

WALGA Event: Weed Management



Date: Thursday, 14 February 2019
Time: 9:30am – 3:15pm (Registration from 9:00am)
Venue: South Perth Community Hall, cnr Sandgate St and South Tce, South Perth
Cost: \$88.00 (Incl GST)

FORUM OVERVIEW

Please join us for this fantastic opportunity to hear about the overarching legislation and strategies that provide a framework for coordinated weed management, the latest approaches in integrated weed management, and risk assessment and mitigation for weed control methods. The event will include a demonstration of steam weed treatment by the City of South Perth.

PROGRAM

- 9:30am** **Welcome and introduction**
Melanie Davies, Biodiversity and Sustainability Project Officer, WALGA
- 9:35am** **Legislative and management framework for weeds in Western Australia**
Kay Bailey, Manager Priority Weed Response, DPIRD
- 10:00am** **Weed management for conservation**
Kellie Passeretto, Weeds Program Coordinator, DBCA
- 10:25am** **Integrated weed management in practice: the benefits and limitations of different weed control methods**
Kaija Antipas, Acting Natural Resource Management Officer, City of South Perth
- 10:45am** **Morning tea and steam weed demonstration**
- 11:30am** **Chemical weed control: liability considerations and mitigation measures**
Joan Cavalieri, Risk Consultant, LGIS
- 11:55am** **Herbicide regulation in Australia**
Rodney Edmundson, Director Chemical Review, APVMA
- 12.20 pm** **Panel question and answer session**
- 12:45pm** **Lunch**
- 1.30pm** **Fire as an opportunity for weed management**
Julia Cullity, Community Bushland Coordinator, DBCA
- 2:00pm** **Weed mapping and reporting**
Kay Bailey, Manager Priority Weed Response, DPIRD
- 2:30pm** **Weed management in regional reserves: Denmark case study**
Donna Carman, Project Coordinator and Diane Harwood, Founding Member, Denmark Weed Action Group
- 3:00pm** **WALGA Preferred Supplier Arrangement for Parks and Gardens**
Craig Grant, Procurement Specialist, WALGA
- 3:15pm** **Close of Event**



PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

Kay Bailey, Manager Priority Weed Response, Invasive Species, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), will discuss the State's principles for weed management as per the Invasive Species Plan 2015 – 2019, and alignment with the Australian Weed Strategy 2017 – 2027. The Department is responsible for the listing and review of declared pest plants, as per the provisions of the *Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Act 2007* (BAM Act) and associated Regulations. Kay will outline the process for declaration, and how Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) are considered. Kay will also discuss how the State's priorities for weed management are implemented, including the work of Recognised Biosecurity Groups and other partnership arrangements.

Kellie Passeretto, Weeds Program Coordinator, Ecosystem Health Branch, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), will discuss how, with the continual decline in resources, it is imperative that we develop strategic approaches to weed management that allows us to determine our priorities, monitor our management effectiveness and apply adaptive management. The Department implemented an internal Weed Prioritisation Process in 2008, designed to provide an integrated approach to weed management in Western Australia. The aim of this process was to establish both a species led and an asset protection based approach to weed management. Kellie will provide an overview of the prioritisation process and how the Department's new Weed Occurrence and Treatment App is assisting the Department to map weed occurrences, plan management efforts and more effectively monitor management outcomes. Kellie will also provide case studies of collaboration with adjacent landholders to control weeds, and the importance of working in partnership to achieve effective weed management.

Kaija Antipas, Acting Natural Resource Management Officer, City of South Perth will discuss how the City uses an integrated approach to weed management across its natural areas, parks and gardens and streetscapes. A combination of manual, chemical and non-chemical methods is used to provide long-term weed control and prevent weed establishment. Over the past two years, a review and trial of alternatives to synthetic chemicals has seen the City enhance its contracted and internal weed management practices, with the introduction of steam and pelargonic acid application. However, are these new approaches as viable in delivering efficient and effective weed management? Kaija will discuss the cost and outcomes of different weed control methods in dryland and aquatic environments, and also provide a demonstration of steam weed control using their mobile steam unit.

Joan Cavalieri, Risk Consultant, Local Government Insurance Scheme (LGIS) will discuss the shifting community perceptions around different methods of weed control. Weed control is an essential part of Local Government's activities, and failure to effectively control weeds can have various impacts on the community, ranging from the integrity of infrastructure to environmental degradation. This can result in negative community perceptions, however on the other hand, the incorrect use of chemicals may also create areas of liability exposure. This presentation will give a brief overview of the risks involved in Local Government use of chemicals, and risk mitigation measures in light of the current Australian legal landscape.



Rodney Edmundson, Directory Chemical Review, Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) will discuss the process of considering new scientific information when conducting a chemical review. Recently, Australia has seen a huge amount of interest in the potential risks of chemical weed control. In 2017 the APVMA undertook an extensive review of the use of Glyphosate and found that when used according to the label instructions it is safe to use. Rodney will provide an overview of the assessment that resulted in the APVMA's regulatory position on Glyphosate, as an example of the general principles of risk analysis and scientific research that is considered during the reconsideration process for registered chemicals.

Julia Cullity, Community Bushland Coordinator, Urban Nature Program, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), will present case studies where fire has facilitated weed invasion, and discuss the fire response of different vegetation communities and weed species. Julia will highlight the importance of contingency planning for weed management in the event of unplanned fires, and how more intensive weed control may be required post-fire. However, in areas actively managed for weeds, unplanned fire has been recorded to stimulate natural regeneration, and Julia will also provide examples of vegetation communities that have benefited as a result.

Kay Bailey, Manager Priority Weed Response, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) will discuss the use of MyPestGuide app as a tool to assist Local Governments in weed management. Kay will give an overview of the functions of the app, how to set up a project, weed identification, conducting surveys and reporting of declared weeds. Kay will provide a working example of a project to demonstrate the benefits of using the app to centralise weed data and share information between stakeholders. Reporting apps are not without their challenges, and Kay will share insights into how the app is being shaped to increase effectiveness.

Donna Carman, Project Coordinator and Diane Harwood, Founding member, Denmark Weed Action Group (DWAG) will discuss how the Denmark Weed Action Group, in collaboration with the Shire of Denmark, have implemented an effective weed management model over the past 20 years. Donna and Diane will present case studies that demonstrate how local pest plant laws have been valuable to support weed control, and how they develop and implement the works plan for regional reserves. They will also discuss working with a range of government, residents and NRM agencies in approaching weed management. The process of obtaining project funding will be explored, as an integral part of the success of community group lead action.

Craig Grant, Procurement Specialist, WALGA will provide an understanding of WALGA's new Preferred Supplier Arrangement for Parks and Gardens, which contains prequalified suppliers within various categories, including chemical and non-chemical weeding services.