

January Newsletter

This month featuring highlights such as **Capacity Building & Leadership Workshops, Rainwater & Greywater System Installation, The 4th Annual Water Symposium, Greywater Testing Technology** and much more.



Hello All,

Welcome to the new year of 2009. I hope you survived the festivities and managed some relaxation along the way.

After completing the regional and program Water Sensitive Urban Design Review late last year, 2009 is shaping up to be an exciting year for those involved with the WSUD in Sydney Program. I will be implementing the review recommendations in accordance with stakeholder needs and expectations over the next 12 months. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who kindly donated their time and efforts to the review process. The e-newsletter and program website will be my main avenue to communicate these outcomes, including a much needed revamp of the website itself. I will also be contacting all Sydney Metropolitan Councils individually over the next month to discuss the review outcomes and how you can benefit.

Refer Item 1 for details of a Capacity Building and Leadership Workshops that is being held in Sydney from 23 to 24th February 2009. In addition to disseminating research findings from Monash University's Urban Water Governance Program; the event includes interactive sessions that will enable you to use your own knowledge and experience to assist with the development of locally and nationally relevant policy recommendations. The recommendations will be reported and presented to the National Water Commission and Senior Policy Strategists across Australia.

In recognition of the event's import to the uptake of WSUD in our region, the Sydney Metropolitan CMA will be subsidising the first 50 Sydney Metropolitan local council practitioners (only) who register - \$200 per registration with a maximum of 2 per Council. With the subsidy, registration will only cost \$350. First-in-best-dressed, so you will need to be quick.

Refer also to Item 3 to see how Government (only) subscribers to this e-newsletter can acquire a 25% discount to attend the 4th Annual Water Symposium on the 20th February 2009 in Sydney.

If you have an item that you would like to promote, please email me the details. If appropriate, I will include it on the www.wsud.org website and/or distribute via this e-newsletter.

Regards, K.

Kate Black

Program Manager

The **January 2009 (No. 54) WSUD e-newsletter** contains information on:

(1.) Capacity Building & Leadership Workshop – SMCMA \$200 Subsidy **(2.)** Installation of Rainwater & Greywater Systems – Guideline **(3.)** 4th Annual Water Symposium – 25% Discount **(4.)** Greywater Testing Technology **(5.)** LGSA NSW Award Winners **(6.)** Research Linkages & Opportunities **(7.)** Grants & Rebates **(8.)** Events Calendar **(9.)** Websites of Interest

1. Capacity Building & Leadership Workshops - SMCMA \$200 Subsidy

The Creating Water Sensitive Cities - Capacity Building & Leadership Workshops will be held in Sydney on 23rd to 24 February 2009 at the Novotel, Sydney Olympic Park. This event provides an opportunity to learn lessons from our past while identifying future opportunities for change from leading international experts (including Rebekah Brown and Tony Wong) – social sciences, engineering, climatology and urban design. The innovative workshop design combines interactive policy development sessions with technical information presentations. Attendees will generate locally and nationally relevant policy recommendations based on their own knowledge and expertise. The outcomes will be reported and presented to the National Water Commission and Senior Policy Strategists across Australia.

This is a very unique opportunity indeed and one which I would encourage all practitioners to attend. In recognition of this event's ability to generate further commitment and capacity to implement WSUD and therefore Sydney's transition to a water sensitive city, the Sydney Metropolitan CMA is subsidising the first 50 Sydney Metropolitan Local Council practitioners (maximum 2 per council) to register for the event. In order to qualify or to learn more about the event itself, refer to: <http://www.wsud.org/seminar.htm> Or and for more information about the event itself, refer to <http://www.watersensitivefutures.org/>

2. Installation of Australian Rainwater & Greywater Systems

The National Water Commission has released a 'how to guide' that was developed by the Master Plumber and Mechanical Services Association of Australia in partnership with key stakeholders and Regulatory Authorities. Councils may wish to promote this guideline within their councils and/or community. Additional information, such as technical handbooks for plumbers and residents on how to install and maintain rainwater tanks & greywater systems is also available via the following link: <http://www.nwc.gov.au/www/html/914-installation-requirements-for-rainwater-greywater-systems-in-aust.asp?intSiteID=1>

3. 4th Annual Water Symposium – 25% Discount Govt Subscribers

The 4th Annual Water Symposium will be held in Sydney on 20th February 2009 at L'Aqua, Darling Harbour, Sydney. The forum will provide an opportunity to discuss the innovative ways in which the Water Industry can address challenges impacting water security - climate change, ageing infrastructure and over-allocated supply. Expert speakers include Ken Matthews AO (Chairman and CEO, National Water Commission), Robert Freeman (Chief Executive, Murray Darling Basin Authority), Professor Mike Young (Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists), Mark Pearson (Executive GM – Regulatory Affairs Division, ACCC) and Scott Alden (Partner DLA Phillips Fox).

