

MEDIA RELEASE

Shire of Esperance

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COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING TRANSFORMS

The Shire of Esperance would like to thank all the community members who took the opportunity yesterday to make history by planting a tree on the Esperance foreshore.

More than 80 people donned their gloves and planted 2400 native seedlings to protect the dunes near the developing youth precinct and skate park. The plants will also assist in creating a natural buffer for users of the new community area.

The Community Tree Planting was held during Landcare Week, demonstrating the Shire's commitment to protecting and enhancing our natural environment to ensure it can be enjoyed by current and future generations. The seedlings planted yesterday means more than 10,000 trees and seedlings have been planted in Esperance this Winter.

The project was delivered along with South Coast Natural Resource Management and Esperance Regional Forum (ERF), who are among several committed agencies and community groups delivering Landcare projects throughout our region. Working together has proven to be a valuable way to maximise the protection of our highly valued natural environment. The Shire also forms part of the South Coast Management Group which includes representatives from Local Government and community members across the south coast from Esperance to Demark.

In the last twelve months a number of key Landcare projects have been undertaken by the Shire in partnership with the community, including upgrades to the Munglinup Beach campground, rehabilitation works at Twilight Beach and Castletown Quays, restoration of the Lake Monjingup Reserve and coastal protection works at Quagi and Membinup Beaches.

Shire President, Victoria Brown said "The Community Tree Planting Day demonstrated how much we can achieve by working together, and how valuable every community member can be. We had all ages getting their hands dirty, planting the trees, having fun and within a short period of time had completely transformed that area of the foreshore. They may not realise it now, but in 10, 20 or 30 years, many of the children will be able to say 'I planted that!'"

Ends

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