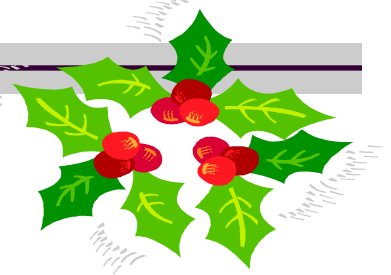




Spouting



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The Dirty Truth About Home Car Washing

Until the recent drought, a common weekend sight across suburban Australia was families out washing the car with a hose, bucket and sponge. The imposition of water restrictions in many states curtailed this activity. As the impact of the drought fades and water restrictions are eased many people are returning to old habits. There is a more important reason for not washing the family car on the drive or street. The impact of the waste products of hard surface car washing on the stormwater system and therefore the many waterways that stormwater feeds is substantially more concerning.

Through market research and scientific studies conducted by the Australian Car Wash Association (ACWA) and others it is estimated that across Australia 111 million car washes are carried out per annum with the waste going to stormwater. This

produces some 11.6 gigalitres of contaminated waste water. Generally people seem unconcerned about an individual car being washed; however, when extrapolated over an urban area or the entire country, the pollutant loading becomes very significant.

The critical pollutants are summarised together with volumes as they come off the car:

Chat
Around
The
Traps

Pollutant	Impact	Estimated mass pa	Estimated Concentration	ANZECC Guideline Concentration marine waters
Hydrocarbons	Compounds in petroleum hydrocarbons are highly toxic, and in the surface water environment can cause harm to wildlife through direct physical contact, contamination by ingestion, and the destruction of food sources and habitats.	58 tonnes	5 mg/L	
Dissolved copper	Exposure to dissolved copper may be sufficient to impair the sensory biology of some fish and has other toxic impacts to a wide variety of marine life.	3.5 tonnes	0.3 mg/L	0.0013 mg/L
Lead	Can cause anaemia, depressed growth, fin degeneration and reduced egg hatching success.	233 kg	0.02 mg/L	0.004 mg/L
Zinc	Most toxic to microscopic organisms in the aquatic environments	5.8 tonnes	0.5 mg/L	0.015 mg/L
Surfactants	Acutely toxic to aquatic life, stripping fish gills of natural oils, thereby interrupting the normal transfer of oxygen	314 tonnes	27 mg/L	
Suspended Solids	Sediment, the most common pollutant in stormwater runoff by volume and weight, makes streams and lakes less suitable for recreation, fish life, and plant growth.	2,332 tonnes	200 mg/L	20 mg/L

In most states the dumping of the above pollutants in the quantities indicated is illegal under EPA regulations. Unfortunately there is a disconnect between the regulations and enforcement. The ACWA is working with state and local authorities to improve public education campaigns but it is a slow process.

The most environmentally sustainable method of washing a car is in on lawn areas that are large enough to prevent runoff or in a commercial car wash. All licensed car washes must have a trade waste agreement which requires all waste water to be directed to oil separation and sedimentation pits and discharged to sewer. The resultant pit sludge is removed by licensed EPA contractors. Additionally, less water is used due to high pressure, low volume equipment and water recycling.

Visit: www.awca.net.au

Water Initiatives for 2050: an Integrated Water Management Strategy for Melbourne's South East

South East Water, Melbourne Water and Southern Rural Water, in consultation with a 25 member Stakeholder Reference Group, have developed *Water Initiatives for 2050: an Integrated Water Management Strategy for Melbourne's south east*, to enable the region to thrive into the future.

The strategy presents a range of future options to determine the most sustainable mix of all possible water solutions including stormwater, recycled water, greywater and groundwater.

From the website: *"In planning our water resources for 2050 and beyond, we must change our thinking and take a more holistic view of water management that considers all aspects of the water cycle.*

Water Initiatives 2050 is an integrated water management strategy for Melbourne's south east that breaks down traditional barriers in water planning and management, and paves the way for new opportunities.

