

## **Invitation for Planting Weekends 2025:**

Hi Everyone:

We've finally reached a point where we can announce some tree and shrub planting weekends for late August and September 2025.

Apologies for the late notice- I've had a personal tragedy and have only recently returned to work – and the Winton Wetlands Reserve has had a change of management and we have only recently been able to sort out access for volunteers.

Planting Weekends are:

- August 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>:
- September 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>
- September 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>
- September 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>
- September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>

That means there is opportunity each weekend in September.

I haven't been able to sort out our booking system so please:

Book by return email [regenthoney@outlook.com](mailto:regenthoney@outlook.com)

And if possible put the date(s) you are interested in attending in the subject line of the email

Where possible please book in by Wednesday evening prior to the event to allow time for planning and catering.

As in previous years the weather prior to a weekend will impact on which site we will be at- so maps will be sent out to everyone in the day or so prior.

**Free camping is available at:**

- Old Lurg School: 9.4km along Winton-Lurg Rd (has toilets and **showers**)
- Winton Wetlands at Greens Hill (off Boggy Bridge Rd) (toilets- no showers or drinking water)
- Scouts Hall OR Guides Hall in Benalla (depends on which one is available at each weekend)- toilets but no showers. The booking system states Scouts Hall- book in and we will arrange blow up mattresses and let you know which hall it is for your weekend.

There are also various accommodation options in and around Benalla

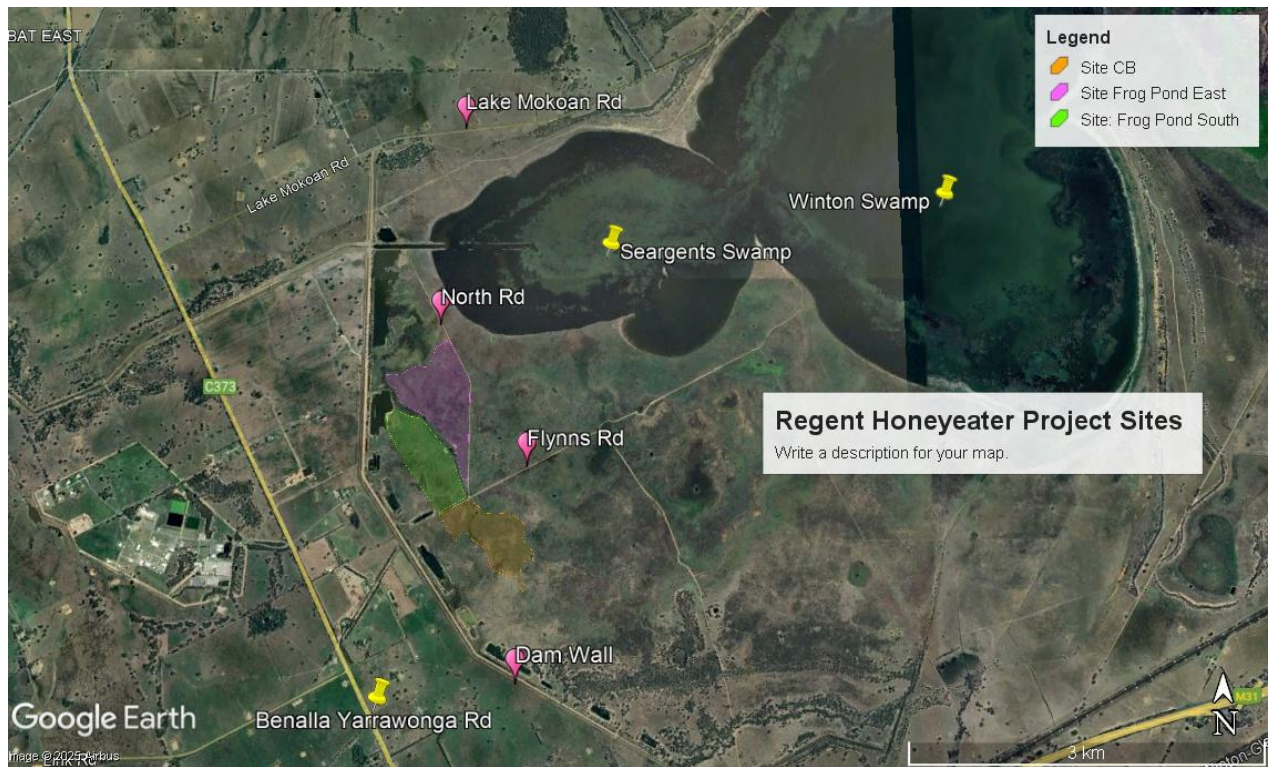
As in previous years we will supply a free meal in Benalla for Saturday night and will arrange a Sunday lunch and we will have a continuous supply of hot drinks on site.

**You will need to bring:**

- Saturday lunch and drink break foods as well as
- Sunday breakfast (there are various food options in Benalla) as well as morning tea nibbles
- Suitable outdoors clothing and footwear- gumboots can be handy in the morning- weather dependent.
- Your relevant camping needs (remember- our days can be beautiful- but the nights can be cold- so bring good bedding)

Some of the activities for this year will be:

- Tree and shrub planting in some new areas near the Dam Wall
- This area is adding onto areas planted in 2019
- And is inside the restricted / locked gate area of the wetlands- so will need some coordination with getting through the locked gate.



- And if time allows we will continue to revisit recent sites (3-5 year old) and removing old guards and stakes for reuse where possible and formative pruning of the 3-5 year old young trees- which is an activity that has positive and long-term effects on tree health and longevity.

Hope to see you soon

Andie Guerin- Regent Honeyeater Project Coordinator

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