

# BUZZ: Native bees = increased production



Two free workshops talking about native bees and their importance for a healthy landscape will be held on:

**Date:** Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2017

**Benalla Government Offices**

89 Sydney Road Benalla

10am – 12 noon, morning tea will be available

AND

**Quality Hotel Parklake Shepparton**

2pm – 4 pm, afternoon tea will be available

To register your interest contact:

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Photos courtesy of Laurence Sanders, Erica Siegel, and Tracy Landell

**For more information contact us on:**

**Tel: (03) 5822 7700**

[www.gbcma.vic.gov.au](http://www.gbcma.vic.gov.au)

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We're all familiar with honey bees, but did you know there are more than 1600 species of native bees in Australia?

At these workshops we will look at native bees with particular reference to:

- identification
- differences in where they live
- what they need to survive on farmland and in towns/gardens
- some techniques for surveying
- bee hotels, habitat values
- safe use of pesticides

**Presenters:**

Karen Retra co-founder of the Wild Pollinator Count, a national citizen science project encouraging awareness of pollinator insects. She is a keen naturalist who is inspired by the diversity, roles and habits of the many species of beneficial insects that we often overlook.

Mark Hall is a PhD candidate at La Trobe University, looking at the importance of streams and roadsides for fauna conservation in the highly fragmented agricultural regions of north-central Victoria. He is particularly interested in how to best meet the needs of both farmers and wildlife.



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