

The following material is a summary of current projects for each Member Council (February 2004).

### **Botany Council**

Not received

### **City of Sydney**

- • Love Your Lane - re-sheeting of the Laneway between Cowper Lane and Mitchell Lane East, Glebe. On the 20th March, residents will be invited to a Community Day with BBQ, to decorate tiles to be placed into the laneway
- • Clean Harbour Partners - Invitations sent to previous Clean Harbour Partners to ask for their involvement again. Property Council of NSW and Australian Hotels Association have endorsed the program and urging their member to also join. Key Partners so far: Property Council of NSW, Australian Hotels Association, Resolve FM, Sydney Fish Markets, Sydney Aquarium, Dept of Defence and Observatory Hill Env Ed Centre.
- • Waste Education Strategy - currently being developed for Schools, Community, Businesses and Council
- • Water Brief - Sent to consultants to quantify City's potable and non-potable uses and develop demand reduction and alternate supply options. Quotations due 2 March.
- • Spill response trailer - Working with SEO, LCC, Randwick, Waverley and Woolharrha to acquire spill response trailers and training from an RTA grant
- • Greenhouse Action Plan - Getting ready to implement, however changed scope due to boundary change
- • Clean Up Australia Day Launch - Went well with old LM, ashtrays, buttheads, howie cooke artwork (potentially avail to Councils)
- • Blackwattle Bay Strategy - List of suitable projects close to completion. Design competition out for CUB site.

### **Hornsby Council**

- • Risk analysis for 120 catchment devices including constructed wetlands, GPT's, sediment basins and pits was recently completed. The final report was recieved two days prior to meeting. IT is now up to Council to implement any recommendations from the report.
- • Risk assessment of Kangaroo Point Pumpout facility completed - recommendations to be implemented.
- • Mangrove defoliation in large forests in Berowra Creek attributed to sever hail storm in late October 2003. Mangroves are now recovering.
- • In conjunction with Councils new computer system (Councils On-Line) reaches of creeks and rivers have been given an asset

number. Also, degradation curves are being developed to predict when works are need to prevent further deterioration.

### **Leichhardt**

Not received.

### **Manly Council**

Development and role out of Manly Water Cycle Management Strategy.

This targets each subcatchment as a unique and dynamic system, evaluating and drawing upon lessons learnt from past 30 years monitoring programs and past 10years of stormwater management practices. Each subcatchment is subject to a qualitative and quantitative pollutant load modeling and automated monitoring assessment. This information is matched with an at source to end of pipe intervention database to devise appropriate treatment train style interventions. The program then investigates the potential to make better use of the improved storm water quality for non-potable re-use and groundwater re-charge so to reduce reliance on towns supplies.

Some projects within this framework are:

- • Manly Golf course, CRC-Irrigation Futures, UWS and Manly Council partnership - course re-design, stormwater harvest, groundwater recharge and sustainable water delivery.
- • Ivanhoe Park Subcatchment WSUD project, flow diversion and beach stormwater pipe removal.
- • Totem Shopping centre develop and WSUD assessment
- • Groundwater investigations for irrigation of parks and ovals

Three PhD students will be undertaking the above projects and results input into an interactive GIS database with end use interface, interrogation and recall facilities.

### **Mosman Council**

Not received

### **North Sydney**

- Sustainability Plan and Water Management Plan have been drafted and are on public exhibition awaiting comment. The water management plan is a revised version of the two stormwater management plans and includes actions to deal with such issues as water conservation, water runoff as well as water quality. The sustainability plan is an action based document that looks to consolidate all the environmental policy documents that currently exist and highlight some the issues that Council needs to focus on for the future.
- Currently completing milestone 5 of ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection program.
- Finalised a second Greenhouse Action Plan.

- Progressing the North Sydney CBD Greenhouse Reduction Initiative with 20 commercial business owners voluntarily participating in the program that looks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from their buildings.
- Currently developing a green purchasing policy.
- Offering free commercial waste audits.
- Have just completed the SCRAP program with two local primary schools.
- Just finalised stage 4 Stormwater Trust grant (in conjunction with Willoughby Council) that examined ways to reduce the cost associated with GPT including waste and maintenance.

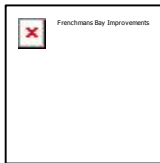
In the process of completing stage 4 Stormwater Trust grant with the Middle Harbour catchment group of Councils on stormwater capacity building within Councils.

### **Pittwater Council**

Not received

### **Randwick Council**

#### **Frenchmans Bay Improvements**



Randwick City Council is upgrading Frenchmans Bay reserve to provide better facilities and greatly enhance this valuable park for the local community. This new playground and picnic area are in addition to Council's previous work to fence and stabilise the dunes with native plants to control erosion.

#### **World Wetlands Day**



Randwick City Council has set up a special Wetlands display stall at their Council Community Nursery to celebrate World Wetlands Day on February 2 and to educate the community on the environmental significance of wetlands within Randwick City.

