



## NEW WEBSITE NOW ONLINE

Ecolinc's new website is now online.

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

Scan the QR code opposite to view the website now.

Ecolinc's new website enables teachers to easily select the most appropriate program for their classes. All F-10 programs are mapped to the Australian Curriculum, and full details of all Ecolinc programs are easily accessible. The website features two new online programs 'Discovering wetlands' and 'Watching the weather'. Students can easily access a range of learning objects within each program.

'Discovering wetlands' was officially launched on Friday 22 June by ecologist Mr Jason Sonneman (DesignFlow). In attendance were Professor Peter Gell and Dr Stephen Carey, two University of Ballarat wetland experts who feature in the 'Talk with the Experts' learning object. A number of primary and secondary science educators successfully trialled a range of learning objects on the day.

Ecolinc congratulates Ms Elizabeth Sliwa and Dr Son Do who have been officially appointed as Ecolinc horticultural technician and information technology technician respectively.

Ecolinc now offers offsite outreach programs for primary/lower secondary classes. This involves an Ecolinc education officer conducting a tailored program in your classroom.

Bookings are now being taken for 2012 and 2013.



## BIODIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN VOLCANIC PLAINS ONLINE

Ecolinc has appointed our web developers, CouchCreative to develop Ecolinc's new online educational program 'Biodiversity of the Western Volcanic Plains'. Work is now underway on the development of a flora/fauna ID/survey app featuring unique grassland species.

Further learning objects including 'Quadrats Online', involving an investigation of virtual and real plant quadrats, 'Managing a grassland ecosystem', a 'virtual grassland excursion to Mt Rothwell', the opportunity to communicate with grassland experts, a photo gallery and an interactive quiz will follow.

As each learning object is completed it will be available via an overarching website to be featured on the Ecolinc website.

A teacher professional learning day featuring a visit to Mt Rothwell is planned for Friday 23 November to preview aspects of this new online program.

## 2012 TEACHER PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DATES

Register now for the following Ecolinc teacher professional learning days, online via the website, or download the registration form.

### FRIDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2012

Investigating biodiversity in the wetland (Years 5-8)

Use a range of technologies to investigate biodiversity in the wetland and make your own movie. Participants will investigate a new Ecolinc onsite program, which involves a study of wetland macroinvertebrates, vertebrates and aquatic plants using laptops, iPads and Flipcams.

### FRIDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2012

Biodiversity of the Western Volcanic Plains Online (Years 5-8)

Preview aspects of this new program with the added option of visiting Mt Rothwell for a barbeque dinner and night walk, where sightings of rufous bettongs, brush-tailed rock wallabies and common bandicoots are guaranteed. Eastern barred bandicoots, long-nosed potoroos and eastern quolls are also often seen.

## CONTACT

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