

MEDIA RELEASE

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QUEENSLAND
MURRAY-
DARLING
COMMITTEE



Landcare volunteers unite to tackle Oakey's litter

Oakey's local Landcare members have a passion for rubbish!

This week Oakey Urban Landcare and North East Downs Landcare Group (NED) joined forces to tackle litter dropped by motorists along the Warrego Highway, near Devon Park Road.

NED Landcare Group Community Support Officer Owena Reimers said the clean-up was undertaken as part of the South West Region Roadside Litter Prevention Program (SWRRLPP).

The anti-litter campaign was developed and delivered through a partnership between the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP), south west Queensland councils, the Australian Packaging Covenant (APC) and the Queensland Murray-Darling Committee (QMDC) with the aim of reducing roadside litter on south west Queensland Highways.

"One thing that amazed us was the variety of litter collected including esky lids, numerous drink bottles and cans to the front bumper and grill of a car!" Ms Reimers said.

"Recent studies undertaken as part of the campaign showed the majority of litter is dropped from a car within a range of 20 minutes from the nearest takeaway shop. True to form, this site was approximately 20 minutes from fast food outlets in Toowoomba."

NED Landcare Group Chair Graham Cooke said they were happy to give Oakey Urban Landcare a helping hand with the clean up due to close membership ties and a desire to highlight an issue that impacts not only on the environment but on community pride.

The team including Oakey Urban Landcare chair Trevor Cockburn cooked an early barbeque breakfast for the volunteers before they donned the high vis and walked within transects along the highway collecting several large bags full of litter.

"A big thank you must go to QMDC and Land Management Technical Officer Nigel Parageen for their support and encouragement around rubbish removal at Oakey," Ms Reimers said.

This project is supported by the Queensland Murray-Darling Committee through funding from the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) and the Australian Packaging Covenant (APC).

Visit www.qmdc.org.au for more information.

Media contact/s

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