



Water Sensitive City transitions.  
What is the role of Water Sensitive SA?

Mellissa Bradley, Program Manager

Water Industry Alliance  
21 July 2015



**Water Sensitive SA** - established to build the capacity of all organisations with a role in the planning, design, approval, construction or maintenance of new developments and infrastructure to implement best practice water sensitive urban design (WSUD)

# Water Sensitive SA Program Partners



**Natural Resources**  
Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

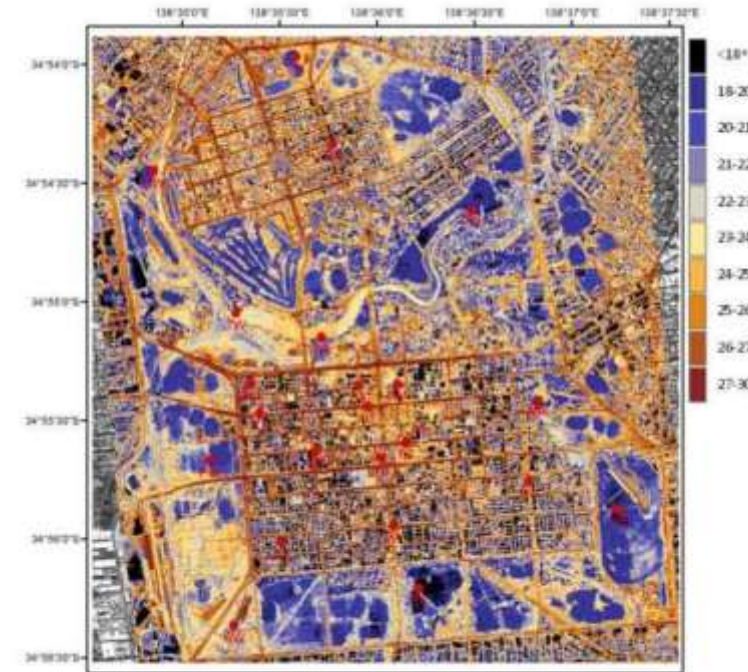


# Water sensitive communities

## Liveable

Green and blue natural landscapes enhancing human health and wellbeing by :

- providing mental health benefits,
- facilitating the physical recovery from illness,
- providing recreational (passive and active) areas
- providing spaces for community socialisation and connectivity of community spaces.
- improve human thermal comfort through **micro-climate management** (cooling benefits) to reduce heat related stress and mortality
- improving air quality



Surface brightness temperatures of the CBD and North Adelaide in the early hours of 7 March 2011 – Source: Flinders University



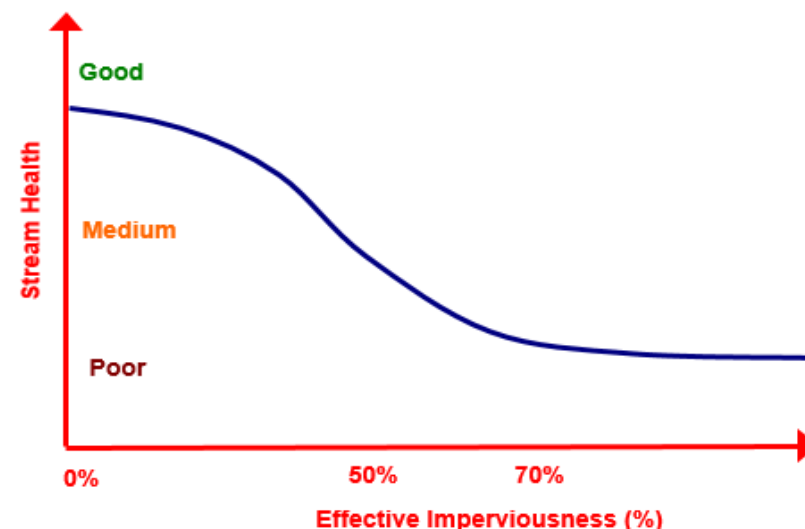
# Water sensitive communities



## Sustainable

More healthy natural ecosystems in urban environments that:

