Call for steering committee members 2021-24

Water sensitive urban design provides innovative and creative ways to better manage water and improve liveability in new and existing urban areas.

Water Sensitive South Australia (SA) is a capacity building program that provides stakeholders across all disciplines within the development and urban water management industries, with the support they need to achieve the best water sensitive urban design outcomes.

As the hub for WSUD activity and learning in South Australia, Water Sensitive SA provides:

- 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.

Water Sensitive SA is guided by a high-level steering committee, which reaches the end of its three-year tenure in May 2021. The call for steering committee members for the next three years is now open. This is your opportunity to influence the strategic directions of Water Sensitive SA and oversee delivery of the program.

Water Sensitive SA is funded by a consortium of program partners from state and local government, research institutions and industry.

The steering committee works with the program manager to:

- ensure that engagement with partners and other stakeholders is effective
- provide high quality guidelines and training that meet practitioner needs
- ensure that Water Sensitive SA is managed efficiently
- meet financial and non-financial targets
- develop a business plans covering Water Sensitive SA's mission statement, engagement strategy, activity schedule, evaluation framework and budget.

Steering committee members are informed and enthusiastic supporters of the role of water sensitive urban design as part of broader sustainability. They understand the importance of supporting WSUD stakeholders through Water Sensitive SA. Steering committee members will:

- understand the objectives and outcomes of Water Sensitive SA
- understand and represent the interests of WSUD stakeholders
- be genuinely interested in the overall success of Water Sensitive SA
- act on opportunities to communicate positively about WSUD and Water Sensitive SA
- check that Water Sensitive SA is making sensible financial decisions, including in procurement and in responding to issues, risks and proposed scope changes
- check that Water Sensitive SA is aligned with the broader WSUD policy environment in South Australia
- actively participate in meetings through attendance, discussion, and active review of minutes, papers and other steering committee documents
- support open discussion and debate, and encourage fellow steering committee members to voice their insights.

Applications from individuals with experience in **urban water management, urban greening, statutory or policy planning, land development, urban/landscape design of residential and commercial developments** will be highly regarded.

The steering committee meets quarterly and is supported by the Water Sensitive SA Program Manager. Please be advised that the first meeting of the new committee will be 2-5pm, Monday 24 May 2021.

Email your application to the Water Sensitive SA Program Manager, mellissa@watersensitivesa.com., by **5:00pm Wednesday 28 April 2021**.
If you have any questions, please contact Mellissa Bradley on 0431 828 980.

Holland Street, Thebarton. Image: Sam Noonan

Water Sensitive SA background

The program has made a significant contribution to the urban water management industry through the delivery of our seminar series, training program, research translation and demonstration of best practice WSUD by practitioners in SA, interstate and internationally through our e-newsletter and website.

Water Sensitive SA delivers support to WSUD stakeholders with the vision that:

- WSUD is integral in any new development and redevelopment, to facilitate the transition of Greater Adelaide and South Australia's growing regional areas to water sensitive cities and communities
- all relevant government and industry sectors have the knowledge, skills and resources to work towards this common objective and are committed to placing sustainable urban water management at the forefront of design.

The Water Sensitive SA Business Plan sets out a suite of priority projects that are essential to the widespread uptake of WSUD principles in new developments and infrastructure projects.

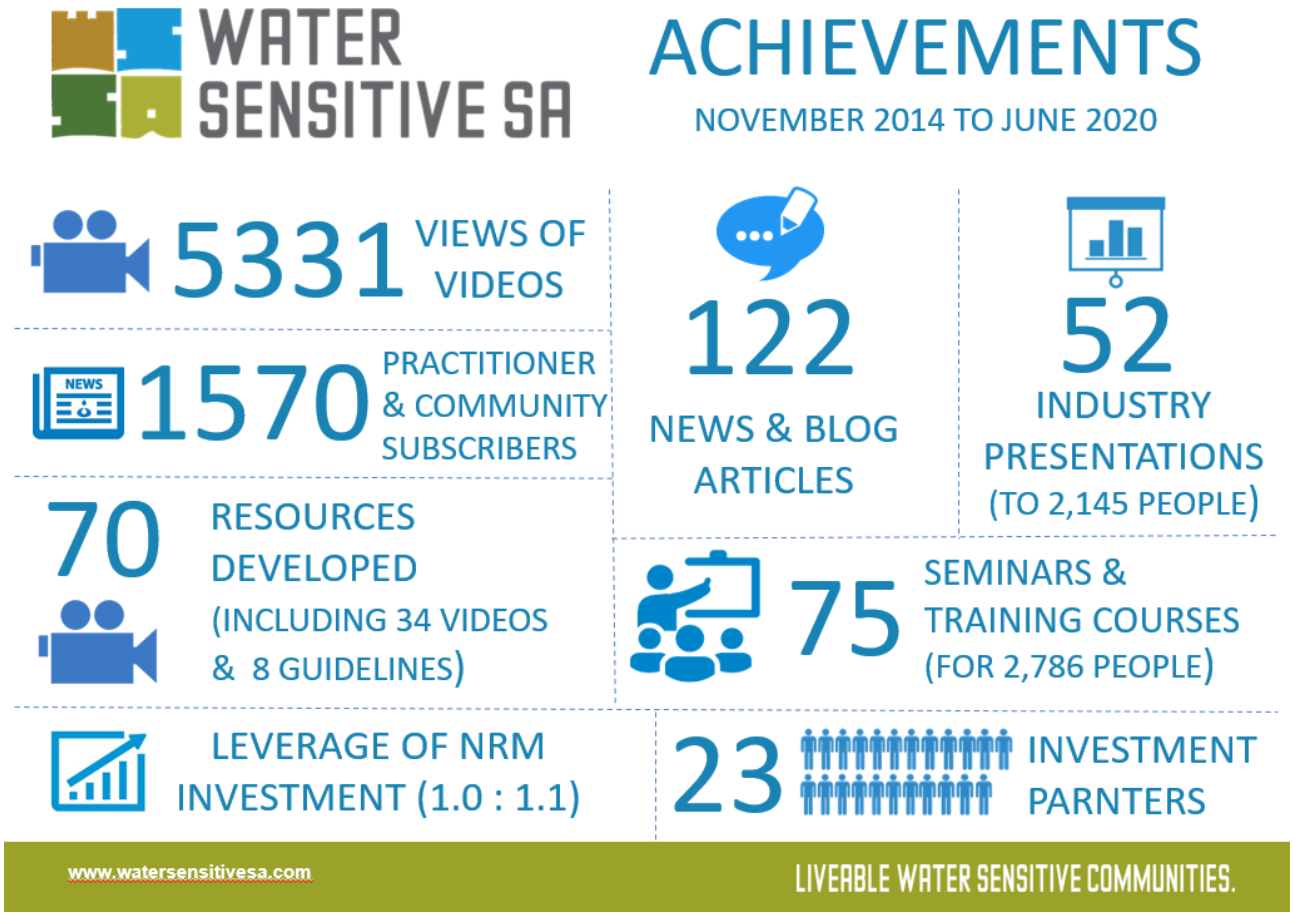
During the first five years of the program the following strategic priorities have been funded and delivered in conjunction with our partners:

