



South Gippsland  
Landcare Network

# Information for new Landholders



# Welcome to South Gippsland

We are proud to acknowledge and support the participation of Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live and work, specifically the clans of Gunaikurnai and Bunurong.

We honour and respect their ongoing cultural and spiritual connection to this country and pay our respects to Elders of the past, present and future. South Gippsland Landcare Network seeks to increase the Aboriginal cultural awareness of landcare groups within our network and support collaboration with Traditional Owners in planning on-ground projects



**This booklet is designed to direct you to important information and resources regarding land management. You can also find this document online which will allow you to access links and updated resources more easily.**

The South Gippsland Landcare Network (SGLN) stretches from the lush farmlands surrounding Mirboo North, to Wilson Promontory, down the Cape Liptrap Coastal Park, through the fertile Tarwin Valley, and all the way to the emerald green rolling hills of Loch. Whether you are an experienced farmer moving to this area, a tree or sea changer looking to enjoy our beautiful landscape and lifestyle or you are wanting to establish a small farming enterprise; Landcare can help.

Go to [sgln.net.au](http://sgln.net.au) or email [info@sgln.net.au](mailto:info@sgln.net.au) to find out how to join your local Landcare group and sign up to the SGLN mailing list.

SGLN was formed in 1995 and today comprises an affiliation of 16 Landcare Groups involving around 500 families.



The vision of the Network is to represent and support communities working together to increase biodiversity and promote sustainable land management. SGLN's success is due to the inspiring contributions made by the passionate individuals and volunteers, a dedicated board and hardworking staff.

SGLN is a diverse community that will support your farm practice and offer educational, fun, social interaction with like-minded people.

Visit [sgln.net.au](http://sgln.net.au) to

- Find resources about pest and weed management
- Read about current projects and opportunities

- Learn about upcoming workshops, field days or events
- Join your local group
- Plus more

If you have any queries regarding Landcare, or land use and management please email us [info@sgln.net.au](mailto:info@sgln.net.au)

There is a vast amount of support and information available for rural, regional and peri-urban landowners this document aims to help direct you on where to find them.

SGLN Board and Staff wish you the best with your endeavours.

# Pest Animal and Weed Control

## A big part of rural living is being a good neighbour.

It's important to be aware of your weed and pest animal management obligations.

For detailed information about your legal responsibilities please visit the Agriculture Victoria (Ag Vic) website and go to the biosecurity section.

Under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* (CaLP) some weeds and feral animals are declared as pests in Victoria. These species are, or have the potential to become, a serious threat to primary production, Crown land, the environment or community health in Victoria.

Land owners have the responsibility to take all reasonable steps to prevent the spread of – and where possible eradicate – established pest animal and weed species on their land.

## Weeds

Managing weeds is an important part of keeping your property productive and healthy.

SGLN often runs educational events and field days to help people learn more about weed control. Contact us to find out about any upcoming events.

There are many different approaches to weed control. Learning which weeds are present on your property is an important first step. The resources at [sgl.net.au/resources](http://sgl.net.au/resources) can help you identify significant weeds on your land and provide information on control options. You might find your neighbours can get a little grumpy if you do not take your weed control responsibilities seriously.

Weed control factsheets for common weeds of South Gippsland can be found at [sgl.net.au](http://sgl.net.au), and [weeds.org.au](http://weeds.org.au) has additional information.



If you do not attempt to control your weeds, you may be reported to Ag Vic. In South Gippsland Ag Vic most commonly receives complaints about **thistle**, **blackberry** and **ragwort**



