



## Member Council Activities August 2004

The following material is a summary of current projects for SCCG Member Councils

<p>City of Botany Bay</p> 	<p>Not received</p>
<p>Hornsby Shire Council</p> 	<p>Not received</p>
<p>Leichhardt Council</p> 	<p>Not received</p>
<p>Manly Council</p> 	<p>Not received</p>
<p>Mosman Council</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council's Environmental Management Plan is progressing - the initial environmental review has been completed including Council policy identification and compliance, identification of Council activities / functions / aspects / impacts, an Environmental Legislation Register identifying all environmental legislation relevant to Council functions, as well as community consultation. Risk assessments for each section of Council are being undertaken in consultation with Council staff.</li> <li>• An Incident Response Plan is being developed by the Environmental Health Team covering all environmental and public health emergencies, such as potential spills.</li> <li>• Council has been successful in obtaining a grant from the DEC for the 'Our Environment It's a Living Thing' program. The project began in July and will be undertaken over the next nine months. The project will utilise the methodologies of ecological footprinting</li> </ul>

	<p>and social marketing to raise awareness and educate the community on issues of sustainability, and will recruit households to reduce their consumption and impact upon the environment through direct action and implementation of sustainability measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council completed its three year Water Management Plan as requested by Minister Frank Sartor. The plan incorporates the implementation of initiatives recommended in the water consumption audits undertaken as part of the Sydney Water Every Drop Counts Program, and will also involve a feasibility study on water harvesting and reuse for irrigation of Council's ovals and reserves.</li> <li>• Council is in the process of installing SQIDs within the Balmoral Beach Sth and Edwards Beach North Catchments to increase capture of stormwater pollutants and improve the quality of receiving waters.</li> <li>• Baseline water quality monitoring for the Red Crowned Toadlet project has been completed. The second stage of monitoring will be undertaken once the sedimentation ponds have been constructed and plantings completed.</li> </ul>
<p>North Sydney</p> 	<p>Not received</p>
<p>Pittwater Council</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>South Newport Beach Dune Stabilisation</b> - Rehabilitation of remnant foredune within private beachfront properties. Undertaken by Council, but funded by the property owners.</li> <li>• <b>Park and Ride Facility at North Narrabeen Reserve</b> - Council constructed facility on Pittwater Road at North Narrabeen, 100% funded by Department of Transport. Parking available for 105 vehicles, other facilities include flood lighting, toilet block, bicycle lockers and broad area landscaping.</li> <li>• <b>Fern Creek Rehabilitation</b> - Reinstatement of degraded creekline corridor including regeneration of local riparian plant species, bank stabilisation and construction of pedestrian/bicycle pathways.</li> <li>• <b>Careel Bay Foreshore Restoration</b> - Final stage works including saltmarsh rehabilitation, interpretative signage and protective fencing for Migratory Wading Birds.</li> <li>• <b>Across the Landscape</b> - Stormwater Trust Grant to develop ecologically sustainable property management initiatives with "Park" neighbours.</li> <li>• <b>Mona Vale Library and Customer Service Centre</b> - completion of new energy efficient, underground, community library building.</li> </ul>
<p>Randwick Council</p>	<p><b>Environment Levy</b>  Randwick City Council has been successful in obtaining go-ahead for an</p>



Environment Levy: \$2.7m per year for 5 years. The levy will be spent on 6 key streams: biodiversity; caring for the coastline; increased sustainability [education focus; climate protection; water conservation; and historical information.

#### **Randwick City Plan**

Council is currently undertaking a program of community consultation to assist in the preparation of the Randwick City Plan. The City Plan encompasses the 20 year strategic plan, the 2004 Comprehensive State of the Environment Report, and the 2004 Social Plan. The consultation program comprises: a series of workshops with key stakeholder groups, including Precinct Committees, Chambers of Commerce, Council's 7 target groups (such as Older Persons), and school students; an environmental management workshop at Yarra Bay (which includes a guided walk); static displays at Council's 3 libraries and Customer Service Centre; and a 'roving' display staffed by Council officers over 4 weekends in August.

#### **Remnant Bushland**

We have been working with Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA) controlling weeds at Yarra Point, La Perouse. This is a joint project funded by RCC and CVA. The teams have consisted of volunteers who are local Sydneysiders and young environmental tourists mostly from USA, Canada and Japan. The groups are led by a qualified bush regenerator from CVA and a graduate from biological or environmental science from the USA. They have been great fun and are doing a good job preparing Yarra Point for further planting and upgrading of the Bush Tucker Trail.

Council is also commencing 9,000 hours of work with Green Corps, another similar program that provides training to young unemployed people many of whom are graduates, working in natural areas. We will be clearing a fire break on the boundaries of Fred Hollows Reserve, clearing weed and repairing tracks in Maroubra Beach Dunes and clearing Bitou Bush on Yarra Beach and Frenchmans Beach Dunes.