#### **World Water Day**

Council and community volunteers will be drain stencilling in Maroubra, the weekend before and after World Water Day on March 22

#### **Pocket Guide to the Marine Life of Sydney East**

Council has recently launched a pocket guide to the marine life of Sydney's east entitled "Finding Bluey and his Mates." The guide follows on from the successful Coast Care Week marine education events conducted by Council together with the SCCG. The guide provides fish and invertebrate ID listings with colour photos,

together with mapping of the LGA highlighting the best diving, snorkelling, swimming and surfing spots, our aquatic reserves and inter-tidal protected areas.

### **Rockdale Council**

- • **Rockdale City Council Environment Plan:** In December 2003 Council adopted the 'Rockdale City Council Environment Plan'. The Environment Plan is a continually evolving plan for managing the Rockdale environment, and it will inform the development of Council's Management Plan. The Plan contains a series of actions taken from recommendations of past studies prepared for Council and results of programs undertaken by Council. The Plan is divided into categories in line with Council's State of the Environment Report. Each action in the Plan is given a timeframe and a Senior Manager responsible for implementation. The actions from the Plan will be reviewed each year, and completed actions will be reported in Council's State of the Environment Report and also through Council's existing Management Plan reporting process. The Plan will be available soon on Council's website.
- • **Rockdale City Council Summary SoE 2002-03:** The Summary SoE for 2002-03 has been completed and submitted to the Department of Local Government. A copy can be downloaded from Council's website - <http://www.rockdale.nsw.gov.au>
- • **Port Botany Expansion:** Council is sitting on a regional group organised by SSROC to prepare a submission regarding the proposal to expand Port Botany. The EIS is on display in Council's library and customer service centre until 29 March.
- • **Aeration of Scarborough Ponds:** Council has had a number of problems with eutrophication in Scarborough Ponds. After lengthy investigations, the most appropriate solution was to install an impeller in the ponds. The impeller was installed on 18 February and will improve aeration of the ponds by increasing water circulation. This will alleviate problems Council has experienced of severe stratification.

### **Sutherland Council**

#### **Flood Studies:**

- • Works on stage 1 for Ewey creek and part of Dents creek have been completed. Information on flood extent is now available on Council's GIS system.
- • Gunnamatta Bay Contaminated Sediment Investigation project has been awarded to CSIRO for a cost of \$63,000 (Exc. GST). The Bay is surrounded by Cronulla, Woolooware and Burraneer. Works are expected to complete by end of this financial year.
- • The project objectives are to:
  - • Define the extent & level of sediment contamination through detailed sampling.
  - • Assess the risks of contaminated sediment to the ecosystem and waterway usage
  - • Develop a Remediation Plan.
  - • Secure necessary approvals to action the Remediation Plan.
  - • Seeking funding from DIPNR under 2004/2005 Floodplain Management Program for:

- • Floodplain Management Plans for Sylvania Waters and Kurnell.
- • Georges River Floodplain Risk Management Study (lower reach to Botany Bay)

### **Water Quality:**

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- • Gymea Bay water quality improvements:
- • Design for a proposed Trash Rack to be located at Alkaringa Rd/Forest Rd is underway.
- • Bush re-generation along side of Alkaringa creek and Coonong Creek; access road leading to Gymea Bay Bath.

### **Others:**

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- • Works on Mapping of water quality devices and Mapping of Soil landscape (identifying areas suitable for infiltration system) in Council GIS are expected to be available soon for viewing by Council staffs.
- • Business Incubator Performance Monitoring and Public Education:
- • Determine the yield of rainwater from the roof area of the building
- • Monitoring the quantity of harvested rainwater used for toilet flushing.
- • Determine the oversupply/deficit of rainwater for reuse.
- • Determine the quantity of potable water saved.
- • Preparing signs to make public aware of this WSUD project.

### **Warringah Council**

Not received

### **Waverley Council**

- • Council has commenced our AGO funded "Energy Wise Homes" retrofit program of community housing in Waverley. The program, run in conjunction with the UNSW Ecoliving Centre, involves the completion of before / after home energy audits and retrofits with energy / water efficient appliances.
- • Waverley Council, along with Woollahra, Leichhardt, City of Sydney, and Randwick Councils, received a \$25,000 RTA Stormwater Grant to fund the purchase of a spill response trailer and to conduct staff training for site coordination and management and spill regulation.
- • The Greenwave Environmental Assessment Program has commenced in the Bondi Beach commercial catchment. Councils Environmental Assessment Officer has audited over 100 retail food businesses in the catchment with the remainder 300 business due for assessment by the end of March.
- • In conjunction with Marine Discovery Centre, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Surfrider Foundation, NSW Fisheries, Waverley schools, and local historians, Waverley has commenced the Coastal Walk project - an interpretive signage walk from Bondi to Bronte that covers local natural and cultural heritage, coastal geomorphology, local history, native fauna / flora, Aboriginal history, marine diversity, and stormwater pollution impacts. Our advisory group will be assisting Council develop these educational signs for placement along the coast.

