

# Understanding the landscape levy



## *What is the landscape levy?*

The landscape levy is paid by all ratepayers across South Australia. Local councils collect the levy from ratepayers on behalf of their local landscape board. The levy helps to fund the work needed to protect and enhance our environment and natural resources.

## *How is my levy calculated?*

The landscape levy is based on the capital value of your property. Each year, the total landscape levy collected across the region increases by CPI (Consumer Price Index). Sometimes an individual landowner's levy may increase more or less than CPI depending on changes in the capital value of their property.

## *What does it pay for?*

The landscape levy helps protect the region's natural assets including water, soils and biodiversity. Funds are used for managing pest plants and animals, planning and management of water resources, restoring threatened ecosystems and providing grant funding to community groups to undertake important environmental work.

The levy assists our team of Stewardship Officers who work directly with land managers providing support and advice. Staff also have an important role ensuring land managers comply with regulations relating to managing declared pest plants and animals, soils and water affecting activities.



## Acknowledgement of Yerta / Ruwe (Country)

The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board respects the Peramangk, Kurna and Ngarrindjeri Nations as the Traditional Owners of the region.

We are committed to walking together with First Nations peoples to learn about and manage our lands and seas.

## Connect with us



Upper level, Cnr Mann and Walker streets, Mount Barker



08 8391 7500



[hf.landscapeboard@sa.gov.au](mailto:hflandscapeboard@sa.gov.au)



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# Caring for our natural environment

The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board delivers programs that put the community at the heart of managing soil, water, pest plants and animals, and biodiversity.

## Conserving Biodiversity

The Hills and Fleurieu region is a biodiversity hotspot, home to a large proportion of the state's native plant and bird species. Our dedicated efforts focus on preserving and restoring native vegetation and freshwater ecosystems to sustain this rich diversity. Through active conservation initiatives and partnerships, we aim to safeguard the region's natural heritage and facilitate the recovery of threatened species.



## Water allocation planning and water monitoring

With people, the environment, townships and industries all relying on our scarce water resources, the board plays a pivotal role in planning for the long-term sustainability and allocation of water resources across the Eastern and Western Mount Lofty Ranges. The board also monitors data on water flows, usage and environmental trends across our regional catchments.



## Eradicating and managing invasive species



Pest animals and weeds pose significant threats across the region. The Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board works closely with the community to help reduce the number of pests to restore native biodiversity and reduce losses in the agricultural industry in alignment with our Regional Pest Plant and Animal Strategy.

## Climate Ready Agriculture

As farming communities and industry groups navigate the changing demands of climate and the carbon economy, the Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board provides support and advice to land managers, including emissions auditing and carbon farming. We are also working in collaboration with industry, government and research partners to develop climate strategies for the region.

## Grassroots Grants

Our annual Grassroots Grant program offers a pool of \$260,000 to volunteers, schools, community groups, First Nations and landholders to help fund environmental projects across the region.



## Our Stewardship Program

Rural land managers play a critical role in regenerating and sustaining landscapes for current and future generations.

Our Stewardship Program connects rural land managers with five ways to care for land, water and nature:

1. Understand legislative responsibilities under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019, including pest plant and animal control, water affecting activities and managing soils.
2. Prepare an action plan to care for land, water and nature, and providing connection to local landcare groups and First Nations' heritage and knowledge.
3. Improve the condition of existing native vegetation and carry out successful revegetation.
4. Improve the health of watercourses and wetlands, and manage and maintain dams for the production and environmental benefits.
5. Improve the condition and resilience of soils and monitor and manage soils for production and landscape health.



To find out about other projects visit [landscape.sa.gov.au/hf](https://landscape.sa.gov.au/hf)