

Hello All,

July and August have been pretty full on months due to the large number of projects that the program is delivering at the moment. Perhaps our most exciting project at the moment is an independent program and regional capacity review currently being conducted by Richard McManus of Equatica (www.equatica.com.au). Richard will be interviewing stakeholders within the region with a view to refocussing the program in light of stakeholder needs, wants and expectations; other regional initiatives and programs; shifting political landscapes; and social research findings.

The outputs will include (among others) a final report and a program evaluation framework that will enable linkages with other capacity programs around Australia - The National Consortium. The Consortium have been working together since August 2007, leveraging off the strengths of one another's programs and sharing resources and investigating project development and delivery opportunities. Keep an eye out for more information on the review's findings via this e-newsletter and www.wsud.org

A massive thank you to Ryan Kane for filling in for me while I was away on leave. Thankfully Ryan will also be helping me over the next 2 weeks in preparation for the **Sustainable Water Challenge - Registrations close Monday, 15 September 2008**. If you haven't already registered, please complete and fax (02 9689 2537) the form located at: http://www.wsud.org/downloads/Sustainable_Water_Challenge/WSUD_SWC_2008_Registration_Form.pdf For more information about the event please refer Section 1. Sustainable Water Challenge – Seminar & Site Visits below.

While I was away, I attended and presented at the LGSA Water Management Conference in Ballina 13th to 15th August 2008. For a copy of the conference papers and presentations, please refer to <http://www.lgsa-plus.net.au/www/html/2007-speakers-and-presentations.asp>. Alternatively, please contact Sascha Moege, Senior Policy Officer, on 02 9242 4045 or sascha.moege@lgsa.org.au if you have any further questions.

Regards K.

Kate Black
Program Manager

The **August 2008 (No. 51) WSUD e-newsletter** contains information on:
(1.) Sustainable Water Challenge 2008: Seminar & Site Visit Registration **(2.)** Groundwater Education Series **(3.)** WSUD – 2009 International Conference – Call for Abstracts **(4.)** Water for Life - Partnership Kit & Grant Funding **(5.)** Ku-ring-gai Council – Integrated Water Cycle Policy **(6.)** Research Linkages & Opportunities **(7.)** Grants & Rebates **(8.)** Events Calendar **(9.)** Websites of Interest

1. Sustainable Water Challenge – Seminar & Site Visits

The Seminar that will be held on the 18th September 2008 is a great opportunity to learn what other councils are implementing and how you could do the same within your own council. Spend a day learning from and meeting with your peers; strengthening your network and your own capacity while you are at it. Key note presentations will also be provided by Anthony Collins (Parramatta City Council), Shane Barter (Sydney Metropolitan CMA) and David Knights (www.equatica.com.au). For a copy of the day's agenda refer http://www.wsud.org/downloads/Seminars_&_Events/Seminar_Agenda_Web_Version.pdf

The Bus Tour and Site Visits scheduled on the 19th September 2008 will enable attendees to see on-ground implementation while learning from those practitioners who were involved in their design and construction. Learn from the lessons of those who have gone before you. Sites are as follows:

- Sydney University - Shepherd Street Bioretention
- Sydney University - Gadigal Green Bioretention & Wetland;

- Sydney University - Eastern Avenue Bioretention;
- Randwick City Council (Landcom NSW) - Prince Henry Hospital Site;
- Kogarah Council - Urban Constructed Wetland;
- Kogarah Council - Beverley Park Sewer Mining Project.

To learn more about the events, refer <http://www.wsud.org/seminar.htm> To register for either or both, please complete and fax (via 02 9689 2537) the registration form at: http://www.wsud.org/downloads/Sustainable_Water_Challenge/WSUD_SWC_2008_Registration_Form.pdf

2. Groundwater Education Series – Free Workshops

Sydney Coastal Councils Group, Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (ROC) and Southern Sydney ROC are pleased to present the Groundwater Education Workshop Series which delivers a series of free workshops - information and training on sustainable groundwater management targeting councils and industry. The education materials and CD-ROM provided at the workshop will integrate information on the regulatory aspects of groundwater management with increased awareness of the dynamic nature of groundwater. Participants will also discover groundwater issues with a hands-on demonstration using a sand tank model. For further information refer the attached PDF www.sydneycoastalcouncils.com.au/groundwater.htm A registration form is also attached.

3. WSUD – 2009 International Conference (Perth) – Call for Abstracts

The Conference, *Towards Water Sensitive Cities and Citizens* will be held from 5–8 May 2009 at the Parmelia Hilton, Perth, Western Australia and will explore 'the state of the art' and transition pathways for the future through papers on implementation and case studies, leading edge research and the policy and regulatory environment needed to facilitate a shift toward Water Sensitive Cities and Settlements. Engineers Australia (EA), the Stormwater Industry Association (SIA) and the Australian Water Association (AWA), invite you to submit abstracts by 20 October 2008 with completed papers due by 27 February 2009. Refer <http://www.keynotewa.com/wsud09/call-f-papers.html> for further information.

4. Water for Life Council Partnership Kit – Grants close Friday (12/09/2008)

A resources kit and grant funding are available to support councils in greater Sydney to deliver or extend local water education campaigns. **Applications for funding close Friday, 12 September 2008.** Funding received (\$10,000 – individual councils or \$30,000 council groups) by councils for the Water for Life Partnership Kit must be used for the purposes of running a water focused education or communications campaign, using the advertising templates provided in this kit, to engage the community in understanding water recycling and efficiency efforts of councils and to encourage wise water use.

