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THANKS TO



Government of South Australia

Green Industries SA

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Adelaide Hills Council Open Space Team - Lobethal Bushland Park Bushfire Recovery Initiative

Lobethal Bushland Park is 118 hectares of ecologically important reserve that also offers significant recreational and educational value. It provides valuable natural habitat to native flora and fauna, including nationally threatened plant populations, in a region that has otherwise been largely cleared. Protected by a Heritage Agreement, the Park contains a Bush For Life Site, and has been carefully managed for many years through important partnerships between Council, State Government, Friends of Lobethal Bushland Park, and Trees For Life.

In 2019 the Cudlee Creek Bushfire burned through the entire site.

The Park's recovery was of paramount importance to all stakeholders and, knowing this, Council coordinated a collaborative recovery effort which came to be known as the Lobethal Bushland Park Bushfire Recovery Project. This Project enabled immediate and long-term management issues to be addressed, including public safety and animal welfare, and a focus on reopening the Park to the public as an important part of their recovery process. In addition, the replacement of critical infrastructure and post-fire weed management is crucial to preserving the environmental values of the park.

A Masterplan is currently underway to ensure that future access and infrastructure considerations are coordinated effectively. Resources have been contributed from Council operational budgets, Federal and State Grant funding, and many hours of volunteer and Council staff labour.

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City of Burnside Assets and Infrastructure Team - Carbon Neutral Project

The City of Burnside has made a commitment to become Carbon Neutral by 2030. This goal has been established following 15 months of work to assess opportunities, refine strategy and develop an innovative response to the challenges faced by Local Government. The outcome is a clear path to carbon neutrality, backed by extensive scenario modelling, including a novel approach to carbon offsets.

The Burnside Carbon Offset Scheme (B-COS) will fund the planting of thousands of trees to offset hundreds of tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions from energy-intensive Council services. An innovative funding model will support the scheme, with pool and theatre users contributing ten cents per visit. These user contributions are individually small but will collectively fund the planting of enough trees to offset the emissions of the associated council facilities.

In addition to the offset scheme, Council will install additional solar panels, invest in energy efficiency improvements and transition its fleet to hybrid vehicles. Long-term benefits of Council's commitments include cost reductions through savings on power and fuel, lower emissions and the planting of thousands of trees. Burnside's approach, with extensive scenario modelling work plus an innovative offset scheme, could readily be adapted for implementation by other Councils.

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District Council of Kimba - Rooro Water Catchment Project

The \$750,000 Rooro Dam Stormwater Catchment Project is a significant development, playing a vital role in the sustainability of Kimba's water resources. Located at Rooro Reserve, a 40,000m² area has been reshaped through the laying of a GeoGard membrane, utilising 3,000 used tyres to anchor it in place, with a lifespan of 50 years plus. This allows for a runoff co-efficiency exceeding 90% surpassing the 15% of the existing natural surface. To compliment the project, pipes have been installed transferring water to the existing adjacent Rooro Dam.

Anticipated outcomes are numerous including the delivery of a year-round water supply to the Kimba Recreation Reserve, bowling greens and surrounds and associated cost savings. As a farming community experiencing the ongoing ups and downs of an agriculturally based economy, these facilities accommodate social and sporting events contributing to the health and wellbeing of the community.

Based on historical annual rainfall, calculated volumes from this catchment equate to 13.2 megalitres of water harvested annually. This generates significant environmental benefits through the reduction in water sourced via mains, predominately from the River Murray. The Catchment Dams also benefit from stormwater runoff from the western side of Kimba, supplying additional stormwater to the holding dams when heavy rainfall occurs.

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