Council has also fenced an area of remnant bushland on the point of Dunningham Reserve. This is a major tourist attraction as it has a fabulous view and the bushland was suffering from trampling. It was also home to a locally rare plant species. The work was consistent with the recommendations of the Plan of Management and provided an upgrade to the main path out to the point.



#### **National Tree Day**




Council has had a very successful National Tree Day, helping 2 schools plant trees and 3 schools create habitat gardens in their grounds as well as carry out revegetation of a large slope in Albi Smith Reserve on Carrington Rd Coogee.


#### **2004 Sustainable Water Challenge**

Randwick City Council participated in this year's Sustainable Water Challenge, submitting the recently completed Community Centre at the Bundock Street Defence Site in the Challenge's Infill Category. Runoff from the roof and ground surfaces of the new Bundock Street Community

	<p>Centre (comprising 3 buildings connected by a covered walkway) is collected in an underground tank and is used for the irrigation of the adjacent park. Key issues associated with this development were significant site contamination and heritage. Council received a commendation for their efforts in meeting the Sustainable water Challenge on this project.</p>
<p>Rockdale Council</p>  <p>ROCKDALE CITY COUNCIL On Historic Botany Bay</p>	<p><b>Botany Bay Strategy</b> - Council is currently preparing a submission on the document, which will be delivered to DIPNR. The feedback received by DIPNR on this Discussion Paper will assist the government to finalise the strategy for Botany Bay, as required under its Statement of Intent for the Georges River - Botany Bay System which was released in November 2002.</p> <p><b>Plastic Bag Swap</b> - Council launched a 'plastic bag swap' coinciding with World Environment Day in June. The 'swap' involved members of the community bringing 20 plastic shopping bags to any of Council's libraries and exchanging them for a calico bag. The aim was to promote reduction in the use of plastic bags in the City of Rockdale by providing an alternative. The program was to run for a period of one month. The swap was extremely successful gaining much interest from the public. As such, the program has been continued July and August. At last count 3100 calico bags had been distributed, meaning that 62,000 plastic bags have been collected by Council's library staff.</p> <p><b>Proposed Expansion of Port Botany</b> - Council was invited to a meeting organised by Sydney Ports Corporation to discuss alternatives to the proposal for expansion that was presented in the Environmental Impact Statement for Port Botany. Council staff members were disappointed that options outside of Botany Bay were not being explored.</p> <p><b>Cooks River Ecology Grant</b> - Council, in partnership with Marrickville, Kogarah and Canterbury Councils, has been meeting with a scientific advisory committee to determine the best methods to undertake an ecological monitoring and survey program of the Cooks River. The Scientific Advisory Committee are assisting us in the preparation of a brief for consultants, which will be sent out in the next month or two. It is proposed that an ecological monitoring program provides a cost effective means by which governing bodies and members of the community can track the long term ecological health of the river as well as provide information that can inform restoration/rehabilitation along the river. Traditional physicochemical water testing programs, which are prohibitively expensive, essentially provide human health based information rather than ecological information and there is little commitment by Councils to this type of monitoring. The second component of the project builds from the first and is to develop information and guidelines for the management of tidal vegetation which will inform future capital works projects along the riverbanks.</p> <p><b>Department of Environment &amp; Conservation Grants</b> - Council has received two grants through the DEC Sustainability Grants Program. The first grant is to run an auditing and retrofitting program for small businesses in the Rockdale Town Centre. Audits will be undertaken which will identify areas where water and energy can be saved. The second grant</p>