Councils could use these resources to raise their community's awareness of Council's commitment to WSUD and compliment pre-existing community engagement and education programs.

To request a copy of the Kit email education@waterforlife.nsw.gov.au or call the Department of Water and Energy on (02) 8281 7487. For further information refer: http://www.waterforlife.nsw.gov.au/education/toolstips/partnershipkit/?utm_source=newsletterAug08&utm_medium=email&utm_content=water_for_life&utm_term=em&utm_campaign=enewsAug08

5. Ku-ring-gai Council - Integrated Water Cycle Management Policy

Ku-ring-gai Council recently placed on exhibition its first policy and supporting strategy that deals with integrated water cycle management. The documents are aimed at

Council in a policy, planning and operational context and also the community. Ku-ring-gai welcomes any comments and feedback. Exhibition period closes 19/09/2008.

Refer: <http://www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/www/html/2481-integrated-water-cycle-management-policy-and-strategy.asp?intSiteID=1>.

Ku-ring-gai will also be giving a presentation on the policy at the Sustainable Water Challenge on 18th September 2008 http://www.wsud.org/downloads/Seminars_&Events/Seminar_Agenda_Web_Version.pdf

6. Research Linkages & Opportunities

Anyone who is developing a project and seeking funding and/or development and delivery partners, please send me an email via kate.black@cma.nsw.gov.au. If appropriate, I will advertise via this section of our monthly e-newsletters. When developing your project ideas, consider the following objectives:

- Cross sectoral (government, research & industry)
- Address identified regional barriers and knowledge deficits
- Build regional organisational capacity – within and external (linkages)
- Identify & foster champions
- Practical tangible research output
- Cost effective
- Replicable
- Seek grant funding

7. Grants & Rebates

Following are current Grants and Rebates Schemes 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 few days notice for processing:

- Catchment Protection and Improvement Grants– The Sydney Catchment Authority offers grants of up to \$8,000 (plus \$2,000 for equipment hire) to community groups for activities to protect and improve the catchments. The next closing date is 1 October 2008. Refer <http://www.sca.nsw.gov.au/about-sca/grants-and-sponsorships>
- On Site Sewage Management Grants– The Sydney Catchment Authority offers grants to help local governments identify, inspect and assess all on-site systems in the drinking water catchments. The next closing date is 1 November 2008. Refer <http://www.sca.nsw.gov.au/about-sca/grants-and-sponsorships/on-site-sewage-management-grants>

8. Events Calendar

The following events are scheduled in the next few months:

- Local Government Sustainable Development Conference, Dockside Sydney, 10th to 11th September 2008 Refer <http://www.halledit.com.au/events.php?id=84>
- AWA NSW Branch of Young Water Professionals' Water Seminar Series – Water Energy and Climate. Cliftons, Level 2, 200 George Street, Sydney 17th September 2008. Members \$36.30 & Non-members \$41.80. Refer http://www.awa.asn.au/AM/Template.cfm?Section=_b_2008_b_YWP_Seminar_Series_&Template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=9974
- WSUD in Sydney Program's Sustainable Water Challenge & Site Visit, Waterview Convention Centre, Bicentennial Park, Sydney. 18th to 19th September 2008 Refer <http://www.wsud.org/seminar.htm>
- Centre for Groundwater Studies – 1st Surface Water-Groundwater Interactions Workshop. Oaks Hyde Park Plaza, Sydney. 24th to 26th September 2008. Refer http://groundwater.com.au/images/stories/courses_and_conferences/courses/flyer-1st-sw-gw-interactions-2008.pdf

- New Zealand Water and Wastes Association 50th Anniversary Conference and Expo – Ensuring water for our future. Christchurch Convention Centre, Christchurch, New Zealand. 24th to 26th September 2008. Refer www.nzwwwa.org.nz for programme and registration details.
- Wetland ecology - fundamentals needed for site management. Hunter Wetlands Centre Australia, Newcastle, NSW. October 28th to 29th. Refer www.wetlandsedu.org.au

9. Websites of Interest

The following websites may be of particular interest to Councils who may like to promote the sites to their own stakeholders or use the information within their own operations:

- *Who Cares about Water and Climate Change in 2007?* is a survey of NSW people's environmental knowledge, attitudes and behaviours, particularly in relation to water and climate issues. It includes some of the continuing *Who Cares?* series questions and some new questions on climate change. Refer <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/community/2007545WhoCaresWaterClimate07.pdf>
- Play Catchment Detox to see if you successfully manage a river catchment and create a sustainable and thriving economy. It's an online game where you're in charge of the whole catchment. You get to decide what activities you undertake - whether to plant crops, log forests, build factories or set up national parks. The aim is to avoid environmental problems and provide food and wealth for the population. Refer <http://catchmentdetox.net.au/>

If you have WSUD or Sustainable Urban Water Management related policy, case study, report, research project or an event/seminar coming up, please email me the details and I will endeavour to put the information up on the www.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.

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Want to know more about WSUD or sustainable urban water management? Refer www.wsud.org for a whole suite of capacity building tools. Otherwise, please don't hesitate to contact me directly.