

Eco Warriors Australia Newsletter

July 2025



Update: Planting the Seed Program

We had a busy start to the year planting with five local primary schools at Yering Billabong, Yering. Yering Billabong is a former wetland which has been grazed for many years. We are aiming to restore areas along the Yarra River and Olinda Creek. The convergence of three waterways in Yering Billabong – Olinda Creek, Stringybark Creek and Muddy Creek – makes Yering Billabong an area of Aboriginal cultural significance.

During April/May we planted over 3000 plants, or 1.6km of stream frontage, with students in prep to Year 6 from Coldstream, Yarra Glen, Yering and Lilydale. It was an amazing effort from everyone involved, and we'd like to especially thank the Wurundjeri Narrap Rangers team and Yarra Ranges Council for all their help. You can check out a video on the project [here](#).

We also ran cultural heritage sessions with each school, where students were able to learn about Aboriginal cultural through storytelling, dance and games. Everyone had lots of fun and some students even got to try out Kai's didgeridoo!

We'd like to thank DEECA for kindly funding our Planting the Seed program at Yering through their Greenlinks grant program.



Ecologist Alyse helping out with planting. © EWA 2025



Plantings along Olinda Creek, Yering. © EWA 2025



Student playing the didgeridoo. © EWA 2025



Wildlife Habitat Pods

Small ground mammals, reptiles, and amphibians are vulnerable to predation following land clearance, fire and storms due to a lack of shelter and resting places. Wildlife habitat pods can offer wildlife short to medium term refuge in areas affected by habitat loss or natural disaster.

In April, some keen volunteers from the Maroondah community built habitat pods at Warriren Reserve, Croydon North. Volunteers who took part in the sessions had a lot of fun getting creative and decorating their pods – check out some of the beauties in the photos! Following the sessions, ERA ecologists installed the pods in Warriren Reserve and Scott St Reserve, Heathmont, and placed monitoring cameras near pods to see which wildlife might use them.

Many thanks to Maroondah City Council and their Community Development Grants program for their generous support for our project.



Our helpful volunteers making the habitat pods. ©EWA 2025



*Getting creative!
© EWA 2025*



*Installed habitat pod.
© EWA 2025*

Wildlife Rope Bridges

Would you like to do something practical to help our local wildlife? Come and work together to help the team from Eco Warriors Australia make rope bridges that will be installed in storm-damaged habitat across the Yarra Ranges. Suitable for ages 8 + (children under 12 will need assistance).

We'll be running workshops at Belgrave library, Lilydale library and Montrose library during the September school holidays. Keep an eye out on the library websites and "What's On" booklets for booking details.