## Pest Animals

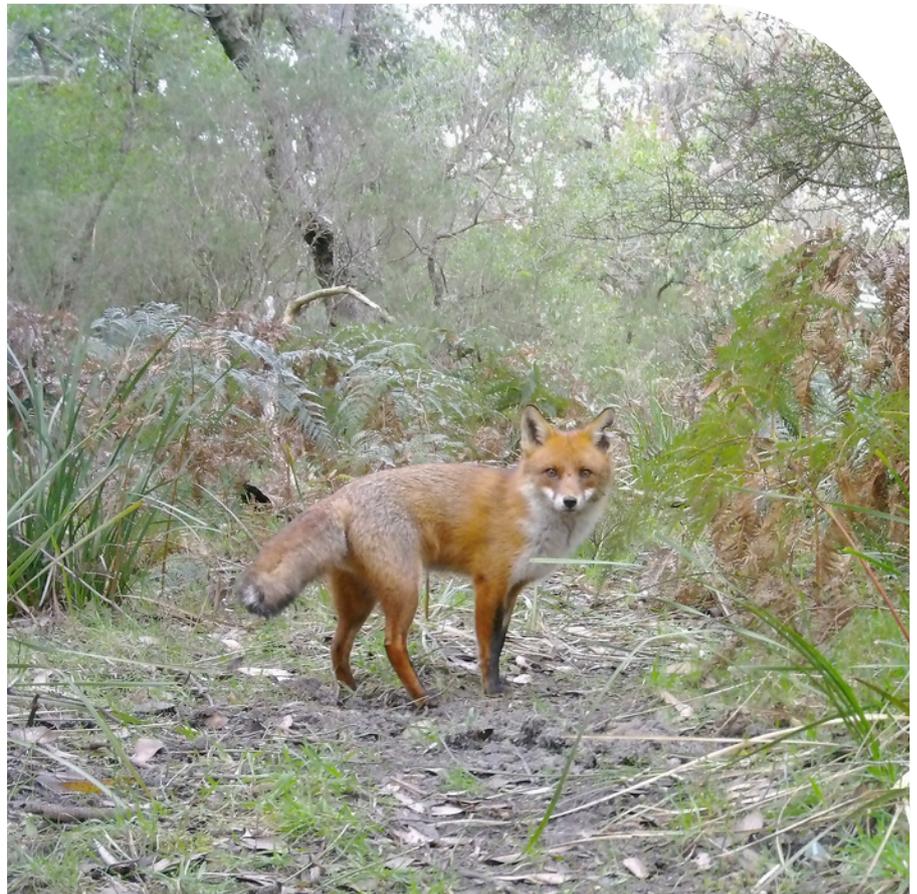
**Foxes** are believed to be the primary cause of a decline in numerous Australian small mammal species and cost the agricultural industry millions each year in lost production. **Rabbits** can be equally problematic. Please visit [sgln.net.au](http://sgln.net.au) and see our pest animal resources to help plan an integrated control strategy. Chat to your neighbours, working together on control is very likely to increase your success.



Together, foxes and cats are responsible for an astonishing annual death toll – 697 million reptiles, 510 million birds, and 1.4 billion mammals.

Foxes can be responsible for up to 30% of lamb losses and often attack newborn calves.

In addition to CaLP listed pests, **introduced deer** are now a problem in South Gippsland. Deer significantly impact agriculture by consuming crops, pasture, and saplings. They compete with native wildlife for resources, spread diseases and damage habitat. For details about deer control visit [sgln.net.au/resoucrues](http://sgln.net.au/resoucrues) or contact SGLN to find out about the **South Gippsland Deer Action Group**



# Biodiversity and Wildlife



We are so fortunate to share our home with a huge variety of native wildlife including many threatened species. To discover more about what might be calling your property home you can use [iNaturalist](#). This will help you identify all flora and fauna and keep a record of what you find.



SGLN can help you with advice about revegetation, shelter belts, dam enhancement and more. There are many ways you can improve biodiversity and increase agricultural productivity at the same time.

If you are interested in permanently protecting your property for wildlife, please contact [Trust for Nature](#)



If you happen to come across injured or sick wildlife please contact Wildlife Victoria. <https://www.wildlifelifevictoria.org.au/> 03 8400 7300

Keeping a basic rescue kit in your car and learning how to do a pouch check are great ways to assist hardworking wildlife rescue volunteers. [Pouch Check Guide](#) (scan QR code)



Another key issue affecting wombats, koalas and other wildlife is mange. Learn more and how you can help by visiting you can help by visiting <https://mangemanagement.org.au/>

# Resources for Rural Living



## Bushfire

Planning for bush fire and other extreme weather events is critical in rural areas. Please download the **Vic Emergency App** and set up a watch zone to make sure you are notified of bush fires and other risks.

