

## **Coles helps local students indulge passion for planting**

A \$1020 Coles Junior Landcare School Garden Grant, awarded to Coonabarabran High School will permit students to indulge their passion for planting.

Coonabarabran High School's Ag Department will use the grant to establish an integrated fruit and vegetable garden as part of a sustainable schools project. The project will be coordinated by members of the community working together with school students to design and plant an edible landscape based on organic gardening principles.

The Coles Junior Landcare School Garden Grants are part of the Junior Landcare grant program, one of Australia's largest ever action-oriented environmental education programs.

Coles will be providing hundreds of School Garden grants to primary schools and youth groups across the country, subsidised through its 'Go Green' fund. Coles donates ten cents from the sale of every 'Go Green' bag sold in stores to the fund.

Kevin Sharp, Principal of Coonabarabran High School said that the grant would be a major boost for the school's environmental program. "The Coles Junior Landcare School Garden Grants Program will allow us to put lessons learnt in the classroom into practice out in the field. Our students are enjoying planning the project and are looking forward to getting their hands dirty," he said.

"The Coles Junior Landcare School Garden Grants focus on projects that involve the school community and create interest and involvement among the broader local community.

"I think a lot of people forget that organisations like Coles are actually made up of local people who care about their community and the environment. Our local store teams are particularly excited that a school in their region has been recognised with this national award."

The Program assessment dates are aligned with the state school calendars. Successful applicants will need to spend the grants funds within six months however the actual project may be ongoing.

- involve the school community or broader local community;
- have determined educational outcomes with an environmental focus;
- are well planned and documented;
- link with a community Landcare group; and
- are student-oriented and allow maximum student involvement.

Landcare Australia Chief Executive, Brian Scarsbrick, said the Coles Junior Landcare School Garden Grants will help to develop an environmental ethic amongst thousands of young Australians.

Further information about the Grants Program is available on the Landcare Australia website ([www.landcareaustralia.com.au](http://www.landcareaustralia.com.au)) or by phoning Landcare Australia on 1800 151 105.

### **For further information:**

Coonabarabran High School  
Newell Highway  
Coonabarabran 2357  
T: 0268421099

Jim Cooper  
Coles Supermarkets  
T: 03 9829 5345  
E: [jim.cooper@colesmyer.com.au](mailto:jim.cooper@colesmyer.com.au)

Ellen Gray  
Landcare Australia  
T: 02 9412 1040  
E: [ellen.gray@landcareaustralia.com.au](mailto:ellen.gray@landcareaustralia.com.au)