- protect urban waterways from degradation, through decreased total stormwater runoff and **improved flow regimes** (more natural high-flows and low-flows)
- reduce pollutant loads entering freshwater and marine environments
- replenish depleting groundwater with fresh water
- extend baseflows in urban streams and wetlands
- provide at source re-use of alternative water supplies to minimise energy use
- conserve our valuable water resource
- increase carbon sequestration



# Water sensitive communities

## Productive

Enhance productivity and economic prosperity by:

- supporting industry: manufacturing including food production, and irrigated crops,
- deferring or eliminating the need for drainage infrastructure augmentation
- providing high quality public open space,
- avoiding capital or operating costs for potable supply schemes
- defer supply augmentation costs through fit-for-purpose use of alternative water
- strategic and opportunistic investment in infrastructure renewals
- market advantages for residential developers



# Water sensitive communities

## Resilient

Integrated infrastructure that:

- provides protection against flooding
- provides a diversity of water sources at a **range of scales** to increase resilience under a uncertain future climate
- supply of recycled water resources (treated effluent and stormwater) providing freedom from water restrictions.
- Recycles and reuses treated sewage effluent as a non-climate dependent resource.



Bowden Urban Village



Old Port Road

Source: City Charles Sturt



Hindley Street, Adelaide

# What we provide:

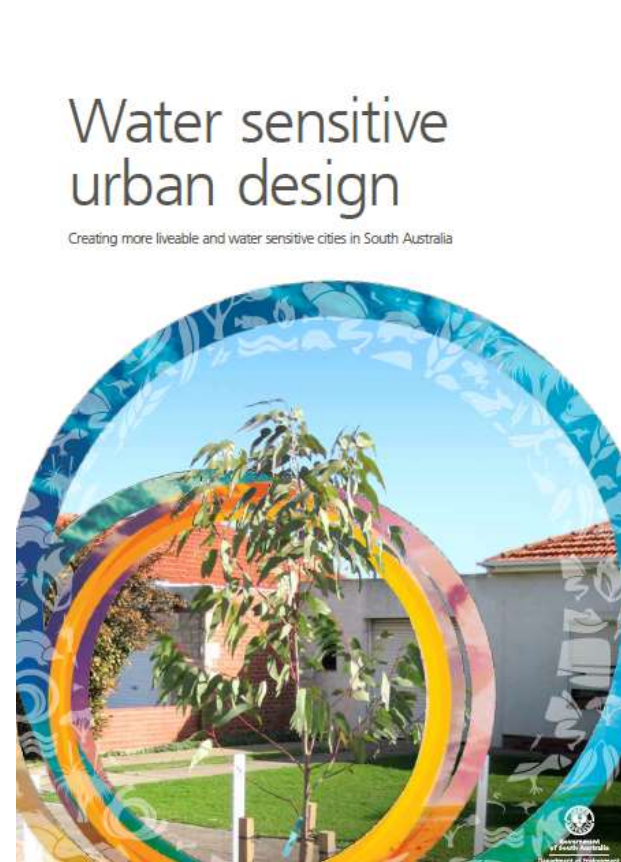
- WSUD policy development and implementation pathways
- networking opportunities and peer-to-peer learning on strategic, policy and technical matters
- specialist training to address key knowledge and skills gaps
- more accessible WSUD research for practitioners
- resource development, including guidelines and tools
- information sharing through our website, e-newsletter, blog articles and forums.





# SA WSUD Policy

- Is it being implemented?
- What more could be done?
- Where does Water Sensitive SA fit?



## Water Conservation

Demonstrated compliance with South Australian residential building requirements for water efficiency.

Non-residential: water efficient techniques in commercial, industrial and other non-residential urban settings.

Irrigated open spaces: best practice irrigation management in outdoor irrigated open spaces.



