

MD201 ENVIRONMENT

PROTECTING OUR PLANET, EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES



ENVIRONMENTAL CALENDAR 2026

FEBRUARY

02 Feb 26

World Wetlands Day

<https://www.worldwetlandsday.org/>

15 Feb 26

World Whale Day

<https://www.worldanimalprotection.org/our-campaigns/sentience/animal-awareness-days/world-whale-day>

MARCH

01-09 Mar 26

Sea Week Australia

<https://www.aeee.org.au/seaweek/>

01 Mar 26

Clean Up Australia Day

<https://www.cleanup.org.au/cleanupaustraliaday>

03 Mar 2026

World Wildlife Day

<https://wildlifeday.org/en>

14 Mar 2026

International Day of Action for Rivers

<https://nationaltoday.com/international-day-of-action-for-rivers/>

18 Mar 2026

Global Recycling Day

<https://www.globalrecyclingday.com/>

ENVIRONMENTAL CALENDAR 2026 cont.

MARCH cont.

20 Mar 26

World Frog Day

<https://worldfrogday.org/>

International Day of Forests

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/forests-and-trees-day>

22 Mar 26

World Water Day

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/water-day>

28 Mar 26

Earth Hour

<https://www.earthhour.org.au/>

30 Mar 26

International Day of Zero Waste

<https://dayspedia.com/au/calendar/holiday/3950/>

APRIL

03 Apr 26

World Aquatic Animal Day

<https://dayspedia.com/au/calendar/holiday/2523/>

14 Apr 26

National Dolphin Day

<https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/dolphin-day/>

18 – 26 Apr 26

Intl President AP SINGH Weeks of Service – Environment

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/member-resource-center/service/global-causes-initiatives/weeks-of-service>

22 Apr 26

Earth Day

<https://www.earthday.org/>

ENVIRONMENTAL CALENDAR 2026 cont.

MAY

03 May 26

International Wild Koala Day

<https://www.wildkoaladay.com.au/>

20 May 26

World Bee Day

<https://www.worldbeeday.org.au/>

23 May 26

World Turtle Day

<https://www.worldturtleday.org/>

JUNE

01 June 26

World Reef Awareness Day

<https://dayspedia.com/au/calendar/holiday/4551/>

05 June 26

World Environment Day

<https://www.worldenvironmentday.global/>

08 June 26

World Oceans Day

<https://worldoceanday.org/>

16 June 26

World Sea Turtle Day

<https://nationaltoday.com/world-sea-turtle-day/>

24 Jun 26

National Upcycling Day

<https://www.awarenessdays.com/awareness-days-calendar/national-upcycling-day/>

ENVIRONMENTAL CALENDAR 2026 cont.

JULY

01-31 July 26

Plastic Free July

<https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/>

26 July 26

National Tree Day

<https://nationaltreeday.org.au/>

28 July 26

World Nature Conservation Day

<https://dayspedia.com/au/calendar/holiday/4825/>

AUGUST

03-09 Aug 26

Landcare Week

<https://landcareaustralia.org.au/resources/campaigns/landcare-week/>

04-10 Aug 26

Keep Australia Beautiful Week

<https://kab.org.au/>

10 Aug 26

World Lion Day

<https://nationaltoday.com/world-lion-day/>

12 Aug 26

World Elephant Day

<https://worlddelephantday.org/about/>

15 Aug 26

World Honey Bee Day

<https://nationaltoday.com/world-honey-bee-day/>

ENVIRONMENTAL CALENDAR 2026 cont.

