



Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

PO Box 6118 – Clifford Gardens, TOOWOOMBA QLD 435

(22 Vacy Street, Toowoomba QLD 4350)

Ph 07 4639 2135; Email: office@hopeaustralia.org.au

Website: www.hopeaustralia.org.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Householders.Options.to.Protect.the.Environment

ABN 48 036 173 161

HOPE E-news Bulletin 2024 #11.1 --- November 2024

The following items have been gathered from various e: newsletters received by HOPE in recent times; and/or prepared specifically by HOPE members and supporters. If you have any news to contribute, please forward to office@hopeaustralia.org.au . Deadline for articles is 15th day of the month.

Editorial

Welcome to the November issue of the newsletter! This month covers a variety of topics; sustainability, conservation and health. Firstly, Australia, has been actively working towards embracing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Then the Moreton Climate Action Now campaign is discussed, inspired by other councils declaring a climate emergency. Bounties are then discussed as a means of controlling feral animals. And lastly, we introduce The Building Biology Institute which educates professionals and the public about creating healthier homes and workplaces by improving air quality.

Kind regards,

Nina Stick, Newsletter Editor – HOPE Inc.

2024 Environmental Observances

November

6 [International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict](#)

9 **HOPE AGM; and 1st Ordinary Meeting of new Committee**

26 [World Sustainable Transport Day](#)

December

5 [International Volunteer Day | United Nations](#)

5 [World Soil Day | United Nations](#)

10 [Human Rights Day | United Nations](#)

11 [International Mountain Day | United Nations](#)

Your financial support is sought! – <https://www.hopeaustralia.org.au/donations/>

We invite members and supporters to consider making an annual financial contribution to help cover our operating costs of approximately \$20,500 p.a.

Currently, our income is derived from project grants, fund-raising, corporate sponsorship and donations, but falls well short of our requirements.

Your financial support, by way of an annual pledge or donation, will considerably help us to achieve better financial viability.

Of course, if you 'cash in your containers', why not donate those monies to **HOPE Inc** | Member number: C11107170.

Please help us to continue our efforts in advocating for responsible stewardship of the environment and supports adopting sustainable long-term solutions to the manifold environmental problems facing humanity.

Feature article

“Australia's Commitment to Achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals”

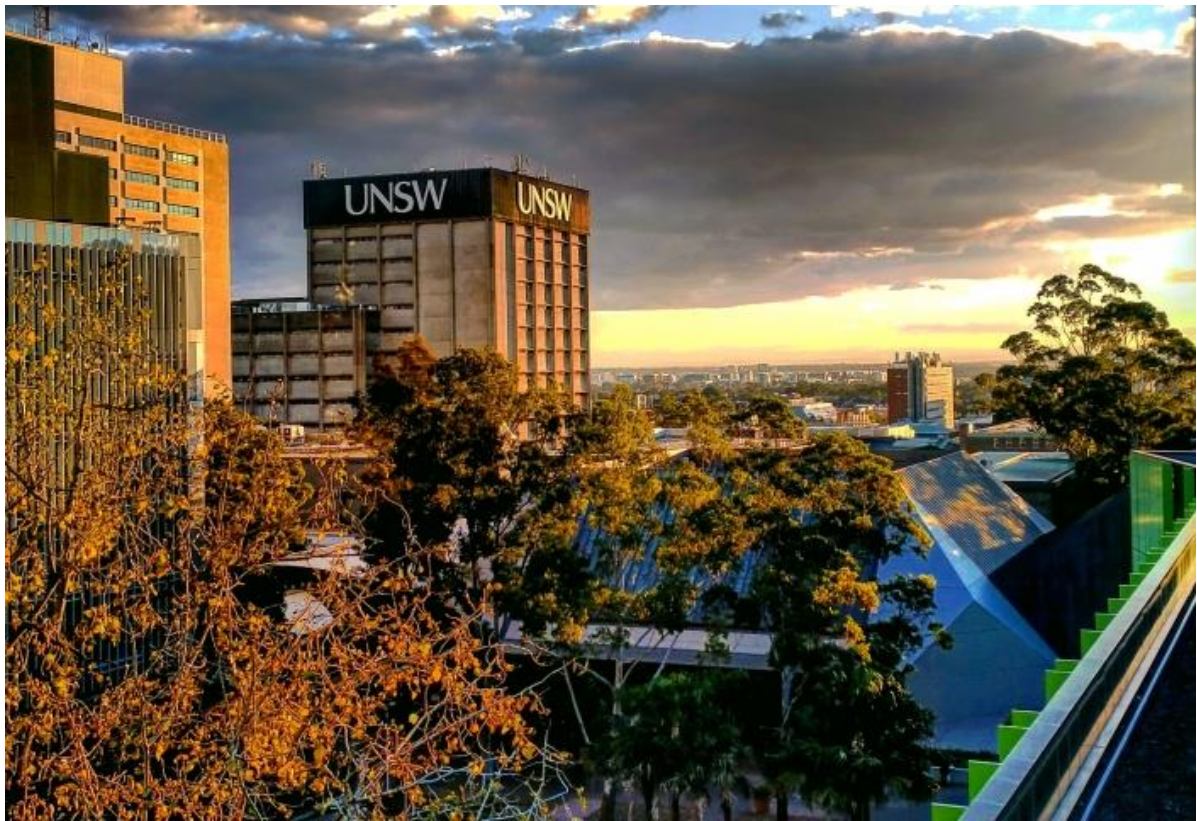
Written by Gabriel Malandu – HOPE researcher Qld

