

WATER AWARDS 2011

The West Australian
ADVERTISING FEATURE

The annual WA Water Awards promote outstanding work in the water sector. These prestigious awards, supported by the Department of Water and the Water Corporation, recognise innovation and excellence in the conservation, management and delivery of water.

Along with the prestige of being recognised as 'the best in the West', the winners in a number of award categories automatically progress as finalists in the Australian Water Association National Water Awards. The award winners were announced at a gala dinner last night attended by the Minister for Water, Hon Bill Marmion MLA.

Infrastructure Innovation Award

Recognises significant and innovative infrastructure projects and initiatives within the water industry.



Water Corporation

The Water Corporation believes its Calcite for pH and Alkalinity Correction is a world first treatment process for acidic water on a large utility scale to supply drinking quality water via public schemes. The process involves recycling calcite, which is the by-product of a parallel process used to treat alkaline water. The recycled by-product can replace traditional treatment methods that are too expensive to produce and present health hazards to operators handling them.

Finalists

- National Lifestyle Villages
- Australand Holdings Ltd

Water Recycling Merit Award

Recognises the development or application of products, systems or techniques which support, or result in, increased water recycling.



National Lifestyle Villages (NLV)

Perth based NLV developed a completely integrated approach to water resource management at the Bridgewater Lifestyle Village near the Peel Inlet, where there is a high groundwater table and a delicately balanced aquifer. The design, which includes aquifer recharge from storm water, grey water recycling and rainwater harvesting, means households use 62 per cent less water compared to Perth medium density housing averages.

Finalists

- Edith Cowan University
- Water Installations Pty Ltd

Water Innovation Award

Recognises clever, innovative ideas in enhancement of knowledge, water resource management or service provision.



CSIRO Land and Water Department of Water

Phoslock™ was developed out of a global need to address eutrophication and algal blooms. The clay-based product represents a new approach to bloom management where phosphorous is reduced upon application to the water column and bottom sediments. Phoslock™ is now available in over 20 countries, with a manufacturing and distribution centre in China. Successful WA applications include the Canning and Vasse Rivers.

Finalists

- Fortescue Metals Group with HydroConcept
- National Lifestyle Villages

Conservation and Efficiency Award

Recognises excellence of new products, programs or systems to improve and encourage water conservation.



Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council

The Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) is a progressive and innovative regional local government working on behalf of six member councils. Water conservation and water use efficiency is an important issue and EMRC provides Waterwise Auditor accredited water efficiency audits to councils to assess water using appliances and practices, and develop water-use efficiency recommendations.

Finalists

- Water Corporation
- Burswood Entertainment Complex

Program Innovation Award

Recognises significant and innovative environment or sustainability programs within the water industry.



Water Corporation/Department of Water/ ICLEI

The Waterwise Council Program is unique to WA. It builds cooperative working relationships with local governments to improve water use efficiency. To achieve Waterwise status, councils must establish plans of action towards defined targets, implement water efficiency projects and report on progress. Forty-one councils are now participating in the program with 14 fully endorsed Waterwise Councils having collectively saved an estimated 11 gigalitres of water.

Finalists

- Parsons Brinckerhoff
- Garden Gurus

Waterwise School

Awarded to a school in the Water Corporation's Waterwise Schools Program which best displays the practice and promotion of water use efficiency.



Spearwood Primary School

The school has contributed towards the sustainable use of water through education, action and active citizenship, involving every student. Rainwater tanks service the dual flush toilets and bore water use is monitored so targets can be set for reductions to minimise nutrient run off into catchments. The school created a water wise frog friendly garden using rainwater in a collaborative project with teachers, a local environmental scientist from the indigenous community and the environmental team at the local council.

Finalists

- Glen Huon Primary School
- Leeming Primary School

Waterwise Specialist Award

For water industry professionals who have demonstrated effective waterwise practices and displayed initiative in educating staff and the community.



The Watershed Water Systems

The Watershed Water Systems was the first endorsed Waterwise Garden Irrigator and the first retail store to be endorsed as a Waterwise Irrigation Design Shop. It designs, supplies and installs irrigation systems through its six stores around Perth. Owner Robin Weaver has been on the WA Region Executive of Irrigation Australia for over 20 years and has worked with the Water Corporation on its water wise irrigation initiatives.

Finalists

- Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council
- Water Installations Pty Ltd

Waterwise Council

Recognises an endorsed Waterwise Council participating in the Department of Water and Water Corporation's Waterwise Council Program.



City of Joondalup

The need to balance the provision of quality open spaces and facilities for growing communities with the protection of water resources is becoming a greater challenge in a drying climate. The City of Joondalup recognises the need for the sustainable management of water resources and has implemented projects, which have reduced corporate scheme water use by 3812 kL/year and groundwater use by 1,671,389 kL/year.

Finalists

- Town of Cambridge
- Shire of Augusta-Margaret River

Young Water Professional of the Year

Recognises professionals under the age of 35, with outstanding career achievements and the potential to play a large influential role in the future.



Stefan Davidov

Stefan Davidov is a civil and environmental engineer with five years experience with the Water Corporation. He graduated in 2003 with a Bachelor of Engineering (Environmental) from the Centre for Water Research at University of Western Australia. In 2009, he studied a Master of Science (Civil Engineering) at the Centre for Ecohydraulic Research at the University of Idaho, USA. Stefan now works as a planning engineer in the Water Corporation's Infrastructure Planning Branch.

Finalist

- Helen Forster

Waterwise Business

Recognises commitment to improved water management, effective waterwise practices and initiatives in educating staff and the community.



IPM Operation and Maintenance Kwinana

The Kwinana Cogeneration Plant, operated and maintained by IPM Operation and Maintenance Kwinana, supplies steam and electrical power to BP's Kwinana Oil Refinery and electricity to Verve Energy. Prior to the establishment of the Kwinana Water Recycling Plant, IPM was one of the largest metropolitan users of scheme water. By using recycled water instead, IPM reduced its annual scheme water use by around 86 per cent, a saving equivalent to the annual water use of 4600 houses. IPM's overall water use is down by 10 per cent in five years.

Finalist

- Kingsway City Shopping Centre



Mount Hospital, Perth

The Mount Hospital is committed to ensuring ongoing sustainability of the environment for future generations. Responsible water use in all areas of the hospital is an important part of the business strategy and water consumption is down by over 10 per cent in 2010/11. The facilities maintenance team has been pivotal in managing water saving strategies over the past three years, including implementing waterless hand washing products and steriliser processes for Theatre Sterilisation Department staff.

Water Professional of the Year

For demonstrating a sustained passion and commitment to, as well as, outstanding leadership and influence in the water sector.



John Colwill

John Colwill has been at the forefront of the development and promotion of waterwise gardening since the late 1970s. Since 2003, he has taken the waterwise message to a much larger audience through participation in Great Gardens and now Beyond Gardens, which together delivered sustainable gardening messages to over 58,000 people in 83 local government areas from Esperance to Kununurra.

Finalist

- Dr Ross Mars