SEPTEMBER

01-30 Sept 26

Save the Koala Month

<https://savethekoala.com/how-to-help/save-the-koala-month/>

7 Sept 26

National Threatened Species Day

<https://wwf.org.au/what-we-do/species/national-threatened-species-day/>

20 Sept 26

World Cleanup Day

<https://dayspedia.com/au/calendar/holiday/913/>

<https://www.river-cleanup.org/en/project/world-cleanup-day-36>

27 Sept 26

World Rivers Day

<https://worldriversday.com/>

OCTOBER

4 Oct 26

World Animal Day

<https://dayspedia.com/au/calendar/holiday/1677/>

14 Oct 26

International E-Waste Day

<https://www.cleanup.org.au/international-e-waste-day-2025>

19-25 Oct 26

National Bird Week / Aussie Bird Count

<https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/>

22 Oct 26

Wombat Day

<https://dayspedia.com/au/calendar/holiday/2069/>

24 Oct 26

World Kangaroo Day

<https://www.worldkangarooday.org/>

ENVIRONMENTAL CALENDAR 2026 cont.

NOVEMBER

09-15 Nov 26

National Recycling Week

<https://planetark.com/programs/national-recycling-week>



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From Therese Bruning - MD201 Environment Chairperson

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY 2026



Clean Up Australia Day is a national day of action that brings communities together to help protect our environment. Each year, volunteers across the country roll up their sleeves to remove litter from local streets, parks, waterways and beaches, helping to keep our communities clean, safe and enjoyable for everyone. It's a practical way to show care for our local areas while raising awareness about the impact of waste on our environment.

For Lions Clubs, Clean Up Australia Day is an opportunity to take direct action, lead by example, and inspire others to care for the places we live. Together, even small efforts can make a big difference in protecting our environment for future generations. 🌍🦁

TIPS TO GET THE MOST FROM THE DAY

If your Club is taking part in Clean Up Australia Day, here are some tips to help you maximise the day, showcase your service, and engage your local community.

- Promote your activity in advance: Share details on social media, community noticeboards and local newsletters so the community knows where and when your Club is taking action. By registering on the [Clean Up Australia website](#), you can create your own event page which allows others to find your event on their interactive map. Their [online toolkit](#) will guide you through the steps.
- Invite others to join in: Encourage family members, friends, Leos, schools and community groups to participate alongside your Club to increase impact and visibility.
- Wear Lions branding: Wearing Lions shirts, hats or vests helps showcase who is leading the activity and builds recognition of Lions service in the community.
- Capture and share the day: Take photos and short videos before, during and after the clean-up to share on social media and with local media outlets.
- Talk to the community: Use the opportunity to chat with passers-by about Lions, your projects and how people can get involved or join your Club.
- Celebrate the results: Share the outcomes – such as the amount of rubbish collected or areas cleaned – to highlight the difference your Club has made and inspire future action.

Local action today. Visible service. Lasting impact

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From Therese Bruning - MD201 Environment Chairperson

CREATE, REUSE, INSPIRE LIONS NATIONAL UPCYCLING PROJECT



Over the next few months, we're launching a fun, creative and meaningful Upcycling Campaign – Create, Reuse, Inspire – and we invite every Lion, Leo, Club and family member to be part of it!

This campaign is about upcycling, not recycling – thinking creatively, getting hands-on, and showing how small ideas can make a big environmental impact. We encourage clubs to take on upcycling projects and share photos of your creations, which will be showcased across our social media.

UPCYCLING vs RECYCLING - WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE

While both help our environment, upcycling and recycling are not the same.

Recycling

Recycling breaks materials down to be remade into something new. This process often requires:

- Transport
- Energy
- Industrial processing

Examples include:

- Turning plastic bottles into new plastic products
- Melting glass to make new bottles
- Reprocessing paper into new paper

LIONS NATIONAL UPCYCLING PROJECT.

🎨 Upcycling

Upcycling means reusing items in their existing form and transforming them into something useful, decorative or creative – without breaking them down. It's about imagination, craftsmanship and fun!

Simple examples:

- Old tyres turned into garden planters
- Glass jars made into lanterns or storage containers
- Wooden pallets transformed into outdoor furniture
- Old t-shirts or denim jeans turned into tote bags
- Broken crockery used in mosaics
- Dyeing, painting or decorating items to give them a new lease of life e.g. denim jackets, glass bottles, furniture etc.



