



Getting down and dirty at Healthy Soils Symposium

RELEASED: MACKAY // 21-11-18

EVENT:

WHEN: 10am – 5.45pm, Friday November 23, 2018. Interviews available at 12.30pm.

WHERE: Harrup Park Country Club, 89 Juliet Street Mackay 4740.

Reef Catchments is holding a special event to promote healthy soil within the region's agricultural industry, and is inviting primary producers and industry along.

Thanks to funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program and the Queensland Government, the 2018 Mackay Healthy Soils Symposium is a free event for local landholders.

It will be held at Harrup Park all day from 10am on Friday the 23rd of November. The day will include an impressive lineup of speakers all focused on getting the best out of the land around Mackay.

Topics will include building soil carbon, regenerating the landscape, and farming practices including biofertilisers and other soil ameliorants.

The key speaker is Andre Leu, International Director of Regeneration International. Mr Leu said: "Soils are the basis of our existence. We and most terrestrial species depend on a few centimetres of topsoil for most of our food. Regenerating soils will increase farm productivity, resilience, and can reverse catastrophic climate change."

"Governments, Departments, Industry and NGOs need to understand that regenerating soil is central to the survival of nearly every species on earth - especially humans. Everybody has to eat."

Reef Catchments Regional Landcare Facilitator, Juliane Kasiske is organising the event. She said that the soil symposium's focus has always been on recognising soil as a living ecosystem - the basis of productivity for all industries whether it be grazing, sugar cane, horticulture or forestry.

"Reef Catchments has run the Healthy Soils Symposium in previous years and it has been an effective vehicle, allowing our farmers to learn from local success stories and expand their knowledge on sustainable farming from external experts."



To attend the Healthy Soils Symposium, please register at Eventbrite,
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/healthy-soils-symposium-tickets-52037610895>

The event will be followed by a separate harvest celebration at the Mackay Botanic Gardens, a [Watershed Land Art Project \(Sunflowers and Song\)](#) in the evening from 6 to 9pm.

This event is proudly supported by Reef Catchments, through co-funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program and the Queensland Government.

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Media contacts:

Juliane Kasiske, juliane.kasiske@reefcatchments.com (07) 4964 6111; 0488 730 021

Jaime Newborn, jaime.newborn@reefcatchments.com (07) 4968 4213

Jonathan Reichard, jonathan.reichard@reefcatchments.com (07) 4968 4231