



Conservation covenants

A conservation covenant is a voluntary agreement between the Trust and the landowners. It is placed on the title of the land to ensure that the natural bushland is permanently protected.

Rate Rebate

Moira Shire Council and the City of Greater Shepparton in partnership with the Trust for Nature and the Natural Heritage Trust are offering a rate rebate to landholders with a conservation covenant.

A payment of up to \$20 per hectare is available. The total payment will depend on the rated value of the covenanted area with a minimum of \$100 to a maximum of \$1000 per landholder.

Landowners that have native pastures, bush or swamps on their land are encouraged to apply for a conservation covenant with the Trust for Nature. Once a covenant has been registered the landowner will automatically receive a rate rebate.

For Example

The Smith's Farm

The Smith's have a conservation covenant registration over their 80 hectare bush block.

The rates for this bush block are \$10 per hectare.

The Smiths get the total value of the rates on the bush block as a rebate. This gives them a rebate of \$800.

The Martin's Farm

The Martin's have a back paddock that contains many native grasses. They contact the Council and their paddock is assessed by the Trust for Nature as suitable for covenanting. They decide to register a covenant. They are still able to occasionally graze their sheep there.

The rates for this 10 hectare back paddock are \$5 per hectare. The rates therefore currently cost the Martin's \$50 for this back paddock.

The minimum rebate given is \$100. The Martin's therefore get \$100 off their annual rates bill.



Protecting the natural heritage of the Moira Shire Council and the City of Greater Shepparton

Trust for Nature is a non-profit independent organisation working to assist private landowners to protect the native habitat on their property.

How can I find out more?

**Moira Shire Council
Phone 5871 9222**

**Greater Shepparton City Council
Phone 5832 9700**

Or contact Trust for Nature

**Melbourne Office
Phone 03 8631 5888**

**Goulburn Broken Region Manager
Phone 0407 521 154**