🔗 Links for Ideas and Inspiration

- [101 Upcycling Ideas](#)
- [Upcycling Crafts and DIY](#)
- [50 Upcycling Ideas for the Garden](#)
- [250 Upcycled Furniture Projects \(including wooden pallets\)](#)
- [30 Denim Upcycling Ideas](#)
- [45 DIY Upcycle Ideas to Sew](#)
- [20 Easy Ideas for Kitchen Item Upcycles](#)
- [150 Upcycling Ideas for Garden Projects](#)

LIONS NATIONAL UPCYCLING PROJECT

WHY UPCYCLING MATTERS FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT 🌍

Upcycling has powerful environmental benefits:

- ✓ Reduces waste going to landfill
- ✓ Saves energy and natural resources
- ✓ Lowers carbon emissions
- ✓ Encourages mindful consumption
- ✓ Extends the life of everyday items

By choosing to upcycle, we reduce demand for new materials and help protect our planet – all while having fun and learning new skills.

A CAMPAIGN FOR ALL AGES - LIONS AND LEOS 🦁🦁

This campaign is designed to be:

🦁 Inclusive 🦁 Creative 🦁 Hands-on 🦁 Suitable for all ages

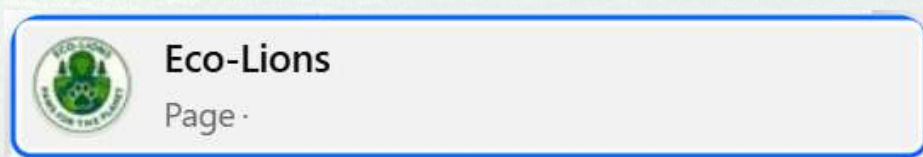
Leo Clubs are especially encouraged to get involved – upcycling is a fantastic way for young people to:

- Explore creativity
- Learn about sustainability
- Work together as a team
- Share their ideas on social media

From simple craft projects to large-scale club initiatives, every effort counts.

HOW CAN YOUR CLUB GET INVOLVED 📸

1. Choose an upcycling project (big or small)
2. Get creative and have fun
3. Take photos of your finished project (or even the process!)
4. Send your photos to environment@lions.org.au and/or tag our [Eco-Lions page](#) on Facebook @Eco-Lions. Use hashtags #ecolions #CreateReuseInspire #LionsUpcycleForGood



We'll share as many projects as possible to inspire others to get involved and make a positive difference for our environment.

LIONS NATIONAL UPCYCLING PROJECT

MONTHLY THEMES

The themes below ***are suggestions only*** and we of course welcome all projects at any time over the next few months.

FEB 2026 – Home & Everyday Items 🏠

Upcycling items found around the house. Examples: jars, clothing, furniture, containers, décor.

MAR 2026 – Garden & Outdoors 🌿

Giving new life to outdoor materials. Examples: tyres, pallets, pots, tools, signage.

APR 2026– Upcycle for Good 📺

Upcycling with purpose – creating items that are donated, gifted, used in service projects or support others in our community. Examples: items for fundraisers, furniture or toys for families in need, improvements to shared community spaces.

The upcycling campaign will run until the end of May 2026.



MOST IMPORTANTLY - HAVE FUN



CLUB PARTICIPATION CHECKLIST

Use this simple checklist to help your club get involved:

- Choose a monthly theme (or all three!)
- Decide on an upcycling project (simple or ambitious)
- Involve Lions, Leos, family members or community partners
- Create your upcycled item(s)
- Take clear photos (before & after encouraged)
- Write a short description of what you created and why
- Submit photos and details to environment@lions.org.au
- Share your project on social media - Tag @Eco-Lions plus #CreateReuseInspire #LionsUpcycleForGood
- Celebrate your impact and inspire others!