Australia, as a responsible member of the global community, has been actively working towards embracing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted in 2015. These 17 goals serve as a blueprint for a better and more sustainable future, addressing critical issues such as poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace, and justice. On a national level, Australia has taken significant strides to align policies, strategies, and initiatives with these global objectives. Australia has been actively striving to adopt the UN Sustainable Development Goals on a national scale. The country has implemented a range of policies and initiatives that are in line with multiple goals.



Closer look at University of New South Wales (UNSW)

For instance, Australia's commitment to Goal 13 (Climate Action) is evident through their investments in renewable energy and efforts to reduce carbon emissions. A great example is how UNSW Sydney showcases Australia's dedication to Goal 13 (Climate Action) by actively implementing measures and accomplishing significant milestones in the realm of carbon emission reduction and environmental sustainability. In 2020, UNSW successfully achieved net zero operational emissions (scope 1 and 2) by implementing strategic measures such as investing in energy efficiency, utilising renewable energy projects both onsite and offsite, and utilising carbon offsets. In addition, UNSW has set ambitious goals to achieve net zero value chain emissions (scope 3) by 2050, with a milestone of reducing emissions by 50% by 2030. This includes addressing emissions from supply chain, travel, investments, commuting, and other sources.



The university's commitment to addressing climate change has earned international acclaim, as UNSW Sydney secured the 2nd position for SDG 13 in the 2023 Times Higher Education Impact Rankings. We would like to acknowledge the important role that UNSW has played in addressing climate change through a range of initiatives and collaborations.

UNSW Sydney has developed an Environmental Sustainability Plan that lays out a detailed three-year climate action strategy. This plan highlights various initiatives and activities that are focused on improving the sustainability of campus operations. The university's Environmental Sustainability Plan for 2022-2024 showcases its continued dedication to furthering its environmental initiatives.

UNSW, as a founding member of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Climate Extremes (CLEX), is at the forefront of climate research, offering valuable insights and resources to governments at all levels. With initiatives like SMaRT@UNSW, a collaborative effort with the University of Newcastle, UNSW is leading the way in commercialising projects centered around sustainable recycling and clean energy solutions. In 2022, UNSW has received substantial funding support for these endeavors. (UNSW, n.d)



In addition, UNSW's participation in the 'Schools Weather and Air Quality' (SWAQ) program demonstrates its dedication to fostering STEM education and raising awareness about climate change in schools. This groundbreaking project, the first of its kind in Australia, creates a comprehensive atmospheric monitoring network within schools, promoting environmental awareness among students.

In addition, the Water Research Laboratory at UNSW has developed a beach monitoring system that is recognized as the largest Coastal Imaging Network in the world. This innovative initiative offers Australian local councils with valuable data to enhance their understanding and management of coastal zones, thereby contributing to the implementation of sustainable coastal management practices.

With these initiatives and collaborations, UNSW Sydney showcases Australia's dedication to tackling climate change and promoting sustainability in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Furthermore, conservation projects, such as those focused on the Great Barrier Reef, showcase a profound dedication to Goal 14 (Life Below Water) and Goal 15 (Life on Land).