- Benefit/cost assessment framework and tool
- Deemed to satisfy guideline for small-scale development
- On-line assessment tool for stormwater management
- Model for urban stormwater improvement conceptualisation (MUSIC) guideline for SA
- Green infrastructure & WSUD performance-based planning policy review.

Other priorities identified in the business plan include:

- Development of an urban green cover tool
- Pilot stormwater contribution in-lieu scheme (offsets).

Our achievements (November 2014 to June 2020)



Africaine Avenue, Lightsview

Application requirements

Please provide the following details in your application:

- your name and contact details
- a discussion of your interest in WSUD, and the reason for wishing to join the Water Sensitive SA steering committee
- a description of your relevant networks and how you would leverage these in furthering Water Sensitive SA
- an outline of your particular skills and experience relevant to WSUD, capacity building, program management, strategic management, and other areas relevant to steering committee membership
- a statement about any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest that would be relevant to your steering committee membership
- a brief curriculum vitae.

Application process

Applications will be considered by the Water Sensitive SA program manager and the Natural Resources Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges representative, and guidance may be sought from the current funding partners. Consideration will be given to the steering committee composition to ensure a balanced mix of skills, knowledge and personal attributes.

The following personal attributes will be considered:

- continuing high levels of performance in industry field
- capacity to think and act strategically
- integrity and high standing in the community
- clarity of understanding of the objectives and obligations of steering committee membership
- availability and a good working knowledge and understanding of accountability relationships
- experience in a relevant specialist field such as:
  - land development
  - statutory planning or policy
  - assessment of development applications: planning and engineering/water management
  - urban/landscape design of residential and commercial developments
  - research in the field of WSUD
  - construction of urban developments incorporating WSUD features
  - management and maintenance of WSUD assets
  - management and finance/accounting
  - governance and/or incorporation of not-for-profit organisations
- ability to represent the views of stakeholders through his or her field of expertise
- established networks within the relevant sector(s)
- demonstrated commitment to furthering the integration of WSUD into development.

In addition, in considering candidates for the chair of the steering committee, emphasis is placed on a person who:

- exhibits clear leadership talents
- works effectively with stakeholders.

Discussions may be held with short listed applicants.

Applications will only be made available to the program manager and the Green Adelaide Board representative, and will remain confidential.

Successful applicants will be contacted directly by the Program Manager. The name, photograph and brief biography of each steering committee member will be placed on the Water Sensitive SA website.

Unsuccessful applicants will be contacted directly by the program manager. An unsuccessful applicant may choose to leave his or her application on file with Water Sensitive SA.

Steering committee guidelines

The steering committee comprises up to eight members, appointed for up to three years.

Sitting fees cannot currently be made available to steering committee members due to budget limitations. Applications should be made with the understanding that the candidate is willing and able to offer his or her time as an in-kind contribution to Water Sensitive SA.

The expectation is that each steering committee member will attend a minimum of 75 per cent of meetings, and will make a significant contribution to the steering committee.

Steering committee members will be provided with a package of agenda, minutes, reports and decision items a minimum of three working days before each meeting.

Proxies will be allowed provided that they are well informed and similarly committed to the steering committee.

Sub-committees may be established for specific purposes, such as to provide technical oversight of technical training materials.

Application lodgement

Please address application to:

Mellissa Bradley
Program Manager
Water Sensitive SA
0431 828 980
mellissa@watersensitivesa.com