

April and May 2011 Newsletter

This month highlighting Impacts of Climate Change on Stormwater Infrastructure – Literature Review:
<http://www.wsud.org/climate-change/>

Anyone interested in future stages of this project; please contact Kate Black via info@wsud.org or on (02) 9895 6206



Hello All,

This morning a friend of mine sent me a link to one of my favourite YouTube videos, which is of Steve Jobs' commencement speech to graduates at Stanford University in 2005. It is an incredibly inspiring speech that I would highly recommend you watch with 15 minutes to spare (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D1R-jKKp3NA>). What an incredible man.

His speech, for me provides a rather apt introduction to this month's newsletter as I finalise the WSUD Program's next 12 months' project plans. As I do so, I can't help but think back on how much our Sydney landscape (sorry, I'm pun ridiculous, I can't help myself) has changed since I began as Program Manager in September 2007 – the wonderful people I have worked with, been inspired by and the opportunities I have benefited from.

This edition of my newsletter clearly demonstrates the elevated efforts of our evolving industry as it continues to build commitment and capacity to implement Water Sensitive Urban Design as a methodology for achieving a Water Sensitive City.

It is evident within the policies adopted by Sydney councils (refer <http://www.wsud.org/planning-policy/>); the innovative forms of training such as the Cities as Water Supply Catchments' Winter School and the Stormwater Industry Association's Adelaide Technical Tour (re-scheduled by this week's ash cloud); the International Water Centre's Water Leadership Program; and the more creative opportunities that social media and other multi-platforming examples herein.

Our industry has evolved in accordance with our needs that are shaped by external pressures such as climate change, water scarcity, flood and/or population growth as the case has been in the last few years. So too though, have we evolved because of the opportunities for change these pressures have afforded promoted by the more integrated approach our industry now supports. Connecting government, industry and research, each directed by leaders in our field, who are incredibly passionate about what they do and how they engage others to collaborate.

I feel incredibly fortunate to have been a witness and sometimes participant to this change and wanted to say thanks to each of you. Cheers, K.

Impacts of Climate Change on Stormwater Infrastructure – Literature Review

The Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Authority has undertaken projects to investigate predicted Climate Change Impacts on the Sydney Region, and make recommendations towards a methodology for considering Climate Change Impacts on both the built and natural environments.

Stage 1, a Literature Review– *Impacts of Climate Change on Urban Stormwater Infrastructure in Metropolitan Sydney* aims to provide the tools to allow Local Government authorities to plan for predicted changes to rainfall intensities, runoff volumes, sea levels and population densities will have major implications for the planning, management and operation of the infrastructure necessary to cater for a city the size of Sydney. The draft report was publicly released in April 2011 and can be downloaded from the Climate Change Page of the WSUD Program website <http://www.wsud.org/climate-change/>

If you would like to provide comments upon the draft, we will be revising the document in the very near future. Please provide written comments via info@wsud.org by close of business Friday, 15 July 2011

Social Media – 2 New iPhone Applications

Creek Watch enables users to help monitor the health of your local watershed. Whenever you pass by a waterway, spend a few seconds using the Creek Watch application to snap a picture and report how much water and trash you see. IBM aggregates the data and shares it with water control boards to help them track pollution and manage water resources. Refer <http://creekwatch.researchlabs.ibm.com/>

Rainwater Tank Calculator – helps users to determine how much rain water can be captured from a roof and then calculates much town water you can save by using rain water in your garden and home. The application also has a live listing of all the water saving products certified by the Smart WaterMark scheme, Australia's water conservation label: <http://itunes.apple.com/au/app/isaveh2o/id433588031?mt=8>

If anyone is familiar with any other social media capacity building tools, please email them via Kate Black, Program Manager via info@wsud.org or telephone (02) 9895 6206

SIA – Stormwater Harvesting & Reuse Technical Tour – Adelaide, South Australia

On behalf of Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board and the Stormwater Industry Association, we would like to invite you to join us for a Stormwater Harvesting and Reuse Technical Tour in Adelaide, South Australia on 4 and 5 August 2011. Previously scheduled for 23 and 24 June, 2011, it was postponed due to flight cancellations from the dirty ash cloud. Participants will be expected to fund the cost of their own flights and accommodation. Please contact Natalie Payne, Blacktown Council for further information on Natalie.Payne@blacktown.nsw.gov.au or (02) 9839 6259.

