





## Member Council Activities Report April 2004

The following material is a summary of current projects for SCCG Member Councils April, 2004.

<p>City of Botany Bay</p> 	<p>Not represented at the meeting</p>
<p>Hornsby Shire Council</p> 	<p>Catchment Management Authority for the Hawkesbury-Nepean is likely to be located in Goulburn. This will mean that representatives will be moving away from the lower Hawkesbury and will likely concentrate on the upper catchment. Hornsby Council expressed concern over this re-location.</p>
<p>Leichhardt Council</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean Up Australia Day (March) - 10 sites help locally with 5 schools, 4 community groups and one community environment group.</li> <li>• Wetland water quality undertaken testing by University of Sydney Students (heavy metals).</li> <li>• Water Sensitive Urban design bus tours for residents held by Leichhardt, Ashfield and Hunters Hill Councils in February and March for Lower Parramatta River Catchment Group of Councils.</li> <li>• Student environment art competition held, with winners announced in National Youth Week - part of the community consultation for the environment strategy review</li> </ul>
<p>Manly Council</p> 	<p><b>TOTAL CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT DECISION SUPPORT TOOL AND INTERVENTION TRIGGERS</b></p> <p>This program assesses and targets Council's stormwater management procedures and principals . The aim to bring accountability against achieving community values of ecosystem health and primary contact f or Manly's waterways. The program links stormwater, groundwater, town water and sewage quality and quantity data into a MapInfo format for rapid decision support. This data is emergent from real-time and automated monitoring equipment, triggers appropriate intervention and drives interactive decision-making. Annual evaluation is documented through SOE reporting and triple bottom line accounting. This targets and evaluates the rollout of on-ground actions within the water cycle management program and Integrated Catchments Management Strategy (2003).</p>

**SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE WATER RESOURCES**

Treatment, storage and on-use of stormwater and groundwater to offset reliance on critical town supply and save money. Three sites are installed and operational: Beachfront (STAR Project), Ivanhoe Park and LM Grahams reserve. Rollout of a further 4 sites will take place over the 2004 year. Costs savings on town water will pay off infrastructure in 12-months. Monitoring and assessment program is underway having been developed with assistance of State Agencies, Scientific Advisory Panel and University of Western Sydney and indicates compliance criteria for re-use. A full-time PhD student will monitor and research the program and ensure the source is sustainable and will not impact the water cycle. Community education task force established. Signage and press release has been prepared.

Manly Golf Course re-use program underway with Manly Council, Corporative Research Centre for Urban Irrigation and UWS.ed.

Mosman Council



- SQUIDS - i) Working on overcoming issues pertaining to odour, microbial activity and sewage, ii) Rethinking SQUID design - implementation of water quality monitoring as a method of determining the most appropriate type and design of a stormwater device.
- Environmental Management Plan - in the process of developing an EMP to encompass activities/processes across all sections of Council and be implemented into Council's policy and planning framework.
- Energy Performance Contract - a Contractor will soon be engaged to undertake a detailed study/audit.
- Every Drop Counts Program - final report has been received. This program will be merged with the EPC to combine water and energy conservation.
- CCP Plus - received a grant from Australian Greenhouse Office for the development of a Travel Demand Management Plan.
- ICLEI - Triple Bottom Line Workshop for Senior Staff (to take place).
- Water Quality Monitoring Program - Completion of Components 1 and 2 (monitoring of receiving waters and monitoring pre-SQUID installation).

North Sydney

- Sustainability Plan and Water Management Plan have been drafted and have just completed public exhibition. 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. It is intended to fund the actions arising out of these documents through the next five year Environmental Levy.

- Currently completing milestone 5 of ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection program.
- Finalised a second Greenhouse Action Plan.
- As part of the Living Environment workshop series presented by North Sydney Council, Willoughby, Lane Cove, Mosman and Hunters Hill Council a Green Living Seminar (going green at home) was presented. Over 100 people attended and the workshop concentrated on practical ways of saving energy and water and reducing waste at home. Examples include installing a rainwater tank, water recycling, switching to green power, native gardening and worm farming. Product samples and information materials were available to take home on the night.
- Currently developing a green purchasing policy.
- Offering free commercial waste audits.
- 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 represented at the meeting.



Randwick Council





- 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. Council recently launched a pocket guide to the marine life of Sydney's East, entitled "Finding Bluey and his Mates", which is now available on our web site [www.randwick.nsw.gov.au](http://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au). 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.