While Australia has officially endorsed the SDGs, it is clear that a consistent and systematic approach to their implementation would require a significant departure from prevailing government policy in areas such as energy and climate change, agriculture and water policy, poverty reduction, homelessness and housing affordability, underemployment and long-term unemployment, expenditure on higher education, rates of imprisonment, levels of civic participation, and indigenous development and well-being. (Pawar, 2020)

What can we do on a personal level?



Exploring Sustainable Consumption:

Australians have the power to make a meaningful difference by embracing sustainable consumption practices. This entails making well-informed decisions regarding the products they buy, selecting environmentally conscious alternatives, promoting fair trade, and minimising overall consumption. By opting for products that have a reduced impact on the environment, individuals can actively contribute to the achievement of goals like Responsible Consumption and Production (Goal 12).

Getting involved in the community and giving back through volunteering:

Engaging with the community and volunteering plays a vital role in supporting various Sustainable Development Goals, such as addressing poverty, promoting good health and well-being, and reducing inequalities. Australians have the opportunity to get involved in various local initiatives that aim to tackle issues such as poverty, healthcare, and social inequality. Contributing time, skills, or resources to community organisations helps build a sense of collective responsibility and generates a beneficial social influence.

Environmental Responsibility:

Australians have the opportunity to make a positive impact on the environment by getting involved in various initiatives such as conservation projects, tree planting activities, and local clean-up efforts. These actions support the preservation of biodiversity and responsible ecosystem management, in line with Goal 15 (Life on Land) and Goal 14 (Life Below Water).

Enhancing Education and Promoting Awareness:

Creating a culture of sustainability relies heavily on raising awareness and promoting understanding of the SDGs. Australians have the opportunity to get involved in educational initiatives, take part in workshops, and use social media to spread awareness about the objectives and their significance. Supporting educational programs that integrate sustainability concepts can help advance Goal 4 (Quality Education).

Exploring the Adoption of Renewable Energy:



Making the shift to renewable energy is not only important, but absolutely necessary in order to meet sustainable development goals, especially when it comes to ensuring affordable and clean energy and taking action against climate change. Australians, with their strong commitment to the environment, have the power to shape a future that is cleaner and more sustainable.

Australians have the opportunity to make a meaningful impact by incorporating renewable energy sources into their everyday routines. Shifting towards solar, wind, and other clean energy alternatives not only decreases reliance on fossil fuels but also directly supports the objective of Goal 7, which aims to provide universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy. A notable illustration of this is the increasing popularity of residential solar panel installations nationwide. A growing number of households are realising the advantages of generating their own electricity, which helps to create a more decentralised and environmentally friendly energy grid.

In addition, Australians can make a significant contribution to the broader goals of sustainable development by making informed choices about energy-efficient appliances. Choosing appliances that have high energy efficiency ratings can help reduce your overall energy usage, which aligns with Goal 7's objective of enhancing energy efficiency. By adopting a more mindful approach to our energy consumption, we can not only reduce our carbon footprints but also play a part in creating a more energy-conscious society.

Showing strong support for clean energy policies can be a significant way for Australians to push for meaningful systemic change. Through active support and promotion of policies that encourage clean energy investments, Australians have the power to shape the future of our nation's energy landscape, making it more sustainable for generations to come. For example, expressing strong support for additional government incentives for renewable energy projects can help speed up the country's progress in achieving the targets set out in Goal 13 (Climate Action). For example, installing solar panels on residential properties is a great way to reduce carbon footprints on a personal level. It's a practical and effective solution that can make a real difference. There have been numerous examples of successful outcomes that highlight the positive impacts of these initiatives. They explain ways for homeowners to save money on their energy bills and even contribute surplus energy back to the grid, which helps to boost the overall supply of clean energy.

Advocating for Policy Change:



Australians have the power to make their voices heard and push for policy changes that are in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This entails actively collaborating with policymakers, advocating for measures that tackle climate change, social disparities, and safeguarding the environment. Active citizenship plays a crucial role in advancing Goal 16, which focuses on promoting peace, justice, and strong institutions, by fostering inclusive and accountable governance.

Sources used.

- Pawar, M., O'Sullivan, D., Cash, B., Culas, R., Langat, K., Manning, A., Mungai, N., Rafferty, J., Rajamani, S., & Ward, W. S. (2020). The Sustainable Development Goals: An Australian Response. The International Journal of Community and Social Development, 2(4), 374-393. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2516602620983716>
- <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>
- <https://www.edi.unsw.edu.au/sustainabilitymatters/SDG13><https://www.edi.unsw.edu.au/sustainability-matters/SDG13>

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HOPE is keen to raise some much-needed revenue through the introduction of paid advertising in our newsletter.

