



26 October 2018

Successful Love Water Grants recipients announced

Nine community and civic organisations across the Hunter will receive a share in more than \$50,000 as part of Hunter Water's first Love Water Grants programme.

The one-off funding will support a range of community projects and education initiatives, which promote water conservation and environmental sustainability.

Among the successful applicants is Medowie Little Athletics with \$10,000 towards the installation of a water efficient irrigation system at Kindlebark oval, more than \$5,000 for the University of Newcastle to refurbish a garden and outdoor area at an Indigenous community centre; and \$1,800 to Landcare Obelisk Hill to provide a sustainable watering point for wildlife at Arcadia Park.

"We're proud to be able to help nine local organisations deliver important projects that help spread the meaning of loving water," said Hunter Water Managing Director Jim Bentley.

"Our Love Water campaign is about encouraging people to value water and take action to be more water wise around their homes and businesses. It's clear from the number and quality of applicants that our community is embracing the Love Water message, which is really promising to see.

"It's through increased education and awareness that we can learn together to make more water conscious decisions and ensure our precious resource is protected now and in the future."

Minister for Energy and Utilities Don Harwin congratulated the successful applicants.

"It's wonderful to see that water conservation and sustainability is front of mind for so many community groups and organisations across the Hunter region.

"This funding will enable them to implement a range of practical solutions and projects that will enhance our natural environment.

"My thanks to all for applying for the Love Water Grants as we work together to create a better, more sustainable water future," said Mr Harwin.

As part of National Water Week, Hunter Water is inviting everyone across the region to make a personal pledge to save water at www.yourvoice.hunterwater.com.au, because together we can make a difference.



Love Water Grants recipients

Maitland City Council

\$5,000 – Efficient vs inefficient fittings to reduce water usage

The project aims to compare efficient and inefficient water fittings to dispel the myth that efficient fittings do not fit properly and cost more.

Islington Public School

\$7,000 – Self-watering gardens

The project will see self-watering gardens established in the school grounds of Islington Public School, including eight self-watering wicking beds and one rainwater tank.

Macquarie Hills Community Preschool

\$4,765 – Bathroom renovation

A project to renovate two children's bathrooms and to supply the bathrooms with grey water, captured from the roof via a rainwater tank.

Medowie Little Athletics

\$10,000 – Medowie water savers

The funding will go towards the installation of a water efficient irrigation system at Kindlebark oval. The system will be connected to rain harvesting water tanks.

Merewether Heights Public School

\$8,909 – Water audit and refill station

The project includes water audit education activities measuring water usage by old leaking bubbler troughs.

Landcare Obelisk Hill Arcadia Park

\$1,800 – Roof water collection for native plants and animals at Arcadia Park

The project will provide a safe, reliable watering point for birds and mammals at Arcadia Park, as well as create a frog habitat, with water to be sustainably collected from a nearby property roof.

University of Newcastle

\$5,066 – Garden and outdoor area refurbishment

A project to refurbish a garden and outdoor area, designed by local architecture students, to enhance and accommodate the social outreach programs run at Indigenous Community Centre Warlga Ngurra and Wandalyi.

Hunter Multicultural Communities

\$2,000 – Education and upgrade programme to community garden

A project to produce water conservation materials and information booklets in a range of languages.

Community Helping Community Incorporated

\$8,552 – The good seed community garden

The project will provide a safe and supportive gardening environment to undertake activities that connect people, build skills and showcase alternative gardening methods.