- Council's Environmental Health Unit has implemented a strategy to address the contamination of receiving waters through the discharge of groundwater and/or rainwater from excavated holes on building sites. The strategy involves a water study being undertaken that compares and assesses the water to be discharged against the receiving waters. The study is also to include the potential impacts of the discharging waters into the receiving waters.
- Council's Environmental Health Unit is finalising the environmental audit program on all service stations in Randwick.
- Council is setting up its 9<sup>th</sup> bush care volunteer group, with a Department of Lands grant, at Lake Malabar. The group will commence in May. Previously our 8<sup>th</sup> bush care group was set up in November 2003, with an Environmental Trust grant, at the Coast Golf Course, Little Bay.
- Council is providing the staff and expertise to other landholders for protection and conservation works on remnant bushland at Chifley. Council has coordinated a collaborative approach with Department of Lands and the RTA to deliver this project, which will commence shortly.
- Council together with its other partners, Hornsby, Lake Macquarie, Parramatta and Wyong Councils is designing a strategic asset management tool. The on-line tool, if it can be successfully developed, will manage maintenance timing of assets such as parks, drains, bushland, etc by using condition and cost. Aiming to ensure that maintenance works are carried out before their condition falls into an unacceptable range. The cost of asset maintenance once in an unacceptable condition range may lead to significant capital works and costs, which may be prevented through asset condition monitoring and earlier maintenance.
- Landcare Australia will be visiting Gordons Bay with Council this month to see first hand an example of highly urbanised land, its impacts on sensitive land around Gordons Bay and the management issues.
- Our submission raises a number of critical issues within the EIS, which lack sufficient information and/or analysis to enable the full extent of the impacts of the port expansion to be accurately assessed. These are discussed within the Randwick City Council submission. In summary these critical issues include:
  - > > Strategic planning for port facilities / justification
  - > > Cumulative traffic / transport issues
  - > > Cumulative impacts of the Bay environment /

	<p>contamination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; &gt; Relationship to the airport / risk</li> <li>&gt; &gt; Social impacts</li> </ul>
<p>Rockdale Council</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Waterways issues</b> - Council has had a number of waterways issues in the last year. The latest problem is algal blooms in the Bicentennial Park Ponds and Scarborough Ponds. Council is not sure at this stage what has caused the blooms. A 'Waterways Quality Management Team' has been established, consisting of a range of Council staff from different disciplines to manage issues i.e the algal blooms and the fish kill that occurred earlier in the year. The Team has also met with representatives from the DEC, Sydney Water and Fisheries to engage them in the problem solving process.</li> <li>• <b>Port Botany Expansion EIS</b> - Council has been preparing a submission on the EIS and is also involved in preparing a regional submission through SSROC. The Commission of Inquiry has been announced and the deadline for submissions to the Inquiry is 29 April.</li> <li>• <b>Review of Council's Environment Reference Group</b> - Council is reviewing its environmental community consultation process. Currently Council has an 'Environment Reference Group' consisting of 9 community representatives, 3 Councillors and the Environmental Planner.</li> </ul> <p>The Group meets quarterly to provide feedback on current issues but the Group has not been working effectively. Council would appreciate receiving any information from other Councils on their community consultation processes in relation to environment</p>
<p>Sutherland Shire Council</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Business Incubator WSUD Demonstration Project</b> complete, monitoring program ongoing</li> <li>• <b>Gunnamatta and Gynea Estuary Management Plans</b> finalised</li> <li>• <b>Woronora Estuary Management Plan</b> ongoing</li> <li>• <b>Port Hacking Plan of Management</b> under review</li> <li>• <b>Gunnamatta Bay contaminated sediment study</b> ongoing</li> <li>• <b>Gynea Bay water quality improvements</b> (trash rack, land stabilisation and rehabilitation, dredging) ongoing</li> <li>• <b>Special Levy Rate on waterfront property owners</b> to fund dredging of Yowie Bay under investigation</li> <li>• <b>Ewey Creek</b> complete, 189 properties identified as being potentially subject to flooding</li> <li>• <b>Georges River Floodplain Risk Management Study &amp; Plan</b> complete</li> <li>• <b>Oyster Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study &amp; Plan</b> under way</li> <li>• <b>Initial Subjective Assessment of Flood Risk in Sutherland Shire</b> complete</li> <li>• <b>WSUD stormwater policy</b> including, compulsory rainwater tanks, stormwater reuse, on-site treatment, etc... adopted as part of LEP 2004</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Mapping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• . Preparation of soils landscape map for Sutherland Shire identifying areas suitable for infiltration systems complete</li> <li>• . GIS mapping of water quality devices, catchments served and pertinent data completed</li> </ul> <p><b>Major Projects included in <i>draft</i> 2004/2005 Budget</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• . North West Arm Estuary Processes Study</li> <li>• . Environmental Assessment of Minor Creeks and Tributaries</li> <li>• . Airborne Laser Scanning/Survey of the Shire</li> <li>• . Sylvania Waters Floodplain Risk Management Study &amp; Plan</li> <li>• . Kurnell Floodplain Risk Management Study &amp; Plan</li> <li>• . Production Road, Taren Point GPT</li> <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>• . Carina Bay Reserve Creek Restoration and Wetland</li> </ul>
<p>Sydney City Council</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• . Engaged HughesTrueman to identify alternate water supply options and water efficiency upgrades</li> <li>• . Developing a Sustainable City and Triple Bottom Line strategy. First two environmental strategies to be developed are Greenhouse Action Plan and Waste Strategy for the newly amalgamated Council.</li> <li>• . Purchase of 2000 trees through Greenfleet.</li> </ul>
<p>Warringah Council</p>  <p>Warringah Council</p>	<p>A strategic planning issues paper has been publicly listed. Daniel pointed out that there are proposed changes to the <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i>. Request for SCCG to make a comment on this, particularly with respect to how it would affect Local Environment Plans. SCCG are unable to make a formal response given submission were due the next day (April 16). It was also agreed by the remaining representatives that the time frame was not suitable in which to make a formal representation.</p>

