



Hello All,

Lately, I seem to be having the same conversation with a lot of people in the water sector. Each conversation has touched in some manner or other, on the following:

- Closer linkages between government, research institutions and industry would assist in bridging the current gap between science and policy;
- At a local level, these linkages would assist in building regional capacity;
- Linkages generate inter and intra organisational support networks;
- Linkages provide opportunities for consolidating existing knowledge and determining knowledge gaps.

In addition to the above, I also believe that through the generation of tangible research outputs (eg. reports, guidelines, toolkits, checklists, databases, models etc.) with practical application, these partnerships may also provide experiential learning and capacity building opportunities. As such, I have included a new section in this month's e-newsletter - entitled *Research Linkages & Opportunities*. From now on, it will be a regular feature.

Anyone (Government (State and Local), Industry and/or Research Institutions) interested in seeking partners for developing WSUD and/or sustainable urban water management research projects with tangible research outputs (eg. reports, guidelines, toolkits, checklists, databases, models etc.) should send me an email. If appropriate, I will promote them to e-newsletter subscribers numbering (about 1,000 practitioners). Projects developed for any by this program will also be promoted in this way.

In other news, the two day FAWB - Designing Bioretention Systems (Raingardens) promoted in previous e-newsletters and scheduled for early 2008 has been postponed until June 2008. Keep your eyes open for further updates and specifics.

Regards, K.

Kate Black
Program Manager

The **February 2008 (No. 46) WSUD e-newsletter** contains information on: **(1)** USWIM Guideline **(2)** WSUD Opportunities & Barriers **(3)** Potable Water – Management & Behaviour **(4)** CLAM Software **(5)** Research Linkages & Opportunities **(6)** Grants & Rebates **(7)** Events Calendar **(8)** Websites of Interest

1. USWIM Guideline – Marrickville Council

Congratulations to Marrickville Council on the release of their Urban Stormwater Integrated Management (USWIM) Guideline that stemmed from their award winning community engagement project; delivered in partnership with Monash University's Urban Water Governance Program. Refer

http://www.wsud.org/downloads/2006_SWC_Projects/2006_SWC_Marrickville_Planning_Policy.pdf for an overview of the project's scope.

The Guideline also forms the basis for the Cooks River Sustainability Initiative (http://www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au/edrawer/Files/76372333/TRIM_TR_REC_910667.PDF) and an internal project being delivered by Strathfield Council. Using the guideline as a framework, Councils could use the steps and apply them to their own operations. Have a look in *Section 6 - Grants and Rebates* below for potential funding streams.

The Guideline includes 10 essential steps that assist Councils to design an easy-to-adopt sustainable urban water management strategy with a subcatchment focus. The Guideline shows how to identify and define stormwater management priorities, collaborate with your community to create a plan, and finally implement the solutions identified through the planning process. For a copy refer:

<http://www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au/environment/water/sustainablewaterplanning.htm#bottom>.

2. Opportunities and Barriers for WSUD - Botany Bay Catchment

Research on the *Opportunities and Barriers to WSUD Adoption in the Botany Bay Catchment* was carried out in late 2007 as a part of John Dahlenburg's Botany Bay Coastal Catchments Initiative (www.sydney.cma.nsw.gov.au/bbccci/). This research involved structured interviews with councils and other key stakeholders in the catchment. While it focuses on the Botany Bay Catchment, the findings are applicable to the greater Sydney Metropolitan region. It's a good read (30 pages), if you want to understand more about the regional barriers to the uptake of WSUD and potential strategies to overcome them. Refer:

<http://www.sydney.cma.nsw.gov.au/bbccci/WaterSensDesign.html>

3. Potable Water – Management Strategies and Consumer Behaviour

Anyone wanting to understand the complexities associated with Sydney's urban water scarcity, potential strategies (ie. pricing, restrictions and desalination) to manage the resource and human behaviour could refer to the following Sydney based studies. Water educators may wish to incorporate the science into their education programs and associated tools:

- Water Scarcity: Does it exist and can price help solve the problem? Refer <http://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/files/Water%20scarcity%20-%20Does%20it%20exist%20and%20can%20price%20help%20solve%20the%20problem%20-%20Working%20Paper%20January%202008.PDF>
- Water Consumption and the Built Environment: A Social and Behavioural Analysis <http://www.fbe.unsw.edu.au/cityfutures/publications/researchpapers/researchpaper5.pdf>

4. CLAM Software

The Coastal Lake Assessment Modelling (CLAM) Software was developed for local council and state government (e.g. National Parks, Department of Natural Resources) practitioners to assist in a holistic approach to planning and decision making in the management of a coastal lake catchment. It also provides an educational tool to view the interactions that occur within a catchment, and assists in identifying important knowledge gaps of how the catchment system operates. Refer

<http://icam.anu.edu.au/products/clam.html> and/or contact Naomi Brydon on 02 6125 9595 or via clam@anenterprise.com.au