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If interested, please send your advert to office@hopeaustrlia.org.au and your payment to HOPE Inc., PO Box 6118 – Clifford Gardens, Toowoomba QLD 4350.

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- Plant specimen identification
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- Tree trimming & ethical removals

Queensland article



Moreton Climate Action Now (CAN) campaign

Where Did We Come From, What Are We Doing, and Where Are We Going?

In 2019 Noosa Shire Council took the courageous step of declaring a climate emergency, inspiring environmental and climate action groups in other municipalities to encourage their local governments to do likewise – and some did.

In mid-2021 spearheaded local groups and championed councillors, the Sunshine Coast Council followed Noosa's lead, declaring a climate emergency, and setting a target for net zero emissions.

A glance at the map of Queensland shows that the next southerly local government area is the City of Moreton Bay, and that is where the Moreton Climate Action Now (CAN) campaign began in November 2021.

Moreton CAN is a not-for-profit campaign with no political, religious or business affiliations that evolved with support from individuals, and groups to promote stronger action to tackle the climate crisis.

But it wasn't simply a case of playing follow-the-leader that prompted the inception of Moreton CAN.

The climate crisis is already having profound effects on the Australian landscape, native wildlife, human health, safety, social well-being, and our hopes for a liveable future.

The UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports continue to give stark warnings of the severity of climate change and highlight the urgent need for action in the face of its inevitable and irreversible consequences.

The City of Moreton Bay council's anchor community survey, 'Moreton Says' revealed that the natural beauty of the region is of primary importance to community members and visitors to the region.

90% of residents indicated that environmental protection was a highly important role for the council, while 18% indicated satisfaction with council performance to date.

So, where does Moreton CAN fit into this picture?

The campaign is oriented to taking practical actions by engaging with the Moreton Bay City Council and with the local community.

If our community is to avoid the worst effects of climate change, council has a critical role to play in setting an example, educating and informing the community; and striving to meet more ambitious greenhouse gas reduction targets.

Moreton CAN engagement with the Council includes lobbying for change and support; building and maintaining connections to urge council to take stronger action to meet ambitious climate action goals; and to inform, encourage and support the community in reducing the impacts of the climate crisis.

One of our first initiatives was a presentation to council followed by a petition that Council:

1. Declare a Climate Emergency
2. Set a Target of Net Zero by 2032 for their own greenhouse gas emissions
3. Engaging the community to help reduce its emissions to meet this target.

Moreton CAN lobbies the council by writing letters, making submissions, meeting with councillors and council staff, participating in reference groups, and responding to council surveys.

We also support council by distributing relevant council publications, promoting surveys, attending events and workshops, and publicising council policies, strategies and plans – in particular the first-ever Environment and Sustainability strategy which council ratified in 2023.

However, with over 90% of emissions generated by the community, Moreton CAN sees the importance of reducing the region's overall carbon footprint and invests considerable resources in engaging with the wider community to raise awareness of the impacts of climate change on our everyday lives, to highlight the effects

that are happening right now, and to provide information on what we all can do communally and individually to manage these.

Actions to engage with the community include maintaining a regular presence a local market stalls across 7 locations, attending events and workshops, hosting presentations, film screenings, school events and producing informational flyers. Our online communications include maintaining a social media page, email and monthly newsletter, *The Moreton CAN Opener*.

As we know, connection, networking and support among aligned groups and organisations is essential. Groups with which Moreton CAN engages include: Bribie Island Environment Protection Association, Climate Action Network Australia, Ipswich Climate Action Group, Koala Action Inc., Pristine Peninsula, Redcliffe Environmental Forum, The Queensland Conservation Council, and Zero Emissions Noosa.

Despite challenges, including the size of the region, the huge breadth of issues relevant to climate change, ongoing denial of climate change and political resistance which slows the pace of progress, and limited physical resources; the campaign team celebrates its capacities and achievements. These include the diversity of skills and experience within the group, the ability to pivot quickly to embrace new opportunities, a willingness to share and network, and support from other groups and organisations.

In terms of successes, over the past 3 years we have seen stronger acknowledgement by council of climate change-related risks with commitments to take action, and enjoyed increased community acceptance, with positive engagement in taking steps to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Current projects include expanding community outreach, hosting regional film screenings, lobbying for more effective, urgent action and accountability in the rollout of Council's Environment and Sustainability Strategy, school outreach, and supporting partnership activities.

