

## Growling grass frog sighted at Ecolinc

Ecolinc's logo, the growling grass frog was spotted basking in the sun in the Ecolinc wetland this morning. Excited Ecolinc staff and visiting students from Overnewton College, Mac Robertson Girls High School and Oberon High School were the first to observe this vulnerable species in the wetland. The Ecolinc wetland has been established for less than three years yet supports a wide range of flora and fauna including four frog species; the pobblebonk *Limnodynastes dumerili*, common froglet *Crinia signifera*, spotted marsh frog *Limnodynastes tasmaniensis* and the growling grass frog *Litoria raniformis*. This discovery supports our very popular wetland program 'What's Growling in the Wetland?'



Growling Grass Frog at Ecolinc 1/8/07



Spotted Marsh Frog at Ecolinc 1/8/07

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Ecolinc will conduct a **Primary Science teachers' PD program on Tuesday 4 December** designed to equip teachers with knowledge, skills and classroom strategies linked to 'Environmental Sustainability'. Total cost including morning/afternoon tea and lunch is \$55 per teacher.

Ecolinc will also conduct a **VCE Science Professional Development program in December**. This year teachers can choose to attend on either **Thursday 6 or Friday 7 December 2007**. The program will cater for teachers of VCE Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science and Physics. All VCE Science study designs will be reviewed, particularly the new VCE Year 12 Chemistry course, with hands on Ecolinc SAC tasks available for teachers to sample. Total cost including morning/afternoon tea and lunch is \$55 per teacher per day.

### INTERESTED TEACHERS ARE INVITED TO REGISTER NOW TO SECURE A PLACE

Applications for the 2007 Term 4 **mecu** Ecolinc scholarship are now open to all primary and secondary schools across Victoria and will close on Friday 21 September 2007. The scholarship contributes \$500 towards the cost incurred by a school in visiting Ecolinc. Schools can apply by completing the online application form available from the Ecolinc or **mecu** websites.

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## BOOK NOW FOR 2008 TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

Ecolinc offers a wide range of environmental sustainability programs catering for Prep—VCE. The Ecolinc stormwater wetland is particularly popular with students of all ages who are engaged in sampling for macro invertebrates, testing water quality, and exploring plant and animal adaptations. Popular wetland programs include; Introducing the wetland (P-2), What's Growling in the Wetland? (3-8), Wetland Sustainability (9-10), and Water Conservation (5-10). Contact Ecolinc for full details or consult our 'programs brochure'.

[www.ecolinc.vic.edu.au](http://www.ecolinc.vic.edu.au)

Ecolinc often receives queries regarding the construction of school wetlands. The following opportunity may be just what you need to put your plans into action.

### WETLAND FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR SCHOOLS

Established in 2000, Revive our Wetlands is Australia's largest national wetlands revival program and a partnership between Conservation Volunteers and BHP Billiton. The 'Revive our Wetlands Schools Program' helping school's to create 'wetland learning spaces' has now been introduced. Schools are invited to identify a wetland project on or close to their school grounds that needs hands on assistance. Nominations close 17 August 2007. To apply, interested schools should visit [www.reviveourwetlands.net/schools](http://www.reviveourwetlands.net/schools)

### SPONSORSHIP

Thank you to **mecu** for sponsorship of the **mecu** Ecolinc scholarship. Thank you also to Roger Pierson for the donation of additional local rock samples for our display collection.