group have decided to collect data on land care planted trees that have been affected by drought. The aim of the project is to gather information on the resilience of trees in our area to drought and fire. This data will directly inform how we plant trees in the future, to ensure we are maximising the benefits of shelterbelts. Jake will be making the rounds throughout the coming year to observe drought-stricken trees. If you would like him to come to your property, get in contact now.

LLPG meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month. If you'd like a topic raised at a meeting, contact Jake or a committee member by the Tuesday prior. Jake is working part time - Tue/Thu/Fri (half)

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