Visit [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au) and make a bushfire plan.

## Farm Safety

Accidents and fatalities on farms in 2024 were at a two-decade high. Refer to [farmsafe.org.au](http://farmsafe.org.au) and [www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/agriculture](http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/agriculture) for more information about accident prevention. The Victorian Farmers Federation has great mental health resources and currently offers free farm safety assessments through the “Making Our Farms Safer” project [www.makingourfarmsafer.org.au](http://www.makingourfarmsafer.org.au)

## Cultural Heritage

If you think you've found an Aboriginal cultural heritage place or objects on any public or private land in Victoria you must report it to First Peoples.

You can notify First Peoples - State Relations of a discovery by completing a Preliminary Report form. Find out more by reading the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage guide found at [www.environment.vic.gov.au](http://www.environment.vic.gov.au)



## Snap Send Solve

The best way to notify South Gippsland Shire or Baw Baw Shire Council of an issue is to use the [Snap Send Solve](#) app

This is a free, easy way for residents to report local, non urgent issues like potholes, broken signs, dumped rubbish, weed issues or fallen tree limbs Snap a photo and send it directly to the council for faster resolution.

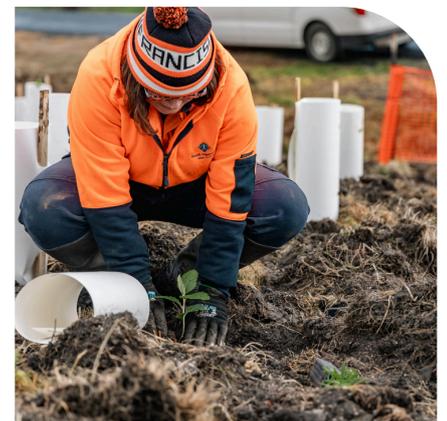


Image credit : Karli Duckett

# Resource Library

South Gippsland Landcare Network  
[sgln.net.au](http://sgln.net.au)

Agriculture Victoria  
[agriculture.vic.gov.au](http://agriculture.vic.gov.au)

South Gippsland Shire Council  
[southgippsland.vic.gov.au](http://southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

Weeds Australia  
[weeds.org.au](http://weeds.org.au)

Invasive Species Council  
[invasives.org.au](http://invasives.org.au)

Victorian Rabbit Action Network  
[vran.com.au](http://vran.com.au)

Victorian Farmers Federation  
[vff.org.au](http://vff.org.au)

Cultural Heritage Guide  
[www.environment.vic.gov.au](http://www.environment.vic.gov.au)

Trust For Nature  
[trustfornature.org.au](http://trustfornature.org.au)

Wildlife Victoria  
[wildlifevictoria.org.au](http://wildlifevictoria.org.au)

Mange Management Victoria  
[mangemanagement.org.au](http://mangemanagement.org.au)

CFA  
[cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au)

Baw Baw Shire Council  
[bawbawshire.vic.gov.au](http://bawbawshire.vic.gov.au)

Sustainable Farms  
[sustainablefarms.org.au](http://sustainablefarms.org.au)

West Gippsland Catchment  
Management Authority  
[wgcm.vic.gov.au](http://wgcm.vic.gov.au)

South Gippsland Water  
[www.sgwater.com.au](http://www.sgwater.com.au)

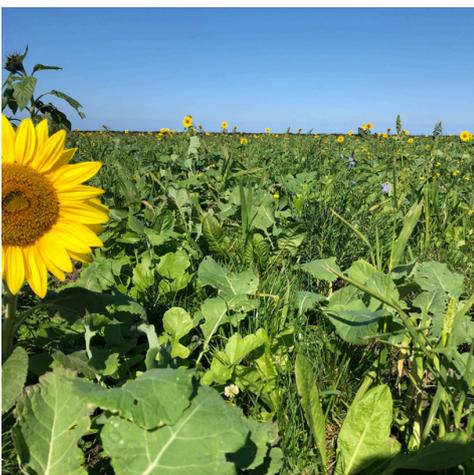


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