

Green Army. Collaborating and supporting Environmental Projects

ISSUE:

Mount Basalts natural environmental parks and public recreation areas for a number of years remained unutilised due to the state of the facilities.

The community support and understanding of their natural wonders was limited due to the fact that the park remained in disrepair.

Project:

The project involved containing African Boxthorn and the removal of tree pair which will then encourage native understory species to regenerate. Additionally the project included the development of the degraded walking track and maintenance to encourage awareness and appreciation by those who visit the park. The team has since planted 300 native species including semi-evergreen thicket (threatened ecological community) to provide a vital linkage of vegetation across the landscape. They have also prepared a 5 hectare site for follow up treatment, treated 8 hectares of weeds, built 1km of fence, rebuilt the entrance to the park and installed signage. A garden bed and pathway was established around the recreational facilities.

The Green Army is an Australian Government programme for young Australians aged 17–24 years who are interested in protecting their local environment.

Green Army. Collaborating and supporting Environmental Projects

Result:

Connecting community with environment to raise awareness

The work on the project through Green Army has seen the walking tracks repaired to their former glory and native species plants thriving. The overall result of the hard work has seen the community re connecting with their environment.

The Mt Basalt Reserve has now become a popular weekend attraction to see the stunning basalt rocks and the spectacular views. Local school groups have also began taking the students to the site for environmental awareness.

This project has promoted engagement with the community as well as delivering environmental outcomes. The area is now utilised by locals and has even raised the awareness of a new generation of locals who did not know the unique features they had in their own backyard

Through a strong partnership, Milmerran Landcare Group along with Campbell Page have managed to connect the environment with the community which hopefully leads to an economic return in terms of additional tourism in years to come.