

Work experience register for the Armidale, Uralla and Walcha districts

Examples of organisations and businesses willing to take students for work experience activities

Organisation	Description	Work experience activities available	Career opportunities	Contact
Agricultural Information & Monitoring Services (AIMS)	A private business working with land managers to develop and manage pastures and grazing systems in sustainable ways.	Assist with pasture monitoring. Help with/attend field days and workshops.	<p>Experience with AIMS provides background for working with livestock grazing enterprises and industries, ecological monitoring, rural groups, farm planning and management, and small business management.</p> <p>Career training could be in natural resource management, agriculture, botany, ecology, agronomy, community education and development.</p>	<p>Judi Earl Phone: 6779 2286. Email: judiearl@auzzie.net</p> <p>Lewis Kahn Phone: 6771 1273. Email: lkahn3@pobox.une.edu.au</p>
Armidale Tree Group Native Plant Nursery	A community organisation propagating and selling native plants to property owners, home gardeners, Landcare groups, etc. It is directed by a Committee and run by horticulturalists and volunteers.	Work with propagating and selling native plants. Includes repotting seedlings, making cuttings, sowing seed, watering, weeding, helping customers, tidying the nursery and generally learning about native plants. There may be on-farm planting, seeding, site assessments, field days, plant identification sessions.	Experience at the Armidale Tree Group Nursery provides background for training and work in such things as horticulture, native plant management and propagation, Landcare-type activities, bush regeneration and small business management.	Phone: 6771 1620.
Citizens Wildlife Corridors Armidale Inc. (CWC)	A community group run by a Committee and volunteer Co-ordinator. Assists private landholders to do nature conservation on their properties and to develop and link wildlife corridors across the landscape.	<p>Availability of work is not assured. However, there are times when the Co-ordinator needs help with sending out newsletters, running field days, visiting landholders, repairing the group's map exhibit.</p> <p>The Co-ordinator may know of private landholders who require help to do Landcare-type activities such as fencing, planting trees, weeding plantings, etc.</p> <p>If none of the above are available the Co-ordinator may be able to spend time with students talking about what CWC does.</p>	<p>Work with this sort of organisation involves liaison with private landholders, applying for grant monies, managing community groups, educating people about wildlife corridors and sustainable land management.</p> <p>Training and experience are needed in community development and liaison, applying for funding, office administration, natural resource management and sustainable land management.</p>	Kath Wray Phone: 6772 8878.

EA Systems	A private business which assesses sites for environmental impacts, contamination and licensing under various Government Acts. Also conducts assessments for development applications which are 'on-paper assessments' only. Activities such as soil, fauna and flora assessments and sampling; interviewing developers, applying legislative and planning requirements.	Students may be accepted for work experience activities relating to much of the work of the business. However, this depends on what jobs EA Systems has at any particular time, as 'on-paper' work is difficult to involve students in and some on-site activities are precluded due to OH&S issues.	Experience at EA Systems may lead to courses and careers in environmental assessment and management - to reduce such things as water and soil contamination, and minimise environmental impact; assessing sites for contamination (chemical, noise, nutrients, pollutants) in urban and rural settings. Relevant areas of training include: environmental engineering, applied ecology, environmental chemistry, town planning, Environmental or natural resource management.	Phone: 67714864.
Field's Native Nursery Revegetation Solutions	A private business conducting on-farm contract work to prepare, manage and plant sites with farm trees, plantations, wind breaks. This business propagates native plants and outsources additional native plants and other nursery materials.	Work with propagating and planting native plants. On-farm planting, seeding, site assessments, weeding and other management activities. Students can only be taken on contracts in the local area.	Experience with this business provides background for careers in such things as horticulture, native plant management and propagation, Landcare-type activities, farm forestry, farm planning and management, and small business management.	Steve & Janet Field Phone: 6778 3111.
Kentucky Tree Nursery	A private business propagating and selling native plants to property owners, home gardeners, Landcare groups, etc.; and undertaking tree plantings on contract. In addition to running their Nursery, the Eveleigh's also manage a sheep-raising enterprise on their rural property.	Work with propagating and selling native plants. Includes repotting seedlings, making cuttings, sowing seed, watering, weeding, helping customers, tidying the nursery and generally learning about native plants. There may be work with on-farm plantings. N.B. There are times when nursery work is not available due to the demands of the Eveleigh's other enterprises.	Experience at the Kentucky Tree Nursery provides background for training and work in such things as horticulture, native plant management and propagation, Landcare-type activities, bush regeneration and small business management.	Chris & Marie Eveleigh Phone: 6778 7342.
New England Weeds Authority	The authority responsible for monitoring and controlling noxious weeds in the region. Provides information on weeds to the general public.	Assist in the office and outdoors with weed inspections (no students would be taken on weed spraying activities).	Careers with this sort of organisation require training in agronomy, botany, ecology, office management, rural industries, public education and community liaison.	Phone: 6771 1700.
NSW Department of Environment & Climate Change (DECC)	The State Government organisation undertaking research and providing information to the government and public on matters related to natural resource management (e.g. Greenhouse issues, native vegetation, environmental water, soil policy, fauna, Catchment Management). Catchment Management Authorities for north-east NSW are administered from within this Government Department.	Assist with property visits, site visits, research work and clerical/office activities.	Work with this sort of organisation could lead to careers dealing with plants/vegetation, native animals, environmental management, natural resource management, project management, policy development, natural resource mapping and planning, community liaison, education and development. Such careers require training in areas such as science, botany, ecology, zoology, entomology, freshwater science, natural resource management. Also research, extension, policy, administration, project and people management.	Admin/Office Manager Phone: 6773 5299.

NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA - under the NSW Dept. of Environment & Climate Change)	The State Government authority responsible for regulating, policing, prosecuting and protecting the environment with regard to environmental pollution.	Assist with property and site visits/assessments, sampling activities; participate in field days; assist with clerical/office activities. Activities include soil and water sampling; interviewing land managers, applying legislative and planning requirements; assisting in the office.	Experience at the EPA may lead to courses in water and soil science, environmental assessment and management, environmental pollution and contamination in urban and rural settings. Relevant careers include: environmental engineering, applied ecology, environmental and soil or water chemistry, town planning, environmental and natural resource management.	Phone: 6773 7000.
NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI)	State Government organisation which undertakes research and provides information to the public on matters related to agriculture (e.g. livestock grazing, horticulture, broad-acre cropping, apiculture), soils, forestry and minerals/mining.	Assist with property visits, site visits, sampling activities; participate in field days; develop newsletters; assist with clerical/office activities.	Careers with this sort of organisation involve extension and research work with agriculture, soils, forestry or mining; office management and clerical/administrative skills; developing policy; running and monitoring disease/pest control programs. Relevant training is in areas such as science, agriculture, mining, soils, forestry, administration; and including research, extension, policy, administration, policing, epidemiology, and community education and development.	Phone: 6738 8500.
NSW Department of Water and Energy	The State Government organisation undertaking research and providing information to the government and public on matters related to water and energy management, and the Murray Darling Basin.	Assist with site visits, research work and clerical/office activities.	Careers as scientists and policy makers, in the areas of water and energy. Requires training in areas such as science, ecology, zoology, freshwater science, water and energy systems, natural resource management. Also in research, extension, policy, administration, and community education and development.	Admin/Office Manager Phone: 6773 5299.
NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS - now under NSW Dept. of Environment & Climate Change)	The State Government Department managing the National Parks and Nature Reserves in the region. This involves planning and active management for nature conservation, fire management, visitor management and education, responding to public enquiries.	Assist with office duties, help with enquiries from the public, assist with outdoor activities in national parks.	Careers with the NPWS or similar organisations require training in biology, ecology, zoology, botany, environmental management, ecotourism, nature-based education, people and office management. Also experience and qualifications to work with machinery, chainsaws, fire, chemicals, etc.	Armidale Phone: 6776 0000. Walcha Phone: 6777 4700.

Rural Lands Protection Board (Armidale)	An authority responsible for monitoring and controlling animal disease and noxious animals in the region. The RLPB assists with regulating and tracing livestock movements, and registering brand, NLIS numbers, ear and tail tag numbers. It is also responsible for managing and administering the region's Travelling Stock Routes and Reserves.	Work with rangers and vets to: monitor and manage the health of livestock; and monitor and control noxious animals such as rabbits, foxes, pigs and goats; trace livestock movements and manage grazing, weeds and noxious animals on Travelling Stock Routes and Reserves. Work with office staff doing routine office work and dealing with the rural public to assist with monitoring livestock, noxious animals and Travelling Stock Routes and Reserves.	Careers with the RLPB require training and experience in extension work with animal health and movement, noxious animals and Travelling Stock Routes and Reserves; office management and clerical/administrative skills; running and monitoring disease/pest control programs. Training is required in agriculture, animal health, science, veterinary science, policing, epidemiology, administration and community liaison.	Field Rangers Phone: 6772 2366.
Southern New England Landcare Ltd	A community organisation run by a Committee and several paid staff. Assists land managers and community groups to do 'landcaring' on their properties and public spaces.	Assistance may be required to help compile and send out newsletters; plan, organise and run field days and workshops; write press releases. Help with office duties.	Careers with this sort of organisation require training and experience working with private landholders and community members, running community groups, community liaison and public enquiries, project funding, office administration. Training and experience in natural resource management, sustainable land management, community development and group management are also needed.	Phone: 6772 9123.
TAFE Rural Studies (Armidale)	A NSW Government education facility providing courses related to agriculture and organic growing at the tertiary level.	Only able to take work experience students for short visits to inspect the rural studies facilities and talk with staff.	Training and experience in agriculture, natural resource management and tertiary teaching are needed to work with this sort of facility.	Phone: 6773 7110 (Head Teacher).
University of New England, Armidale - (Department of Ecosystem Management)	This university department provides courses in plant and animal ecology; wildlife, plant and land management; water and soil resources at a tertiary level. Research projects involving wildlife, water and sustainable land management are being undertaken by staff and postgraduate students.	Observe tertiary teachers, assist with research projects and help prepare for practical sessions.	Training in areas such as those taught by this Department could lead to careers in university-level research and/or teaching. Technical officer positions assist staff in research institutions. Careers could also be in environmental or natural resource management - from the perspectives of tertiary teaching or research, extension, writing, industry liaison, advising on the management of natural areas and natural resources within production settings.	Administration Phone: 6773 2539. Lecturers: Julian Prior Phone: 6773 3610. Email: jprior@une.edu.au Nick Reid Phone: 6773 2759. Email: nrei3@une.edu.au Darren Ryder Phone: 6773 5226. Email: dryder2@une.edu.au