



# Weed Control Grant

## Funding Guidelines



## Weed Control Grants

Weed control grants are available to help landholders control noxious and environmental weeds on private land. Under the [Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994](#), plants can be declared as noxious weeds if they have or might have the potential to become a serious threat to agriculture, the environment, Crown land or community health. A list of declared noxious weeds can be found [here](#). Environmental weeds are species that are not listed as noxious under the CaLP Act but are known to cause problems in natural areas. You can find a list of some local environmental weeds in the [Common Weeds of Gippsland](#) booklet.

### Eligibility criteria

This program provides funding to landowners that reside within Latrobe City, and Landcare groups that are based within Latrobe City and are affiliated with the Latrobe Catchment Landcare Network. Applications must be for works that control high-threat weeds (noxious and/or environmental weeds) in areas of high biodiversity value, or where historic land management practices have resulted in significant negative impacts to the broader landscape.

Funding will be prioritised for projects that aim to protect, enhance and connect areas of native vegetation and that meet the following criteria:

- The property is located within the [Strzelecki-Alpine Biolink](#) corridor.
- The property contains areas of high biodiversity value or is within close proximity to an area of high biodiversity value.
- The landowner will be working with neighbours or Landcare to control weeds on a larger scale.
- The landowner has recently purchased a property with historic weed problems.

### Activities that are eligible include:

- Weed control aimed at control of high-threat weeds in areas of high biodiversity (in or near bushland, in biolink corridors).
- Purchase of herbicides.
- Hiring contractors.
- Weed control on land greater than 4000m<sup>2</sup>.

### Activities that will NOT be funded include:

- Weed control on land less than 4000m<sup>2</sup>.
- Work that is for amenity purposes, e.g., lawn mowing, general garden maintenance.
- Purchase of tools/equipment e.g., spray tanks, hand tools etc.
- Works that provide direct financial benefit to a commercial business.
- Applicant labour and hire charges for applicant-owned equipment.

## Funding categories

Funding through this program is available in the following categories:

### 1. Purchase of herbicide

Funding available:

- Properties below 5 Ha – Maximum of \$150
- Properties over 5 Ha or community groups – Maximum of \$250

Supply is limited to non-restricted herbicides such as Metsulfuron methyl for control of blackberries and ragwort. Some herbicides are classified 'restricted use' (eg. Garlon and Grazon) and legally require the person applying the chemical to have an Agricultural Chemical Users Permit (ACUP). Funding for these herbicides will only be available to those who hold a current ACUP and Chemical Accreditation (e.g., ChemCERT, AgVet Chemical Users Accreditation).

### 2. Hiring contractors

Funding available:

- \$150 for properties between 0.4 Ha and 2 Ha
- \$200 for properties between 2 Ha and 5 Ha
- \$250 for properties over 5 Ha or Landcare groups.

To be eligible for funding, landowners must engage a licensed spray contractor.

## Availability of funding

Funding for this program is limited. One grant is available per property whilst in the ownership of the applicant. For Landcare groups, funding is limited to one application per project – project locations must not be duplicated in subsequent applications. Applications will be assessed upon submission. Once annual funding is exhausted no further applications will be accepted.

## How to apply

- Applications must be completed online via Smarty Grants <https://latrobe.smartygrants.com.au/weedcontrol>
- Applicants will be notified within 4 weeks about the outcome of their application.
- Funded projects must be completed within the financial year that the funding is awarded. Receipts must be submitted for reimbursement via SmartyGrants by the due date and must be dated within the current financial year.
- Landcare projects will be reimbursed via the Latrobe Catchment Landcare Network. Receipts must be submitted via Smarty Grants in order for the reimbursement to be processed.

- If receipts do not meet the criteria or are for an activity than was not approved, funding will not be provided.
- Council may choose to audit grant applications to ensure compliance with the requirements of the program.