

# Landcare awards in Shepparton Irrigation Region



**GOULBURN  
BROKEN**

CATCHMENT  
MANAGEMENT  
AUTHORITY

Consultant Geoff Everist from Shepparton was awarded the Shepparton Irrigation Region Primary Producer Landcare Award in 2010 for environmental initiatives he applied to his 250 ha property.

Geoff was one of 120 Landcare supporters from across the Shepparton irrigation region who gathered in Mooroopna in May to celebrate achievements and acknowledge the valuable work of volunteers.

Geoff planted thousands of trees, fenced off waterways and introduced innovative farming practices with a minimum environmental impact over the past 10 years.

Geoff began the revegetation process 10 years ago when he purchased the dairy farm from his parents. Today after extensive work the farm is ringed by a 10 to 15 metre corridor with thousands of trees, the farm dams are fenced off and stock troughs are connected to a 5ML dam filled from the nearby Seven Creeks.

Coupled with changes to his farming practices, based around improving soil health, Geoff now sees a big increase in the numbers of grass parrots and a greater range of other birds repopulating the farm.

The 2010 Landcare Partnership Award was won by the Dhurringile and District Landcare Group.

Lanie Pearce, from the Broken Boosey Conservation Management Network, received an oil painting of the Broken Creek to celebrate her work in educating primary and secondary school students about environmental issues.

Ernie Miles took out the Individual Award and the Kyabram Urban Landcare Group won the Community Group Award.

The Indigenous Award went to Aunty Denise Morgan-Bulled of the Yorta Yorta Nation for her commitment to passing on an understanding of country and its care to the young people in her community.

Margaret Farrell from the Congupna-Tallygaroopna Landcare Group received an honourable mention for her commitment to showing school children how to create a sustainable native garden in the remnant woodland of the Congupna pony paddock.

Cindy Doherty gave the first public rendition of the Landcare song, written by Nickee Freeman with words by Jen Pagon.

For further information please contact Carl Walters at the Goulburn Broken CMA on 03 5833 5360.