Supporters of Moreton CAN remain optimistic that together we can achieve effective climate action.

For more information on how you can get involved and join the fight for a safe climate and liveable future follow us on [\(10\) Moreton Climate Action Now \(Moreton CAN\) | Facebook](#) or email information@moretoncan.net

Understanding Plastic Recycling Codes

A handy guide to safe plastic use

Code	Name	Common Use	Recycle Rate	Recommendation
	PET Polyethylene Terephthalate	Plastic bottles (soft drink, single-use water bottles, sport drinks), food jars, cosmetic containers.	23%	Be careful with products labeled No. 1. Designed for single use only. Extended use increases risk of leaching and bacterial growth.
	HDPE High density polyethylene	Grocery Bags, detergent bottles, milk and juice jugs.	27%	Appears to be Safe
	PVC Polyvinyl chloride	Garden hose, cable sheathing, window frames, blister packs, blood bags, meat wrap.	< 1%	Avoid Nicknamed the Poison Plastic, contains many dangerous toxins.
	LDPE Low density Polyethylene	Heavy duty bags, drycleaning bags, bread bags, squeezable bottles, plastic food wrap.	< 1%	Appears to be Safe
	PP Polypropylene	Medicine bottles, cereal liners, packing tape, straws, potato chip bags.	3 %	Appears to be Safe
	PS Polystyrene	CD and video cases, plastic cutlery, foam packaging, egg cartons.	< 1%	Avoid May leach styrene, a possible human carcinogen. May be a hormone disruptor.
	Other PC Polycarbonate	Baby bottles, water cooler bottles, car parts	< 1%	Caution Concern with leaching of Bisphenol A which appears to cause chromosomal damage.

Useful Tips:

- Store food and water in glass or stainless steel containers whenever possible
- Minimize or eliminate exposure to plastics with code 1, 3, 6, or 7
- Do not use products (especially Baby Bottles) identified with No. 7

www.PlasticFreeBottles.com
Your source for alternatives to plastic bottles

National article

The re-introduction of bounties to control feral foxes and wild dogs in Australia

Written by Gabriel Malandu – HOPE researcher Qld

Across Australia, pest species such as feral foxes and wild dogs cause a multitude of issues for farmers, stakeholders, the government and the public, including creating thousands of dollars' worth of environmental damage and loss of livestock. Many control measures have been trialled including baiting, shooting, poisoning, den destruction and using fencing to control the ranges of feral foxes and wild dogs. Bounties are another method of control, used to specifically target one species, where the killing of an animal by a landowner or hunter results in a financial reward. In some areas, introducing bounties has been an effective method to promote community engagement in tackling invasive species, particularly those that endanger the local ecosystems.

Currently, feral foxes threaten over 100 endangered species in Australia and their economic impact is estimated to be around \$228 million per year, most of which is incurred from environmental damage and the rest from management and research costs.

Wild dogs are also considered to be a significant pest due to their impact on wildlife and livestock, particularly on sheep and goats through predation and disease transfer. Across Australia, it is estimated that wild dogs cost farmers and landowners \$89 million through loss of livestock, disease spread, attacks on livestock and wild dog control measures. In Queensland alone, the cost of damage due to wild dogs from 2008-9 was approximately \$67 million.

In terms of controlling the numbers of feral foxes and dogs, there are numerous benefits to implementing bounties. This control method provides a practical solution to the issues caused by feral foxes and dogs, including their effects on agriculture, livestock farming and ecological systems. Additionally, landowners are often more inclined to engage in population control initiatives if they are offered a financial incentive.

In Victoria in 2012, a case study was conducted and reported by The Conversation, which provided insights into the effectiveness of bounties as a method of feral fox and wild dog control. In the study, the government offered incentives of \$10 for a fox scalp and \$50 for a wild dog, and the numbers of each species collected were recorded over a 6-year period (see Figure 1 below).