Government subscribers (only) to the WSUD in Sydney Program's monthly e-newsletter will be granted a 25% discount on the standard registration price (\$984.50) – a reduced cost of \$674.25. For more information about the event and how to qualify for the 25% discount, refer: <http://www.wsud.org/seminar.htm>

4. Greywater Testing Technology – CSIRO Report

The CSIRO's Greywater Technology Testing Protocol Report is a laboratory based testing Protocol that details recommended procedures, methods and analysis techniques. Note, this is a draft methodology only, its purpose being a discussion document to be circulated to regulatory bodies, councils, system manufacturers and other stakeholders for comment and discussion. The report includes a description of the protocol as well as details of the processes that were followed during protocol development and the rationale of decisions and recommendations. For a copy of the report, please refer:

<http://www.smartwater.com.au/projectdocs/project30/Greywater%20Technology%20Testing%20Protocol.pdf>

5. Local Government and Shires Association – NSW Award Winners

Congratulations to the Winners of the NSW Local Government and Shires Association's (LGSA) NSW Stormwater and Urban Waterways Award, which was sponsored by the Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Authority. The Awards recognised waterway and riparian corridor restoration and rehabilitation projects and stormwater improvement programs in an urban environment that improved the health and amenity of the waterway:

- **Division B - Winner**
Strathfield Council: Cooks River Restoration Project, Area B, Freshwater Park
- **Division C - Highly Commended**
City of Canada Bay: Iron Cove Stormwater and Biodiversity Initiative
- **Division C - Winner and Overall Category Winner**
Ku-ring-gai Council: Ku-ring-gai Catchment Remediation Program

For more information about these and other award entries, please refer to <http://www.lgsa-plus.net.au/www/html/2724-stormwater-and-urban-waterways-award.asp?intSiteID=2>

Otherwise, you may also like to visit <http://www.wsud.org/swc.htm> to see the key note addresses and case studies from the 2008 Sustainable Water Challenge held in Sydney on 18th September 2009.

6. Research Linkages & Opportunities

Are a researcher, council officer, NSW Government employee, consultant, industry representative or community group and who is developing a project and seeking funding and/or development and delivery partners? If so, please send me an email via kate.black@cma.nsw.gov.au detailing the project scope, partnership or funding needs and how you consider this project is of regional benefit. If appropriate, I will advertise your needs via this section of our monthly e-newsletters.

- To qualify for assistance via the WSUD in Sydney Program, projects must include:
- Cross sectoral partnerships (government, research, industry and community)
- Address identified regional barriers and knowledge deficits (for examples, refer http://www.sydney.cma.nsw.gov.au/bbcci/publications/BBCCI_WSUD_Barriers_and_Opportunities_to_WSUD_Adoption_FinalV3.pdf)
- Build regional organisational capacity – within and external (linkages) to your own organisation
- Identify & foster champions and emerging leaders

- Project outputs have practical, tangible application at the local level
- Cost effective and replicable
- Seek grant funding to match your own monetary and/or in-kind contributions

7. Grants & Rebates

Following are current Grant Programs that Councils may want to apply for and/or promote within their communities. As ever, anyone wanting to seek partners and/or input to grant applications should send an email to kate.black@cma.nsw.gov.au. Please make sure you allow a minimum of 3 days notice for a response:

- **National Urban Water and Desalination Plan** includes grant funding of up to 10% of the eligible capital costs (capped at \$100 million per project) will be available to the successful proponents. Applications close 30 June 2009. Refer <http://www.environment.gov.au/water/programs/urban/index.html>
- **Sydney Water's Water Saver Grant Program** is available to small to medium businesses in Sydney, the Illawarra and the Blue Mountains that use between 20 kilolitres and 80 kilolitres of water a day. Funding includes up to 50% of a new water saving project whereby Sydney Water will reimburse successful applicants for half the cost of water efficiency projects valued between \$4,000 and \$40,000. Apply via: <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/SavingWater/InYourBusiness/BusinessWaterSaverGrant.cfm>

8. Events Calendar

The following events are scheduled in February 2009:

- Australian Water Association Seminar Roadshow – Future of Catchment Management: University of Technology Sydney Campus. 4 February 2009. For more information or to register: http://www.awa.asn.au/AM/Template.cfm?Section=b_Feb_09_b_The_Future_of_Catchment_Management&Template=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm&ContentID=10992
- Wetland Education & Training (WET) Program – How to Apply GIS Techniques to Better Manage Wetlands and Waterways. Sydney Olympic Park, 19 to 20 February 2009. For further information or to register, please refer http://www.sydneyolympicpark.com.au/education_and_learning/Wetland-Education-Training-Workshops

- Water Sensitive Cities – Capacity Building & Leadership Workshops: Novotel, Sydney Olympic Park. 23 to 24 February 2008. For more information or to register refer: <http://www.watersensitivefutures.org/>
- IWES: 13 Short Courses, including Stormwater Treatment: 16 to 20 February 2009. For an information brochure or to register please refer to http://www.iwes.com.au/index.php?page=event_details&event_id=15&menu=sydney_2009
- 4th Annual Water Symposium: L'Aqua, Terrace Level, Cockle Bay Wharf, Darling Harbour, Sydney. 20 February 2009. For an information brochure refer: [http://www.wsud.org/downloads/Seminars%20&%20Events/Water%20Symposium%202009%204p%20\(ebook\).pdf](http://www.wsud.org/downloads/Seminars%20&%20Events/Water%20Symposium%202009%204p%20(ebook).pdf) or refer http://www.legalwiseseminars.com.au/product_details.asp?prodID=12643
- 5th Australian Water Summit 2009: Sustainable Water Resources Management. Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour. 1st to 3rd April 2009. For further information, please refer <http://www.acevents.com.au/water2009/pdf/AustralianWaterSummit2009-3.pdf>

9. Websites of Interest

The following website may be of particular interest to Councils who may like to promote the site to their own stakeholders or use the information within their own operations. Last month, Sydney Water launched a new web-based tool to assist Sydney residents in reducing their garden water usage. Postcode specific, the resource can advise how often and using how much water and/or when to stop watering. For further information, please refer: <http://www.ap.urscorp.com/watertool/Default.aspx?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>

Please forward the e-newsletter via your networks and for those who may benefit.

If you would like to receive future WSUD e-newsletters please send an email with **join** in the subject heading to kate.black@cma.nsw.gov.au.

If you no longer wish to receive this e-newsletter, please email kate.black@cma.nsw.gov.au with **remove** in the subject heading.