



Dear All,

With John Dahlenburg changing roles, I will be replacing him on the WSUD in Sydney Program until the Sydney Metro CMA find a full time replacement.

Formerly employed by City of Sydney as a Senior Environmental Development Officer, I was responsible for the development and implementation of water conservation, recycling and reuse policies and projects. I was also responsible for capacity building council officers and consultants; managing grant applications; and representing the City on numerous advisory panels and technical working groups such as the Cooks River Foreshore Working Group and the Busby's Bore Black Water Reclamation Project.

In addition, I am the New South Wales representative on the Board of Directors and Vice President of Environs Australia, a network of members interested in promoting sustainable development through local action, primarily in the local government sector.

I look forward to our working together, continuing John's efforts of the last (almost) 5 years. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me, Kate Black on 02 9895 6206 or via kate@wsud.org

Regards K.

The **May 2007** (No. 39) WSUD e-newsletter contains information on;

(1) Review of Street Scale WSUD in Melbourne **(2)** Australian Government's Community Water Grants **(3)** ABS Domestic Water and Energy Use Survey findings **(4)** Warners Park Stormwater Planter Box – Modifications **(5)** Sydney Water Corporation's Future Offices in Parramatta **(6)** WSUD Website Updates **(7)** WSUD Training Course (Newcastle) **(8)** WSUD Events (NSW SIA Regional Conference; 3rd AWA Water Reuse & Recycling Conference; & AWA Recycled Water Guideline Seminar)

1. Review of Street Scale WSUD in Melbourne

The City of Kingston and the Better Bays and Waterways – Institutionalising WSUD and Best Management Practice in Greater Melbourne Project has tried to better understand factors contributing to the successful implementation of street scale WSUD (including many retrofits) - inspecting 22 sites across Melbourne. Commonly, poor filter function (inappropriate filter material) adversely impacted infiltration and pollutant removal rates. Plant growth was variable, with poor growth associated with water logging soils caused by poor filter function. A new filter specification – mulch, filter, transition layer and drainage layer was developed, as were two typical maintenance regimes. They have also included some estimate of maintenance cost of street bioretention systems. It's a very readable 60 page report with lots of useful information. Please refer http://www.clearwater.asn.au/resources/643_1.Review_of_retrofitted_WSUD_in_Melbourne_Final_Report.pdf

2. Australian Government's Community Water Grants

The Australian Government Water Fund's Community Water Grants Round 3 opened on 23 April 2007. Applicants must register online (closing 22/06/2007) before you can submit a grant application (closing 04/07/2007). For further information on how to apply, application guidelines and promotional brochure please refer <http://www.communitywatergrants.gov.au/grants/round3>

3. ABS Domestic Water and Energy Use Survey Findings

A survey of 'Domestic Water and Energy Use' comprising 1,636,200 households in Sydney and 1,030,600 outside of Sydney was conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in

October 2006. The findings present information on household use of certain water and energy using appliances. Information is collected on cooling and heating devices; washing machines and clothes dryers; showers and swimming pools and outdoor spas.

It's not as dry a read as you would expect and includes some interesting findings that may assist you in compiling reports (eg. State of Environment) and/ or plan water and energy reduction community engagement strategies and programs. Please refer: <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/4621.1?OpenDocument>

4. Warners Park Stormwater Planter Box - Modifications

A Stormwater Planter Box installed at the Warners Park Community Centre, Northbridge in 2003 has been modified to overcome plant growth deficiencies. That is, plants did not flourish in either soil profile despite regular hand watering and fertilising. Modifications have been made to the original design and monitoring over a 12-18 month period will determine if the system is suitable to local climatic conditions. Modifications to improve plant health include soil layers and moisture; plant selection and nutrient regime; and hydraulic design.

Willoughby Council advise the new plantings (November 2006) are rain fed only and growing well. However, the real test will come from an extended dry period of 6 to 8 weeks regularly experienced by Willoughby in recent years. I look forward to further updates and will keep you all posted. Please refer <http://www.wsud.org/Exchange.htm> under the section 'Other Relevant Councils' for a copy of Willoughby Council's report and pictures.

5. Sydney Water Corporation's Future Offices in Parramatta

Sydney Water's new office building (compared with conventional office buildings) is designed to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 30 per cent, potable water use by 75 per cent and wastewater discharge by 90 per cent. WSUD specific features include an onsite wastewater recycling plant – recycled water will be reused for toilet flushing, cooling towers, fire system testing and irrigation; a 100,000 litre rainwater tank will also supplement secondary water uses; chilled beam cooling and natural convection will be used instead of conventional air cooling; water conserving fixtures installed for toilets, showers and taps; and a building management system installed to monitor water and energy use, minimising leaks and waste.

For further information on the buildings ecologically sustainable design features refer <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/WhoWeAre/OneSmithStreet/>

6. WSUD Website Updates

The website has been updated with my contact details - any correspondence received via info@wsud.org will be referred directly to me for response. 'The Green Roofs & Planter Box Bioretention Systems' section has been updated with Warners Park Stormwater Planter Box images and reports. The WSUD related events section was also updated.

The entry page to each amended section on the website are:

<http://www.wsud.org/pics.htm>
<http://www.wsud.org/Exchange.htm> *
<http://www.wsud.org/seminar.htm>

* Remember it is possible to search for specific information/phases/words inside the PDF files on the website by using the search box on the left side of the page.

7. WSUD Training Course (Newcastle)

The WSUD Training Course: for DA Planners and CC Assessors, University of Newcastle, Newcastle, **11 July 2007**. The one-day training course is managed by University of

Technology, for a course program and registration form please refer:
www.wsud.org/seminar.htm.

If councils want to arrange individual courses please contact Dr. Jaya Kandasamy on (02) 9514 2558 - a minimum of 20 attendees is required before a course will be scheduled.

8. WSUD Events

The following WSUD related events will be held over the next few months:

1. *The NSW SIA Regional Conference*, Novotel Northbeach Hotel, Wollongong, **19th – 22nd June, 2007**. Please refer: <http://www.gemspl.com.au/soilwater/>
2. *The 3rd AWA Water Reuse and Recycling Conference*, UNSW Sydney, **16-18 July, 2007**. Please refer <http://www.cwwt.unsw.edu.au/reuse07/index.html>.
3. *The AWA Recycled Water Guideline One Day Seminar*, Carlton Crest, Sydney **06 September 2007**. The course will examine requirements, purpose and application of the guidelines using practical case studies. To download the course program and speakers list please refer to: <http://www.awa.asn.au/Content/NavigationMenu2/Education/NationalInterestEvents/bVarious07bRecycledWaterGuidelines/default.htm>

If you have a water sustainability related policy, case study, report or an event/seminar coming up please email me the details and I will endeavour to put the information up on the wsud.org website and/or include it in this e-newsletter.

Please forward this on to colleagues who may be interested in Sustainable Water Management and/or WSUD.

If this e-newsletter was forwarded to you and you would like to receive future WSUD e-newsletters please send an email to info@wsud.org and put **join** in the subject line.

If you want to be removed from this e-newsletter list please email info@wsud.org with **remove** in the subject line.

Regards

Kate Black

Water Sensitive Urban Design in Sydney Program

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