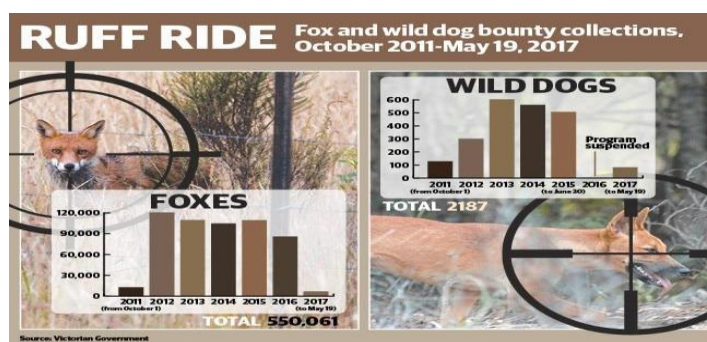


Figure 1

Retrieved from: <https://www.weeklytimesnow.com.au/news/national/fox-bounty-victoria-big-reduction-in-scalp-collection/news-story/740add753c5643a874fee59de2a69c2d>

The study ignited a lively discussion about the effectiveness of bounties and brought up multiple concerns, as there was limited information about the program's long-term goals and it was unclear whether the study would positively impact farmers or wildlife. It is worth mentioning that there were some conflicts between politicians and established Victorian government departments in charge of fox control programmes. This could suggest a lack of unity and cooperation in the strategies for managing pest species. The Victorian government also stressed the significance of organised community baiting programmes instead of animals being targeted on an individual basis and suggested that for long-term population reduction, bounties may need to be used alongside other existing control methods.

The study appeared to have significant engagement from the community, for example in the first 11 weeks of implementing the bounty system, there was a marked increase in the number of fox scalps returned. This resulted in a substantial expenditure of \$100,000, which accounted for 10% of the annual budget. The number of fox scalps collected demonstrated the enthusiasm and involvement in the bounty programme, with reports of

individual hunters achieving impressive results, such as one hunter reportedly catching 50 foxes in only two days.



Figure 2 Retrieved from <https://sportingshooter.com.au/news/south-australia-introduce-fox-bounty-scheme/>

The case study explored the intricate dynamics at play in pest management initiatives, especially when implementing bounty systems. Although bounties can generate interest and encourage people to participate, it is unclear how successful they are in achieving sustainable population control, especially long term. In addition, conflicts between government entities and varying viewpoints on the most effective control methods add complexity to the field of pest management strategies. Existing pest control methods such as poisoning, baiting and den destruction have been proven to be effective and currently it is unclear whether bounties could be used in combination with these methods to reduce fox and wild dog numbers. The case study also highlighted the significance of making decisions based on evidence and using multiple approaches to tackle pest species. The study also emphasises the importance of finding comprehensive and sustainable solutions that prioritise community engagement and ecosystem conservation.

It is also important to consider the financial implications of implementing bounties by conducting a thorough cost-benefit analysis. Bounty programs are expensive for governments to run and can be open to fraudulent practices such as hunters taking foxes from other geographic areas outside of the target site, therefore making the programme ineffective and costly. Additionally, younger and more naive animals are often easier to hunt, leaving behind mature adults who are able to breed and continue increasing the population size, making the bounty program ineffective and financially expensive.

In addition to financial issues, bounty programs also raise ethical concerns because often hunters use the most easily accessible methods which are not always the most humane. The National Code of Practice for the control of wild dogs and foxes was introduced to reduce inhumane practices which can leave animals injured, stressed or cause unnecessary suffering. Currently, baiting and exclusion fencing are regarded as more ethical methods of control due to the lack of physical damage to feral foxes and wild dogs. Other methods which are much more humane are currently being investigated such as Tranquiliser Trap Devices (TTD) which deliver a sedative to the animal when caught in a trap and lethal trap devices which prevent prolonged suffering.

In other parts of the world such as the UK, there have been a few studies that show bounties can be effective when the pest species exists in a small, isolated area and the duration of the program and participant numbers are limited. Therefore, there could be potential for bounty programs to be used alongside existing pest management strategies, on a small scale, where the program is closely monitored and the area is isolated. Due to the large range and extensive distribution of feral foxes and wild dogs across Australia, this means bounties may not be effective for these pest species.

Overall, there are many issues with re-introducing bounties to control feral fox and wild dog populations across Australia, including the lack of data supporting the long-term effectiveness of using bounties to reduce feral fox and wild dog numbers. The study above highlighted the importance of increasing community engagement, protecting ecosystems as a whole, and potentially using a range of pest control methods at the same time. However more research is needed into the long-term effectiveness of bounties and the potential ethical issues before bounties are re-introduced as a common method of pest species control.