- Optimal Rainwater tank size supply reliability,
- Optimal storage sizes to retain pre-development runoff
- Ministers Specification for on-site detention
- Incentives needed for commercial and industrial



## Flood management

capacity of the existing drainage system is not exceeded.

no increase in the 5 year ARI peak flow compared to existing conditions.

no increase in flood risk for the 100 year ARI peak flow, compared to existing conditions.



Bowden Urban Village

Source: Water Sensitive SA



Kirkcaldy Avenue, Grange

Source: Baden Myers



## Stormwater Runoff Quality

45%

retention of typical annual  
urban load of total nitrogen.

60%

retention of typical annual  
urban load of total  
phosphorus.

80%

retention of typical annual  
urban load of suspended  
solids.



Caltex, 734 Marion Rd, Marion

Source: Baden Myers



Cooke Reserve, Royal Park.

Source: City of Charles Sturt



# Challenges

- Consistency in the interpretation and application of policy
- Design skills
- Construction know how
- Are they pretty enough?
- Maintenance



Source: Baden Myers



Source: [www.bie.ala.org.au/](http://www.bie.ala.org.au/)

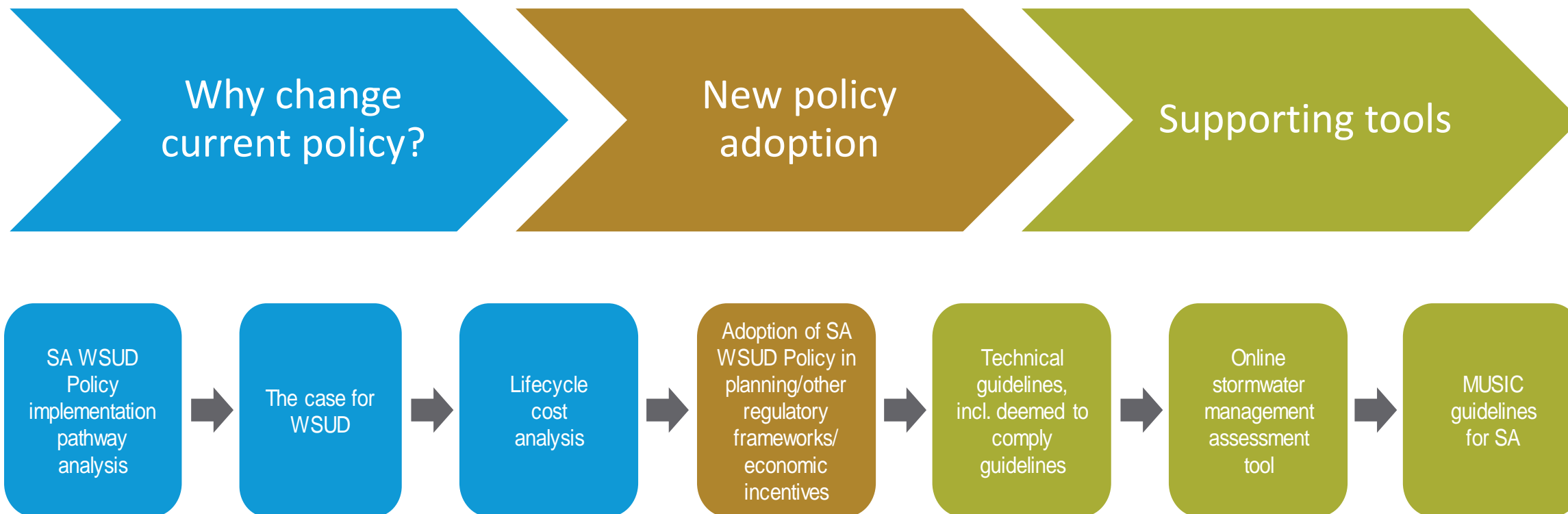


Source: Water Sensitive SA



Source: M.Dobbie

# Bringing about change...



# Priority Projects

Project	Scale at which project could be addressed (national or state)
Project 1: Case for WSUD – cost benefit analysis tool and its application to case studies	National/ international
Project 2: life cycle costing analysis, for a suite of development and WSUD infrastructure scenarios with application to case studies	National
Project 3: Deemed to comply guideline – urban design code	State
Project 4: Online assessment tool for stormwater management for simple/small-scale developments	State
Project 5: MUSIC (stormwater quality model) Guidelines for SA	National with state refinements
Project 6: Technical guidelines review and update/adapt – SA and interstate	National with state refinements



