

Social Enterprise Launch Pad Program



Sue Bradley, SWAMP

2020 Social Enterprise Launch Pad program participant

Sue Bradley, concept founder of SWAMP (Sustainable Wetlands Agriculture Makers Project) Central Coast said that participating in Council's Social Enterprise Launch Pad Program in 2020 provided the knowledge and confidence to bring her social enterprise idea into fruition.

"In addition to the mentoring and support, the program provided a space for networking and connecting with like-minded social entrepreneurs. Through these conversations I was able to locate a site on crown land for SWAMP Central Coast which is a sustainable community garden. Community members can come to learn and connect around the growing of food and other educational and training workshops. These include topics such as propagation, growing from seed, establishing no dig gardens, foodie nature playgroups, composting, growing herbs for medicine and facilitation of groups connecting to land and nature."

"This is a time where our community coming together is needed so much more than ever before. SWAMP is a place of diversity and acceptance. A place for the Central Coast community to connect and discover the importance of growing food with sustainable methods and respect to the land and environment."

"The Launch Pad program has been key to the start-up success of SWAMP's community garden project and education and training programs. It has given me the confidence to establish lasting relationships with community organisations, to form partnership programs and to reach out to local MP's, government and private organisations as well as Council. The continued mentoring after the program was to me one of the most helpful resources. I highly recommend this program to anyone wishing to bring their social enterprise ideas to life."

ABOUT SWAMP (Sustainable Wetlands Agriculture Makers Project)

SWAMP brings together expertise from various fields to run a sustainable community garden and learning hub. Everyone in the community is welcome to join in to connect, discover and learn about the sustainable practices of growing food whilst respecting the land and environment. SWAMP's success is also credited to the incredible brilliant core team who all said yes from the beginning who trusted and share a common vision which we stand for "cultivating food and community culture".

It is such a diverse team sharing so many brilliant attributes which is why community gardening matters. Community gardens are the hub for health for the wider surrounding communities. A place to gather, meet new friends, learn to grow food and ways to be sustainable in your own home and more importantly to connect in with your community. We also partner with other local organisations such as Youth Connections and the Glen Centre so support in training, education and connection into community.

SWAMP is located at the Central Coast Wetlands also known as the Pioneer Dairy alongside the Wyong River at Tuggerah.

For more information on SWAMP and to sign up for news go to swampcentralcoast.com.au