- • The Waverley Sustainable Schools Challenge is into Phase 2 of the program - assisting participating schools achieve the actions listed within their School Environment Management Plan (SEMP). 2 Waverley schools were awarded at the recent SCRAPP Froggies awards for their environmental initiatives whilst a Galilee Catholic Primary School student received the runner up Ecodefender for Primary Students in NSW award.
- • We are currently working on Milestone 2 of the campaign, which involves setting our reduction target – at this stage we are looking at a 20% reduction in water consumption by 2010.
- • Progress is now well under way on the Department of Environment and Conservation's (DEC) Local Air Improvement assisted Chook Shop Project. The project, hosted by SSROC and Waverley Council, aims to reduce the level of emissions from barbecue chicken shops by:
  - > > Improving the environmental performance of existing barbecue chicken shops with respect to emissions; and
  - > > developing guidelines for new shops to prevent emission problems occurring in the future.
    - • To date, fifty businesses have been surveyed to determine current operating and maintenance procedures. Plus, an odour and emission study is currently being designed with assistance from a consultant pending approval from the Chook Shop project's steering committee. Initial findings from the surveys have shown:
    - • There are three main types of cooking methods have being used: Charcoal Rotisserie, Gas Rotisserie and Electric Rotisserie. With the most common method of cooking appearing to be Gas Rotisserie, there is huge range in the number chickens cooked by business per day, they range from 15 to 400, businesses cooking with Charcoal use one load of charcoal each day, a business has yet to be identified that has reported a drop in sales due to switching from charcoal cooking to another cooking method, very few shops use odour control other than standard metal grate filters located at the intakes of their mechanical ventilation system.
    - • Waverley Council is currently doing a feasibility study to assess the potential of obtaining groundwater to water some of our major parks. At this stage a policy has not been developed by council in regard to using groundwater to water parks and gardens. However, in principle support from Council exists.
    - • Preliminary results from the study conducted by the UNSW Water Research Laboratory show that Tamarama and Barracluff parks have good groundwater reserves in stormwater fed aquifers that could be used to meet the watering needs of these parks. Bronte and Bondi Parks are also likely to contain useable groundwater that could meet there watering requirements. However, further study is required to determine the size and

shape of their aquifers, and to locate their saline interfaces. I will send through a copy of the final report when we receive it.

### **Willoughby Council**

- • New Environmental Management Systems Person
- • Northbridge Streamwatch Kit for schools
- • ICLE Bushland Region
- • Water sampling grab
- • Final draft report on performance of GPTs (perhaps action a case study presentation)

### **Woollahra Council**

- • The final seagrass monitoring report has been prepared for the Parsley
- • Bay Remediation Project by Ecology Lab. The results suggest that there
- • was little impact from the remedial dredging on the seagrasses within
- • the bay.
- • Finalised the Woollahra Environmental Education and Action Plan
- • developed by GEMs environmental specialists.
- • CCP Milestone 4 (M4). Successful in gaining Australian Greenhouse Office
- • (AGO) funding under the Milestone 4 assistance program to implement
- • community actions from the Woollahra Greenhouse Action Plan (WGAP)
- and
- • to quantify emissions savings from the actions implemented to date. The
- • funds have been used to for resources and to engage an officer part time
- • for this project.
- • The councils of the Port Jackson South/Eastern Beaches catchments
- • (including Woollahra) have been successful in gaining funding from the
- • RTA for a spill response trailer and staff training.

### **Department of Environment and Conservation (Local Government Department)**

Contaminated Land Database on-line The DEC has recently improved its internet resources relating to the management of contaminated sites. Our new website can be accessed via <http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/clm> and includes:

- • An overview of the framework for managing land contamination in NSW, including the Contaminated Land Management Act framework and the role of planning processes;
- • Links to key legislation and guidelines;
- • Information about the NSW Site Auditor Scheme, including a current list of accredited site auditors;
- • A searchable register of those contaminated sites which are currently, or have previously been, regulated by the EPA under the *Contaminated Land Management Act 1997* or its predecessor legislation; and
- • A series of frequently asked questions about the management of contaminated land.

The website will continue to evolve in a manner that improves community access to resources which help in the assessment, remediation and management of land contamination in NSW.

Enviro Network News

The latest edition of Enviro Network News is now available and can be found at <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/enn/ennfeb04.htm>. This edition contains information about the formation of the DEC, new guidelines and workshops being offered, and an interesting article on encouraging sustainability at child care centres!  
Authorised Officers Course

You will all be interested to know that the next POEO Authorised Officers course, conducted by the Sydney Graduate School of Management will be on 22 March 2004 at the University of Western Sydney. It is understood places are still available if you have staff that need to attend. The course runs for three days in total. Contacts for the course are Dianne Leggott on ph 9852 4040 or [d.leggott@uws.edu.au](mailto:d.leggott@uws.edu.au) or Barbara Levy on ph 9852 5222 or [b.levy@uws.edu.au](mailto:b.levy@uws.edu.au)  
Sydney Local Government Council Allocations

Your DEC Sydney Local Government Section Liaison Officer is just a phone call away, and a copy of the latest Council allocations is attached for your information. Ashfield, Burwood and the new City of Sydney Councils have new liaison officers, so please take note and don't hesitate to get in touch.