Waverley Council



- The first phase of the Waverley Greenwave Business Program has been completed within the Bondi Beach Commercial Precinct.
- The Greenwave Business Program, that commenced in November 2003, is an environmental education and assessment program that assists businesses to devise pollution prevention and waste management plans specific to their business with the aim of reducing their impact on the environment. To date, over 50 businesses have participated in the program. Each of these businesses have been audited by Council Officers and have committed to making identified changes in their operations to minimise their environmental impacts. Follow up inspections have commenced and will continue until May 2004.
- Council has commenced the Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) DCP for residential and commercial development . The project has two distinct phases; a comprehensive review of existing Council policies against current best practice; and the development and integration of best practice ESD provisions into Council's LEP 1996, Bondi Junction LEP, DCP 1 – Multi-Unit Development, and DCP 2- Detached Dwellings. The project is scheduled for completion in December 2004.
- Council was awarded with Milestone 2 of the ICLEI Water Campaign in February 2004. The program aims to assist local government reduce water consumption in both their community and corporate sectors.
- The SSROC / Waverley Chook Shop project has finished the initial inspection phase. Over 90 chicken shops throughout SSROC have been audited by Council's Clean Air Project Officer. The results of the assessments will formulate the basis of EPA Best Practice Guidelines on odour management in BBQ chicken shops. The emissions study component of the project is underway. From the study we want to obtain two chicken shop case studies (Charcoal and Gas) with results to include Odour Intensity, Hedonic Tones, Particulate matter, Professional Reporting on results, compliance with AS 1668. It is envisaged that the information will support our best practice guidelines.
- In partnership with UNSW Ecoliving Centre, Council completed its AGO funded Energy Wise project. The community retrofit program culminated in a series of training sessions for participants in the Waverley Community Living Program.

Willoughby Council

- A meeting at 12.30pm on 21 April 2004, is being hosted by Mark Sabolch for Council's Engineers of the NSROC members Council for the purpose of reviewing regional specifications for the clearing of G.P.T's
- Willoughby Council has a grant from the Estuary



Management group of the old DWC, now DIPNR for \$36,000 to improve the lower portion of the Scotts Creek. Work will be carried out in 12 months.

- Willoughby Council had a student carry out a Riparian Vegetation Study of the middle portion of Scotts Creek. The study found amongst other things scoured, eroded and unstable banks, together with exposed and leaking sewer main. The various portions of this section of the creek was designated as being in good condition, slightly degraded, degraded and very degraded.
- Northbridge Baths Water Quality Recovery Rate Study has now been completed. This study was funded by BeachWatch following concerns raised by local bathers, that they were not being permitted to use the baths for a period of 3 days after 5 mm of rain, even when the water looked very clean. The cost of the study was some \$116,000.
- The study was site specific and involved water samples being collected and tested over a period of 5 consecutive days after a trigger, being rainfall of 5 mm in 24 hours. **Results concluded** that rainfall of 10 mm in 24 hours takes a period of 24 hours for the pollution to clear from the water within the tidal baths to reach an acceptable water Quality, while rainfall of 20mm in 24 hours takes a period of 3 days to reach an acceptable level.

Woollahra Council



No dot points received.