Bowden Urban Village. Photo: Water Sensitive SA



Franklin Street  
Photo: City of Adelaide

# Advocacy



- Water for Liveability Campaign
- Development industry - involvement and collaboration where possible.
- Support DEWNR initiatives to seek policy change
- Seek local government Local Government and industry
- support for SA WSUD Policy adoption



Lochiel Park  
Photo: Water Sensitive SA





Water Sensitive SA, in collaboration with our partners, is working with government and industry to support greater uptake of water sensitive urban design, to enhance liveability of our communities.

[Learn More](#)

Water Sensitive SA has identified the need for capacity building to improve the adoption of water sensitive urban design (WSUD) in South Australia. It is currently establishing a capacity building program for various sectors of the industry.

**LIVEABLE  
WATER SENSITIVE  
COMMUNITIES**

#### Latest News

**Water Sensitive SA steering committee**  
28 March 2018

**SA planning reform - what are the opportunities for WSUD?**  
28 March 2018

Subscribe to our newsletter



Participate in our forums



#### Blog Articles



**Water Sensitive Cities Assessment Tool**

16 February 2018

The question was asked at the recent Water Sensitive SA launch, 'How do we know when we have become a water sensitive city?' [Read More...](#)

#### Upcoming Events

**12 FEB** Ozwater '18  
12 FEB - 8.30am to 14 NOV - 4.00pm

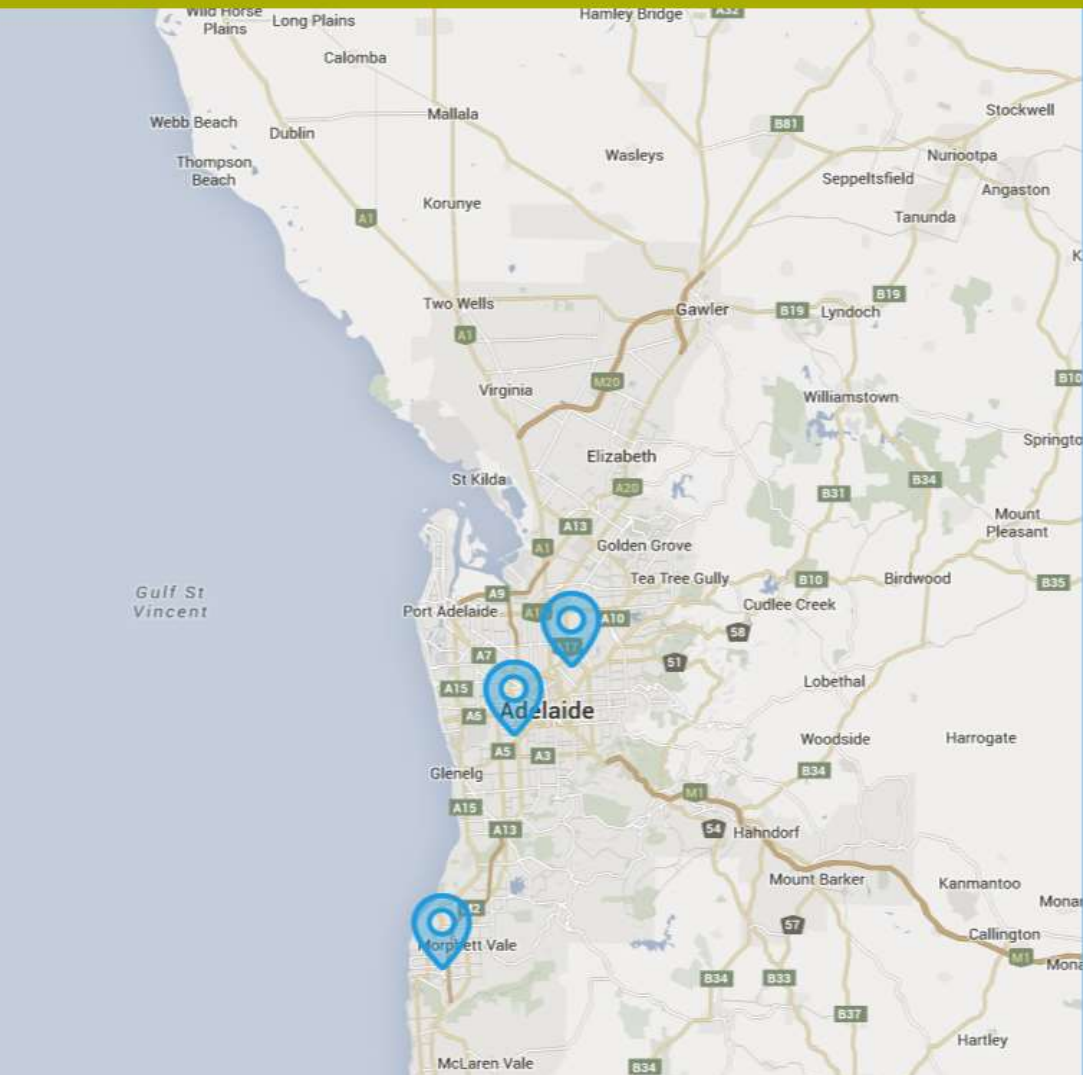
**09 APR** Tour of Oaklands Park wetland and ASR scheme  
09 APR - 4.00pm to 4.00pm

