
2011 Premier's National Resource Management Awards

SEAFORD COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT

Award Nomination

The Seaford Community Garden project was recently nominated for the 2011 Premier's National Resource Management Award. The garden is a partnership initiative of the Seaford Meadows Scout Group and Heta Incorporated.

The project and its partners hold shared objectives of developing and managing a Community Garden in a sustainable way that promotes social inclusion and strong environmental awareness.

The Seaford Community Garden has created a sustainable herb, vegetable and fruit garden from previously barren and relatively unused land. Local native plants are also produced at the site.



All local produce has been offered to community groups and disadvantaged individuals, as well as sold at regular 'Garden Produce and Craft Fairs', hosted by the Scouts.

Many of the people engaged to design, develop and maintain the program have been young people aged 17-24, participating in the National Green Job Corps program, run by Heta Inc.

This program is an initiative of the Australian Government and provides otherwise unemployed and disconnected young people the opportunity to participate in accredited training (Certificate II in Horticulture) and meaningfully engage in their local community.

The accredited training offered maintains focus on building self-sustainable projects that supports the local community, as well as developing their self confidence, leadership and critical thinking around responding and caring for the environment.

The Seaford Community Garden has achieved its intended outcomes in relation to sustainable design, implementation and ongoing management of the garden, as well as developing individual and community awareness and belief in environmentally responsible practises, specific to their local area.

The bringing together of broader stakeholders has been a key to this project, incorporating the Scouts, Heta Inc, and local, state and federal government in accredited training and other once off funding support.

Information regarding the project and its activities are shared regularly through community events, family and friends of participants and scout groups, and the regular 'Garden produce and craft fairs'.

Information on the group and the successes of this project has been displayed and distributed through the local Messenger, during participant Graduations and recently highlighted on the ABC's 7:30pm Stateline show.