5. Research Linkages & Opportunities

Opportunities to be involved in the development and/or delivery of research related projects are as follows. Please send me an email to indicate your interest and to learn more about the effort involved (eg. 2 hours per month to attend meetings and allow access to Council's sites and/or associated records). Potential partners are limited to 5 Local Councils only. If you are interested, please contact me as soon possible:

- *A Study of Water Sensitive Urban Design Techniques: Maintenance and Costing.* An honours student would work with Councils (March to October 2008) to assess WSUD maintenance practices and recommend changes in accordance with best practice. Recommendations would include cost benefit and sensitivity analyses;

- *A Study of WSUD Life Cycle Costing*. The three (3) year project would enhance financial viability of WSUD techniques by identifying key cost elements in WSUD techniques and finding innovative ways to achieve cost savings to reduce the overall life cycle cost of WSUD techniques. Further, the project would quantify total benefit of the WSUD techniques which will increase WSUD benefit-cost ratios.

6. Grants & Rebates

The \$100 million Residential Rebate Program is part of the NSW Government's Climate Change Fund and has been established to help people make their homes more water and energy efficient. Councils may wish to promote to residents and if they haven't already. Refer <http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/rebates/index.htm>

While not yet opened, the following NSW grants may be announced in March 2008. Keep an eye on the websites and/or future editions of this e-newsletter for further updates:

- The Environmental Trust will offer grants in 2008 for Education, Research, Echo-schools, Protecting our Environment (Indigenous), Restoration and Rehabilitation and Urban Sustainability. Refer www.environmentaltrust.nsw.gov.au
- NSW Green Business Program provides \$30 million over five years for projects that will save water and energy in business operations in NSW. Refer <http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/grants/ccfgbp.htm>
- Forging Partnerships - A joint initiative of the Natural Resources Advisory Council (NRAC) and the NSW Government; it was established to promote partnerships for the sustainable management of natural resources – the water, the trees and vegetation, the soil and lands – in NSW. Refer http://www.nrac.nsw.gov.au/projects/fp_intro.htm

7. Events Calendar

The following events are scheduled in the next few months, refer weblinks for further information:

- Water Sensitive Urban Design Permeable Concrete Segmental Pavements – Hydraulic & Structural Pavement Software – Sydney, 7 March 2008. Refer attached pdf for further details, including other sessions around Australia.
- Engineering Education Australia - Stormwater Management (Source Control - The Portside Centre (Level 5, 207 Kent Street Sydney), 13th to 14th March 2008. Telephone 02 9251 9559 or visit for a copy of the 2008 short courses brochure <http://www.eeaust.com.au/EEA-Short-Course-Brochure-2008-32Pages.pdf>
- ECO*STAR® Workshop - Fred Hutley Hall (cnr Miller and McLaren Sts, North Sydney), 18 March 2008. \$750 per council (incl. 3 staff). Provides a simple framework and support process to assist councils to systematically retrofit their facilities with energy and water saving devices. For Newcastle City Councils original project refer http://www.wsud.org/downloads/2005_SWC_Projects/SWC_05_Newcastle_EcoSTAR_Retrofit.pdf. **Registrations close Friday, 29 February 2008**. Please contact Melissa Cleary at mcleary@ncc.nsw.gov.au or via 02 4974 2549
- WATER EFFICIENCY 2008, 3RD NATIONAL WATER EDUCATION - Gold Coast, 30 March to 2 April 2008. Refer

www.awa.asn.au/Content/NavigationMenu2/Education/NationalInterestEvents/Apr08b3rdEducationConferenceb/default.htm

- Flood Modelling with HEC-RAS - UTS Sydney 17th to 18th April 2008. Refer attached pdf document for course detail and registration.
- Australian Water Summit 2008 – Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, 29th to 30th April 2008. Refer www.acevents.com.au/water2008/
- Enviro 08 – Australasia's Environmental and Sustainability Conference and Exhibition – Melbourne, 5th may to 7th May 2008. Refer www.enviro08.com.au

8. Websites – new and/or potential interest

The following websites may be of particular interest for WSUD related research and/or policy and project development:

- <http://www.stormwater.org.au/information.php> The Burnett Mary Regional Group in partnership with the Queensland and Australian Governments have produced a great stormwater capacity building website. Replete with Factsheets, drain stencils, films (community announcements, You Tube Movies etc.), photography competition and even an animated "Drain Man" computer game; there are many ideas that can be applied to our own websites;
- <http://www.lanfaxlabs.com.au/> The web pages detail research findings regarding potential environmental impact of laundry detergents. Organisations may wish to promote to residents via their own web pages and fact sheets etc.

If you have 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,

K.

Kate Black

Program Manager

Water Sensitive Urban Design in Sydney Program

T: 02 9895 6206

M: 04 22 00 88 69

www.wsud.org

Program Partners - NSW Stormwater Trust, Sydney Water, Sydney Metropolitan CMA, WSROC, UPRCT & SCCG