	<p>received was for a residential retrofit in partnership with Hurstville Council and Kogarah Council. The program will target 45 households in the St George area for an audit and retrofit with energy and water efficient appliances such as water saving showerheads. The audit report will also recommend waste minimisation measures.</p>
<p>Sutherland Shire Council</p> 	<p><b>Stage 4 Stormwater Trust Grant</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of Business Incubator WSUD Demonstration Project ongoing</li> </ul> <p><b>Estuary Management Program</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Woronora Estuary Management Plan ongoing</li> <li>Port Hacking Plan of Management under review</li> <li>Gunnamatta Bay contaminated sediment study complete, no remediation required</li> <li>Gynea Bay water quality improvements (trash rack, land stabilisation and rehabilitation, dredging) ongoing</li> </ul> <p><b>Dredging</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval granted to dredge Gynea Bay Baths, investigation disposal options and costs</li> </ul> <p><b>Flood Studies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dents Creek/North West Arm now complete</li> </ul> <p><b>Floodplain Management Program</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Georges River Floodplain Risk Management Study &amp; Plan complete, preparing report for adoption</li> <li>Oyster Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study &amp; Plan nearing completion</li> </ul> <p><b>Policy Development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>WSUD stormwater policy including, compulsory rainwater tanks, stormwater reuse, on-site treatment, etc... adopted as part of LEP 2004, technical specifications under final review</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Mapping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GIS mapping of groundwater information complete</li> </ul> <p><b>Major Projects included in 2004/2005 Mayoral Minute</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Camellia Gardens GPT (DIPNR grant awarded)</li> <li>President Avenue Ewey Creek Trash Rack (DIPNR grant awarded)</li> <li>Review of Port Hacking Plan of Management (DIPNR grant awarded)</li> <li>Woronora Estuary Management Plan (DIPNR grant awarded)</li> <li>Rainwater tanks and reuse infrastructure on Council Administration Building</li> <li>Burraneer Park Trash Rack</li> </ul>
<p>Sydney City Council</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GEMS engaged to conduct education program in Blackwattle Bay to target fish markets, residents, commercial premises, construction site, council operations and schools</li> <li>Trial waterless urinal cubes</li> <li>State of Environment report</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participating in 3 CBD greenhouse initiative with North Sydney Council</li> <li>• Spill response trailer received, training to follow</li> <li>• Successful National Tree day at three sites</li> <li>• Investigating options for re-use of cross city tunnel seepage water and busby's bore water for irrigation and water features</li> <li>• Development of waste strategy to improve domestic, public place and events recycling rates.</li> </ul>
<p>Warringah Council</p> 	<p>Not received</p>
<p>Waverley Council</p> 	<p>Our current initiatives are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bondi to Bronte Interpretive Signage Walk</li> <li>• Institute for Sustainable Futures review of planning instruments; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• workshop for Council staff</li> <li>• groundwater project</li> <li>• rainwater tank project</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Telecommunications DCP development</li> <li>• Household Energy Survey with Woollahra/ SSROC</li> <li>• Odour Management workshops for Chook Shop Project - overview; best practice guidelines</li> <li>• Illegal dumping forum for Real Estate Agents 14th Sept</li> </ul>
<p>Willoughby Council</p> 	<p>Some of the projects we are currently involved with include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparing a series of "Water Conscious Living" community information afternoons starting on August 21st. These sessions will present information regarding domestic-scale water conservation measures, and helpful rainwater tank issues as part of the "Streets to Creeks" program.</li> <li>• As part of the Middle Harbour Capacity Building Project, we will be running a "Water Discovery Tour" in September with key residents. Through a focus group session that visits a number of sites, we will provide information to the participants about the impacts of stormwater on bushland, and importantly, council officers will find out more accurately than before how to engage with residents about stormwater issues. We intend to use <i>Les Robinson's 7 Doors to Social Change</i> as a framework for facilitation for the Tour.</li> <li>• As a final element of the GPT performance project (undertaken in</li> </ul>

	<p>partnership with North Sydney Council) we upgraded one of Willoughby's GPTs (by investing \$10,000 we aim to save \$44,000 over the life of the device), that finished with a community tree planting day and BBQ on World Environment Day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In June we completed a rock lined channel with an off-line sediment sump next to the Northbridge Suspension Bridge with funding from the RTA's SEIP program. After the first rain event the sediment basin had a rich film of fine black sediment!</li> <li>• We had a big residential turn out at the first "Fauna Fair" at Willoughby Park on the 1st August.</li> <li>• Willoughby hosted a Stormwater Reuse session, where four consulting engineers gave presentations on their recent reuse projects to an audience of 24 north shore council officers. There was diversity in the types of stormwater reuse projects presented to give all the councils food for thought.</li> </ul>
<p>Woollahra Council</p> 	<p>Council is currently preparing the 2003/2004 State of the Environment Report. The 2003/2004 report is a comprehensive report that is to be finalised by 30 November 2004.</p> <p>Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) CCP working group are undertaking a survey of energy usage and behaviour of residents in the Southern Sydney area. The results of the survey will assist the Councils to plan and undertake community projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Council is finalising the review of Woollahra's Stormwater Management Plan (SMP) implementation strategy. It is anticipated that the reviewed document will form the basis of Council's application for an extension to the levy funded environmental works program. The environmental levy is due to finalise at the end of the 2004/2005 financial year.</p> <p>Council has chosen an environmental character and slogan 'our environment, our responsibility' from numerous entries submitted by school children and the community in Woollahra Council's logo competition. The character and slogan will be used in conjunction with Woollahra's environmental logo to raise the profile of environmental projects undertaken in the Woollahra LGA.</p> <p>Council has upgraded the environment homepage and information displayed on the Woollahra website. The upgrade is a part of a complete upgrade of the Woollahra Council website.</p>