**13 APR** WSUD capacity building and planning policy - can we have one without the other?  
13 MARCH - 11.00am to 12.00pm

**03 APR** MUSIC Fundamentals & Refresher courses  
01 MARCH - 9.00am to 04 MARCH - 9.00pm

## Information Sharing Hub:

- Water for Liveability Campaign
- E-newsletter
- Make research more accessible- seminar series/ blog articles
- Forums
- Training and Events



## Case Studies

The drivers behind any WSUD project may range from a need to drought proof a community to provide water for recreational open space to protecting marine water quality to enhance coastal tourism opportunities. The solutions (referred to as WSUD element type) to these challenges may vary depending on these objectives, unique site constraints and available budget.

Water Sensitive SA has developed an interactive map that enables SA WSUD projects to be filtered







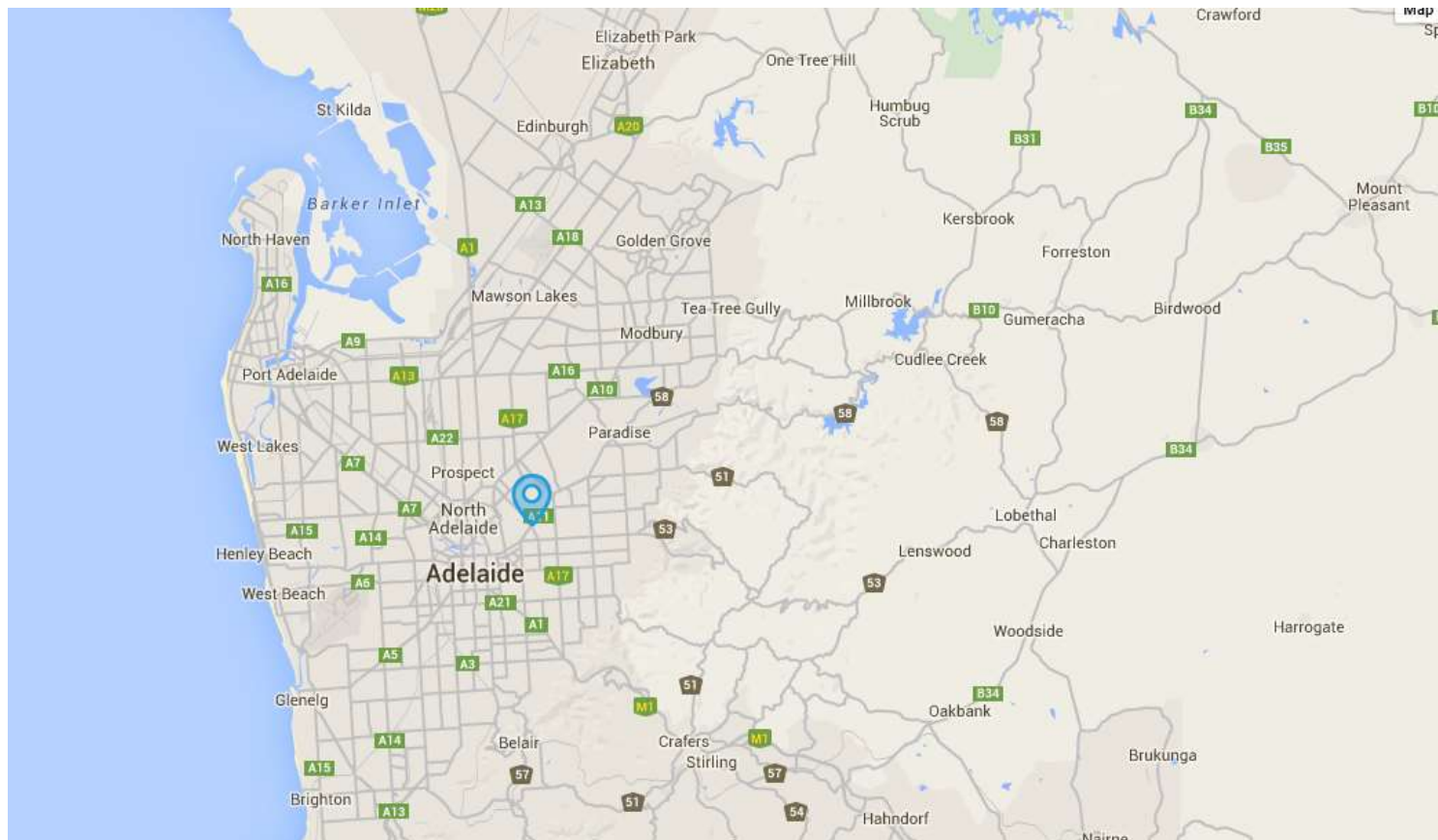
# Case Studies – Interactive Map

Moving beyond  
demonstration to  
mainstream





# Case Studies



## Case Studies

### Dunstone Grove Linde Reserve Stepney

#### ASR, Bioretention

**Organisation** City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters

**Function/Driver** Water conservation

**Development Type** Public

Water extracted from second creek during flow, cleansed using biofilters and stored using ASR. Creek restoration also undertaken as part of this project.



Back



# Dunstone Grove, Linde Reserve



Source: Baden Myers

# Training and Seminars 2015



Date	Training/ seminar	Topic
Jul 2015	Training	Introduction to biofiltration rain garden guidelines
Aug 2015	Training	Detailed design of biofiltration systems
Sep 2015	Training	Introduction to WSUD for policy planners and development assessment planners and engineers
Oct 2015	Seminar	WSUD and micro climate benefits – theory and practice
Nov 2015	Seminar	Leadership to advance water sensitive urban design



Angas Street, Adelaide adjacent SAPOL  
Photo: Water Sensitive SA



# Opportunities

- Collaboration with the development Industry
- Connect practitioners with research outcomes
- Clarity of cost/benefits and lifecycle costs
- Skilled workforce – protect our investment in WSUD



North Terrace Source: City of Adelaide



Kenilworth Street, Fullarton



Laratinga Wetlands, Mount Barker

Source: Kreative Wisdom





[www.watersensitivesa.com](http://www.watersensitivesa.com)

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