Sources:

- <https://theconversation.com/political-dreaming-shooters-solving-pest-problems-8258>
- <https://pestsmart.org.au/toolkit-resource/fox-bounties/>



Building Biology Institute

The science of healthy buildings

“Pioneering Healthier Living Environments Worldwide”

In an era where the quality of our indoor environments significantly impacts our health and well-being, the Building Biology Institute (BBI) stands at the forefront of educating professionals and the public about creating healthier homes and workplaces. With a holistic approach that intertwines environmental science, sustainability, and human health, BBI has been instrumental in transforming the way we think about the buildings we inhabit.

At its core, building biology is the study of the holistic relationships between humans and their built environments. Originating in Germany after World War II, the science emerged as a response to the rapid construction of buildings that, while efficient, often neglected the health implications of materials and design choices. Building biology emphasizes the importance of constructing and maintaining buildings that support human health, ecological balance, and sustainability.

The science encompasses various facets, including:

- **Indoor Air Quality:** Focusing on minimizing pollutants like volatile organic compounds (VOCs), mold, and allergens to ensure the air we breathe indoors is as pure as possible.
- **Electromagnetic Fields (EMFs):** Studying the impact of EMFs on human health and implementing strategies to reduce exposure.
- **Building Materials:** Advocating for the use of non-toxic, sustainable materials that do not off-gas harmful chemicals, and are sustainable throughout the material's entire life cycle.
- **Water Quality:** Ensuring access to clean, contaminant-free water within buildings.
- **Thermal and Acoustic Comfort:** Designing buildings that provide comfortable temperatures and sound levels, enhancing overall well-being.
- **Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency:** Promoting designs that reduce environmental impact through energy efficiency and sustainable resource use.

Educational Excellence and Certifications

BBI offers comprehensive education programs designed to equip individuals with the knowledge and skills necessary to assess and improve indoor environments. Recognizing the interdisciplinary nature of building biology, BBI's curriculum bridges gaps between environmental science, architecture, engineering, and health sciences.

Core Certifications Include:

- ***Building Biology Environmental Consultant (BBEC):*** This program delves into the principles of building science, indoor air and water quality, electromagnetic radiation, and sustainable building practices. Graduates are trained to assess buildings holistically and recommend solutions that enhance occupant health.
- ***Electromagnetic Radiation Specialist (EMRS):*** Focusing on the assessment and mitigation of EMFs, this certification educates professionals on the sources of electromagnetic radiation and strategies to reduce exposure in residential and commercial settings.
- ***Building Biology New-build Consultant (BBNC):*** Tailored for those involved in the design and construction of new buildings, this program emphasizes creating structures that are healthy from the ground up, incorporating building biology principles from the initial planning stages.
- ***Building Biology Advocate (BBA):*** A certificate program designed for home owners, as well as professionals who want to add some healthy-home knowledge to their existing practices.

Each certification involves a combination of online coursework, hands-on training, and practical assessments, ensuring that graduates are well-prepared to apply building biology principles in real-world scenarios.

Global Impact and Reach

The Building Biology Institute's influence extends far beyond its headquarters. With students and graduates from over 20 countries, BBI has fostered a global community committed to healthier living environments. This international presence underscores the universal relevance of building biology principles in addressing common challenges related to indoor environmental quality.

In Australia, BBI graduates have been instrumental in adapting building biology practices to the unique environmental conditions of the region. Australian alumni are actively involved in assessing homes, advising on the use of sustainable materials suitable for the climate, and addressing the health concerns associated with urban living. Their work exemplifies how building biology principles can be tailored to meet specific regional needs while maintaining a commitment to global standards of health and sustainability.

Why Building Biology Matters Today

Modern lifestyles mean that people spend most of their time indoors. Consequently, indoor environments have a profound effect on health, productivity, and quality of life. Issues such as sick building syndrome, increased sensitivity to chemicals, and the impact of long-term exposure to low-level pollutants have brought building biology to the forefront of public health discussions.

Looking Ahead

The Building Biology Institute continues to expand its educational programs and research initiatives, staying abreast of emerging challenges and innovations in the field. By fostering a global network of professionals dedicated to creating healthier indoor environments, BBI is not only improving individual buildings but also contributing to a broader movement towards sustainability and wellness.

Further information about the Building Biology Institute may be found at www.buildingbiologyinstitute.org.

(The Building Biology Institute (BBI) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, dedicated to educating both professionals and the general public about how to create healthy homes, schools, and workplaces.)

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