



Community Action Grants 2010–11

What are Community Action Grants?

Community Action Grants provide funding for community-based projects to help manage and protect the environment and natural resources. Community Action Grants are an element of Caring for our Country - an initiative of the Australian Government. The 2010-11 Community Action Grants round will provide funding for a broad range of activities that will contribute to Caring for our Country national priorities.

How much funding is available?

In 2010–11 Community Action Grants will provide grants of \$5000 to \$20 000 (GST exclusive) to support local community groups to protect and improve their natural environment. Last year the Australian Government invested over \$7 million on Community Action Grants, funding 425 projects.

Who can apply?

Community Action Grants are for community groups (established for more than 12 months) that have sustainable farming or protecting and enhancing the natural environment as their principal objective, as well as for established and emerging Indigenous organisations.

Your organisation must be a legal entity to register and apply for Community Action Grants.

If your group is not a legal entity, you should request another organisation to sponsor your project and submit an application on your behalf.

Eligible legal entities include groups that are:

- » an incorporated association
- » a body corporate
- » a company
- » a cooperative society
- » an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander corporation, council or incorporated association, or
- » a trust duly constituted.

Who cannot apply?

The following organisations are **not eligible** to apply for Community Action Grants **other than as a sponsor**:

- » Regional natural resource management organisations
- » NGOs with a national focus and their state/territory branches, peak industry groups, and/or umbrella bodies
- » All levels of government (Commonwealth, state/territory and local)
- » Organisations directly operating or appointed under state legislation, such as Livestock Health and Pest Authorities, and Committees of Management for crown land reserves
- » Individuals (not eligible to sponsor), and
- » Organisations that have at the application closing date any overdue final reports or acquittals for previous Australian Government NRM funding, including the Natural Heritage Trust, Envirofund, National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality and the National Landcare Program.



How do you apply?

The 2010-11 Community Action Grants round will open for applications at 9am Tuesday 6 July 2010.

You can apply using the Community Action Grants application form – either online or by posted hard copy.

The Caring for our Country 2010–11 Community Action Grants application form, Applicant Guidelines and eligibility criteria are available on the Caring for our Country website at www.nrm.gov.au.

When do applications close?

All applications must be submitted by 5pm EST Tuesday 31 August 2010.

If you are submitting a hard copy application, it must be postmarked by 31 August 2010.

Changes for the 2010–11 funding round

Under the 2009–10 round of Community Action Grants, applicants were ineligible for funding if they had been successful under the Caring for our Country Business Plan 2009–10. The 2010–11 round of Community Action Grants does **not** exclude applicants who have submitted applications or received funding under the Caring for our Country Business Plans.

Existing Caring for our Country grant recipients may apply for the 2010–11 Community Action Grants round of funding for new projects or further stages of an existing project which has been, or is currently being completed. There should be no duplication of funding between existing project activities and new Community Action Grants applications.

The application period has been extended to eight weeks to allow applicants more time to develop and submit an application.

Project types

Through Community Action Grants, more community groups are able to undertake projects that contribute to the Caring for our Country priorities of biodiversity and natural icons; coastal environments and critical aquatic habitats; and sustainable farm practices. Groups can also seek grants for coordination services to encourage the community to participate in protecting our environment and natural resources.

Community Action Grants will fund activities such as:

- » increasing and improving biodiversity
- » reducing critical threats to native habitats
- » educating farmers in sustainable agricultural techniques
- » reducing the spread and impact of Weeds of National Significance
- » tree planting and other revegetation activities
- » dune rehabilitation
- » holding field days
- » improving land management practices
- » recording and using traditional ecological knowledge
- » restoring endangered ecological communities
- » reducing the impact of vertebrate pest animals
- » increasing wildlife habitat, and
- » encouraging community participation in protecting natural resources.

Frequently asked questions

A list of frequently asked questions, which provide more detail on the Caring for our Country Community Action Grants process, can be found at www.nrm.gov.au.

Further information

Visit the Caring for our Country website at www.nrm.gov.au. If you are unable to access the Internet call our toll free hotline on 1800 552 008 to request an application pack.