International Water Centre (IWC) Water Leadership Program

This new program assists emerging leaders to develop the abilities they need to influence, drive change and advance challenging integrated water management projects. Designed for emerging water leaders at the project to middle management level, this program is customised for the water sector through sound research and collaboration with experienced industry practitioners. The program focuses on helping leaders to build the leadership abilities (e.g. skills, knowledge and networks), to manage complex challenges, as well as collaborate and exert influence across organisational boundaries.

Applicants must have a minimum of three years Industry experience. Some scholarships are available to assist emerging water leaders in organisations with limited resources for professional development, as well as emerging leaders without organisational support. Refer

<http://www.watercentre.org/education/leadership>

ACCARNSI – Cross Sectoral Community of Practice

The Australian Climate Change Adaptation Research Network for Settlements and Infrastructure (ACCARNSI) is hosted by the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of NSW. The aim of ACCARNSI is to initiate and develop effective strategies to respond to climate change through mitigation, adaptation and implementation. It is bringing together researchers and stakeholders with an interest in climate change adaptation for coastal settlements, public and private infrastructure, the built environment and urban regional planning.

The research direction will assist government, the private sector and vulnerable regions and communities to make informed decisions on how best to educate, plan and manage adaptation for the risks of climate change on coastal settlements, urban and built environments and infrastructure. To become a member of this already 600 strong cross sectoral network refer <http://www.nccarf.edu.au/settlements-infrastructure/>

Prime Minister’s Water Wise Award – Applications Open Until 08 August 2011

Commercial and industrial companies that can demonstrate recent water savings are encouraged to nominate. The award recognises commitment to saving water (metering and monitoring; installing water efficient devices; and implementing innovative technologies) from within the commercial and industrial sectors (15 to 20 per cent of Australia’s water allocation). Refer:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/water/policy-programs/weo/pm-awards/index.html>

Australia’s Urban Water Sector – Productivity Commission Report

A draft report from the Australian Productivity Commission warns that the country has over-invested in desalination in recent years, and recommends indirect potable reuse as an alternative. The report, titled ‘Australia’s Urban Water Sector’, notes that ‘much of the recent investment in supply augmentation using desalination could have been smaller in scale and from a source other than desalination, while maintaining security of supply’. Refer:

http://www.iwapublishing.com/template.cfm?name=news726&utm_source=IWA+Publishing+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=28a156b86f-GND_19_April_2011&utm_medium=email

National Water Commission – Talking About Water Report

This report contributes to the national debate about the use of recycled water for drinking. It is part of a suite of work undertaken by the Commission to support its work on water quality regulation and inform its wider urban water future directions agenda. The report also provides practical guidance to assist water professionals inform and engage with communities when making decisions about future supply options.

Sydney Metropolitan Councils may like to translate recommendations into their own community engagement protocols. Refer <http://www.nwc.gov.au/www/html/3059-waterlines-49.asp?intSiteID=1> Other Community Planning tools are available at <http://www.wsud.org/community-planning/>

Water Leadership Survey

You are invited to complete a survey that gathers information on key leadership attributes (e.g. behaviours) of effective water leaders working in different contexts throughout Australia. This survey will help to focus the content of the International WaterCentre's new Water Leadership Program for emerging leaders who promote integrated water management (www.watercentre.org/leadership). The survey should take up to 30 minutes, and can be accessed here: www.surveymonkey.com/s/water_leadership.

A National Urban Policy for a Productive, Sustainable and Liveable Future

Our Cities, Our Future sets in place the Australian Government's objectives and directions for our cities as we prepare for the decades ahead. It recognises the critical roles that State, Territory and Local Governments, the private sector and individuals play in planning, managing and investing in cities. It also highlights that the Australian Government makes decisions that impact upon urban Australia. This is the first time that an Australian Government has sought to outline its overarching goals for the nation's cities and how we will play a role in making them more productive, sustainable and liveable. Refer: <http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure/mcu/urbanpolicy/index.aspx>

Master of Integrated Water Management – Application Open Until 1 August

This program equips students with the integration, leadership and managerial skills to become part of an elite group of water leaders with sustainable and holistic solutions to global water and climate change challenges. The program takes a multi-disciplinary, whole-of-water-cycle approach. As a first year student of this Masters program, I cannot support this initiative enough to the water community in Sydney. This is a fantastic opportunity to broaden your horizons. Refer:

<http://www.watercentre.org/education/programs/scholarships/iwc-scholarships>

International WSUD Conference – February 2012 – Call for Abstracts

The 7th International Water Sensitive Urban Design Conference is being hosted by the Centre for Water Sensitive Cities and has been scheduled in Melbourne 22nd to 24th July 2012. Abstracts are currently being sought between now and the 15th August 2011. Building a water sensitive community cannot be achieved with traditional urban water management approaches alone. To meet to this challenge, an integrated approach is necessary; we should strive to effectively link the myriad design and implementation cultures of the different disciplines involved in urban water management. Refer: <http://www.wsud2012.com/>

Integrated Resource Planning for Urban Water – Resource Papers

The Institute for Sustainable Futures has compiled a suite of resources developed as part of the Integrated Resource Planning for Urban Water Project funded by the National Water Commission (NWC). It draws on the principles of integrated resource planning (IRP) and builds on a body of work previously undertaken for the Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA).

Integrated Resource Planning is a process of planning services in a way that ensures the efficient and sustainable management of water, energy or other resources. It involves considering both the projected demand and the available supply to determine the supply–demand gap. It also involves considering a suite of options with the potential to reduce demand or increase supply. Refer http://www.urbanwaterirp.net.au/index.php?option=com_rubberdoc&view=category&id=36&Itemid=57

Sydney Coastal Councils Group Funding Guide - 2011

The annual revision of the Sydney Coastal Councils Group Funding Guide 2011 has been completed and is loaded to the Funding Linkages page of the WSUD Program website under the External Funding Tools Button. Refer: <http://www.wsud.org/funding-linkages/> Alternatively, you can download the document from the source at http://www.sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au/Funding_Guide

Documentary Making – Social Platforms – Water Stories

CrowdTV is a social experiment that hopes to connect people with the aim of building stronger and healthier communities through the creation of documentaries. The power of CrowdTV lies in its ability to mobilise people to create the kind of documentaries and films you would like to see. Australian Documentaries and the Institute for Sustainable Futures, at University of Technology Sydney have partnered for Water Stories - the first online collaborative documentary making process in the world. Water Stories is funded by the Water in The Landscape Program run by the Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (WSROC) and the documentary will be directed by award winning documentary maker, Sascha Ettinger Epstein. Refer <http://www.crowdtv.com.au/>

2012 Stockholm Water Prize Laureate Applications Open

The nominee should have made outstanding achievements of lasting significance in developed or developing countries and provided stimulation for further important work. The work should have great potential or proven impact. Please note that nominations must be submitted in English and that self-nominations or nominations made by persons closely related to the nominee are not accepted – sorry Dad. Refer <http://www.siwi.org/stockholmwaterprize/nominate>

Water Sensitive Cities Winter School – Melbourne Victoria.

The Water Sensitive Cities Winter School is an opportunity to understand key actions in delivering water sensitive and liveable cities. Lectures and workshops will present the latest solutions and concepts on required technologies for stormwater treatment, urban design and modelling, climate change adaptation, behavioural change, and social and government engagement. These cross-disciplinary topics will all be linked to broader urban sustainability issues and lessons from the international community. Registration via www.clearwater.asn.au/events_and_training CWSC Industry Partners (you know who you are) - \$750; Local Government/ Non Profit - \$1,100; Commercial and Other \$1,500.

External Events and Training

Following are links to WSUD related events over the next 3 months and which have been entered on the External Events Calendar of the WSUD Program website. For events scheduled in subsequent months, refer also to: <http://www.wsud.org/events-training/>

- [Mon 27/6/2011: Flood Mitigation Conference](#)
 - [Mon 11/7/2011: Water Sensitive Cities - Winter School](#)
 - [Thu 14/7/2011: Greener Park Design](#)
 - [Thu 14/7/2011: Building for Sustainability](#)
 - [Wed 20/7/2011: MUSIC: Introductory](#)
 - [Wed 20/7/2011: MUSIC: Intermediate Course](#)
 - [Wed 20/7/2011: Water Australia Summit](#)
 - [Wed 20/7/2011: NSW Seminar Series 3 - 'Stormwater Harvesting, Perception versus Reality'](#)
 - [Wed 27/7/2011: Sustainable Choice Forum – Greener Park Maintenance](#)
 - [Mon 8/8/2011: Future City Development 2011](#)
 - [Tue 6/9/2011: New South Wales SIA Conference](#)
 - [Wed 21/9/2011: 4th International Urban Design Conference](#)
 - [Mon 26/9/2011: 14th River Symposium](#)
 - [Wed 9/11/2011: MUSIC: Introduction](#)
 - [Wed 9/11/2011: MUSIC: Intermediate Course](#)
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