



# Water Sensitive Urban Design in the Sydney Region 2002-2003

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## Goals

- Deliver program of Seminars and Workshops
- Develop Sydney-wide model planning guide
- Provide resource centre for all practitioners
- Run a learning-by-doing competition for all Council staff to participate in
- Promote WSUD widely in the industry

## Background

- Engineers and Environmental Staff in Councils have the same problem but are coming at it from different directions
- Grant funding in the past went towards installing Gross Pollutant Traps at the ends of pipes. Now capacity building is all the rage
- Changing policy in Councils is a slow and difficult job, so external forces are required
- Regional Approach convinces others to join in
- Capacity building allows the Council to gain continuous improvements, not just training for a few staff members

## Activities to date

### Project Launch - August 23, 2002

- 160 Attendees
- Official launch by Deputy Premier
- State-wide Press Release from Deputy Premiers Office
- Two technical seminar presentations
- Project Officers presented Sustainable Water Challenge method and objectives

### Second Seminar – November 21, 2002

- 190 Attendees
- Keynote presentation from Earl Shaver, Auckland Regional Council
- Six case studies presented
- Site Visits to Kogarah Town Square and Victoria Park, Zetland – on-site presentations from WSUD designers and site managers

### Third Seminar – March 26, 2003

- Costs, Maintenance and Salinity
- Experts presented figures from actual developments
- Attendees applied figures to an actual development site
- Comparison between costs of WSUD and traditional method presented for that site
- Costs were close to equal!

### Next Seminar

- Launch of Sydney model planning provisions
- Integration with other technical guidelines and manuals
- Integration with other government policies
  - SEPP 4
  - BASIX
  - New State Government departments

## Sustainable Water Challenge

- Council teams work on actual projects involving innovative water management
- Participants are taking it seriously, trying to improve on past projects
- 30 projects from 25 Councils
- Presentation of all projects on August 21<sup>st</sup>
- Sister project developing four sites as demonstrations

## Challenge Projects

- Rockdale – Retrofitting Council Offices with rainwater tank and water saving devices
- Campbelltown, Manly and Blacktown – Depot redevelopment to incorporate WSUD
- Botany Bay and Willoughby – Renovating Council buildings to include and display WSUD methods for households
- Hornsby – Caravan park redevelopment into medium density residential with minimal runoff into Ku-ring-gai National Park
- Randwick, Baulkham Hills, Willoughby – Residential redevelopments in cooperation with Landcom
- Mosman – 3 projects:
  - Carpark redevelopment into residential, may have a green roof
  - Water re-use from GPTs
  - Retrofitting council amenities buildings
- South Sydney – another possible green roof with water re-use in toilets, landscaping and car washing on an 8 storey apartment complex
- Warringah – re-use and better disposal of water from Warringah Aquatic Centre

## Web based resource – [www.wsud.org](http://www.wsud.org)

- Sustainable Water Challenge updates and project results
- Case studies
- Links to references
- Seminar information and invites to other relevant events
- Average daily hits for May - 980

## The future...

- Challenge projects won't all be finished by August
- Planning Provisions won't be implemented by August
- Not all Councils have been able to get involved – success of initial events has raised the project profile
- Ongoing support of WSUD innovations, policy development and information dissemination needed. Advisory Panel and website should continue as a minimum
- Industry and training needs to be further involved

## Project Partners



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