



THE MORRISON GOVERNMENT COMMUNITIES ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

The environment belongs to us all and Australians want to do their bit to protect their local environment for future generations.

The Morrison Government believes in supporting local communities – including our farmers, community groups, indigenous communities and businesses – to deliver real environmental benefits.

Governments don't have all the answers; local communities are best-placed to know where a project will work, how the money is best spent, and how to motivate people to get involved. We're all custodians of our environment, and protecting it is a shared responsibility.

Investing in cleaner and greener communities

The Coalition will invest more than \$22 million in 2019-20 to deliver a wide range of on-ground projects that conserve, protect and sustainably manage our environment.

Under the Communities Environment Program, each federal electorate can receive up to \$150,000 in grant funding for small-scale, community-led projects nominated by the local Member of Parliament in consultation with the community. Projects will focus on environmental priorities such as:

- waste and litter reduction
- protecting native animals, including our threatened species
- addressing weeds and pest animals
- restoring and improving coasts, wetlands, riverbanks and waterways
- greening parks and urban areas.

This program aims to support the environmental priorities of local community and environment groups in their regions and neighbourhoods. It aims to not only recover and strengthen our environment, but also to build and strengthen our communities.

Each electorate can receive funding for up to 20 projects, with the minimum grant amount being \$2,500 and the maximum grant amount set at \$20,000.

Who is eligible for funding

A broad range of organisations will be eligible to put forward projects to their Federal Member of Parliament. This includes community clubs (including Lions clubs, rotary clubs, sports clubs), not-for-profit organisations such as Indigenous organisations, Landcare groups (including bushcare, coastcare, 'friends of' groups), schools, and other community and conservation groups.

Local governing bodies as defined by the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* will also be eligible to receive funding.

Individuals and state or territory government departments will not be eligible for funding.

Next steps

Community groups can contact their local Members of Parliament to express interest in receiving funding under the program. MPs will be responsible for nominating projects in consultation with the community once guidelines are released and the program formally opens.

For more information please visit: www.environment.gov.au/cep

