

Nature and Sustainability Community Leadership Program

Frequently Asked Questions

About the Program

What is the Nature and Sustainability Community Leadership program about?

The Nature and Sustainability Community Leadership Program (CLP) has been designed to support community members who are passionate about the environment, climate change and/or sustainability action to develop their knowledge and their leadership skills, leaving confident that they can implement environmental projects and programs, bringing together their community to solve local issues. First Nations knowledge and science are embedded within the program and will deepen participant's understanding of caring for Country.

What experience or knowledge do I need to apply?

No formal qualifications or previous experience are required. Successful applicants will need a passion for the environment and sustainability and an eagerness to develop their knowledge and skills to lead environmental action projects.

Do I need to have a project plan?

No. If you're passionate about climate change, sustainability, or the natural environment in Casey but aren't sure where to focus your efforts, this program will help you identify your interests and support you to develop a project around them.

Do I have to live in the City of Casey to be eligible?

Yes.

Do I need to be over 18 years old to be eligible?

Yes, you must be 18 years old or above to be eligible for this program.

How many people will be included in the program?

There will be up to 30 participants.

Are there any fees or costs involved?

No, this program is entirely funded and supported by the City of Casey.

How do I apply?

Expression of Interest (EOI) forms can be found on Casey Conversations
<https://conversations.casey.vic.gov.au/>

Contact the City of Casey:

Web: casey.vic.gov.au
Email: caseycc@casey.vic.gov.au
Phone: 03 9705 5200
Post: PO Box 1000, Narre Warren VIC 3805
NRS: 133 677 (for the deaf, hearing or speech impaired)

Customer Service Centres:

Narre Warren: Bunjil Place, Patrick Northeast Drive, Narre Warren
Cranbourne: Cranbourne Park Shopping Centre, Cranbourne
ABN: 43 320 295 742



Benefits of the Program

What can the Community Leadership Program offer me?

This free program helps you grow your leadership skills and learn more about the environment, sustainability, and climate. You'll explore First Nations land management practices and caring for Country and gain the confidence to take action in your local community. You will develop valuable personal and professional networks in Casey and experience firsthand the way bringing community together can solve local issues.

What areas of leadership will the Program focus on?

The Program focuses on building leadership skills for community-led environmental action. Key areas include effective communication and storytelling, community engagement and co-design, systems thinking, understanding how Council works and how to build productive partnerships, cultural inclusion and learning from First Nations knowledge, and sustaining leadership through wellbeing, resilience, and collaboration.

Why is the City of Casey investing in this program?

The City of Casey understands the importance of addressing issues of biodiversity loss, climate change, and sustainability. This program supports the City of Casey Climate Action plan 2022-2030. It is important that the community feel supported to work together to take action on issues that impact them. Supporting social cohesion, connecting like minded people and providing the skills to bring community members together is vital to a healthy, happy Casey.

Will the program assist me in gaining employment with City of Casey or others?

Not directly, but the leadership skills and knowledge participants will gain will be useful in the employment market.

What happens after graduation? Are there further options to continue building my skills?

Yes - all graduates will be invited to join the Casey Catalyst Alumni Program. This offers further networking opportunities and access to events. The City of Casey also offers a range of community capacity building training that can support your leadership development.

Program Requirements

What education or qualifications do I need?

No formal qualifications or prior knowledge are required, only a passion for the environment and a willingness to get involved, learn, and make a difference.

Do I need to have experience in the environmental sector?

No, you do not need to have formal experience working in the sector.

Is there a selection process or interview panel that will assess my application?

Yes, there is a selection process. As well as the eligibility criteria, the selection panel will also consider:

- Geographical representation from across the City of Casey
- A range of cultural backgrounds, abilities, gender, sexual orientation and ages
- Diversity of personal and life experiences

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to a discussion with Casey staff to find out more about them and their interests and ensure that this program is the right fit for them.

Can I apply if I am working in the sector?

Yes, however it is important to understand that the program content covers foundational knowledge about the environment, climate change and sustainability, and leadership skill development. Consider whether this is the right level for you and your current skillset and knowledge before applying.

Program Support

Will you offer support for people living with a disability and/or those with families?

Yes, we are seeking a diverse range of applicants who represent our local community. Should you require additional assistance and support to complete the program, please let us know.

Can I still apply if English is my second language?

Yes. If you speak and understand some English but feel you need a little extra support to participate, we will arrange an interpreter.

Do I need access to a computer or laptop?

Ideally yes – however if this is difficult for some participants, a loan device can be arranged when required. Please note that email is our main form of communication with you outside of the workshop sessions.

Are the venues suitable for wheelchairs or walkers?

Yes - all venues are fully accessible.

Will parking be available?

Yes - There is sufficient parking at all the community venues we use. Participants will be advised of the location of the nearest accessible parking bays.

How is the program structured - what will the time commitment be?

There will be one 'meet and greet' session and ten workshop sessions over five months (roughly one every two weeks) from May – October 2026. This will include a mix of weekend and Thursday evening sessions, commencing on Thursday 21st May 2026. For full workshop dates please see the Workshop Dates flyer.

What happens if I cannot complete the program for any reason or I miss a session?

Please carefully review the workshop dates before applying to ensure you are available for each of the program dates, as each session builds on the previous one. However, we recognise that unforeseen circumstances can arise. If you are unable to attend a session unexpectedly, please contact us as soon as possible so we can assist you in maintaining your progress.

Do I have to purchase books or resources to support my participation?

No. All required resources and material will be supplied.

Will there be homework or assignments set that require additional hours?

There may be some work or reading you are asked to do between sessions at your own pace, and potentially some optional activities available.