The strategy reflects 18 months of investigation by project partners, South East Water, Melbourne Water and Southern Rural Water along with a range of key stakeholders.

What we are saying is that water management needs to appreciate the different sources of water and the specific locations where a particular water source makes sense.

We suggest that the one size that fits all approach is no longer applicable.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information about this important initiative.

If you have any questions or would like to find out more about the strategy please contact the project team on 1800 813 802 or email:

waterinitiatives2050@sewl.com.au."

Please visit the website for more information, at www.waterinitiatives2050.com.au.



Letter to SV: Stormwater Connection Worth A Mentioning

To Stormwater Victoria,

We are a hydraulic design company and we have recently become aware of a new product that has been in existence for some 18 months. We recently came across the product at a Reece Plumbing Trade Information night. The fitting referred to is a 'Conconnect' produced by Victorian Company 'Flowcon'. It appears that this fitting is the only suitable connection to prevent pipe penetration whilst also sealing the penetration internally, thus limiting debris and alike from entering the main connecting pipe. This connection has been made standard in many shire Councils in Victoria, New South Wales, Tasmania and Queensland. I see that it has also been referred to in the new Victorian Growth Area's Authority standard drawings and the Infrastructure Design Manual.

The manufacturer had the connection demonstrated in a RCP, Stormpro and FRC Pipe and I must say that we were extremely impressed at it's construction and it's ease of installation. Although this connection is relatively new to the market it is being received well by all. I feel that this information should be conveyed to your members in order to assist with protecting the integrity of stormwater projects. After all it is rare for new products particularly Australian designed to making such head way in this field.

After speaking with the representatives at Flowcon, I learnt that the owner is a former plumber and had been sitting on the idea for some years before bringing it all together, he is passionate about protecting our Water Supply and has pretty much given the Civil guys a fool proof system to prevent the many blockages that can't really be avoided when connecting. We at GTK will be ensuring our drawings reflect this product. Flowcon is worthy of a mention in your next News letter for innovation.

You can view the fitting is demonstrated at www.flowcon.com.au for your perusal.

*Kind Regards
Tracey Shortis
Senior Hydraulic Design Engineer
GTK Australasia Pty Ltd*

New Regional Stormwater Policy Advisor at Clearwater

Anna Jennings has recently joined the Clearwater team as the new Regional Stormwater Policy Advisor. [Clearwater](#) is a sustainable urban water management capacity building program providing support, resources, training and tours to enable the uptake of water sensitive urban design (WSUD).

Anna's role has been jointly funded by DSE and MAV and is designed to support regional and rural councils (those outside of Melbourne Water's jurisdiction) around the implementation of Clause 56.07 of the Victorian Planning Provisions and to help councils plan for integrated water management.

Clause 56.07 specifically relates to achieving best practice stormwater management (BPMEG guidelines) in residential subdivisions. These standards can be met by incorporating water sensitive urban design (WSUD) elements into the drainage system.

Feel free to [contact Anna](#) to discuss opportunities, issues and to get more information on building WSUD in your organisation or region.

Groundwater Training 2012

SRIT is conducting the 'Introduction to Australian Groundwater' three day training event, and the "Advanced Masterclass for Groundwater", across the country in the new year. The courses, with dates currently set for Adelaide and Perth, are designed for both new entrants to the industry and for current professionals seeking to update their skills or to move from a related discipline.

For more information, and dates contact: 08 8277 6380, or <http://www.srit.com.au/courses.php>

Clearwater Training events

Clearwater delivers a range of software training courses that models urban stormwater drainage, and assists the decision making process for stormwater management and Water Sensitive Urban Design. Courses include Stormwater modelling, Advanced Stormwater modelling and Urban Developer. Music V5 is now available. Visit:

http://www.clearwater.asn.au/events_and_training

What's SV been up to?

TGAA Trade Day

SV was very happy to be in participation with The Turf and Grounds Association of Australia (TGAA) for their Seminar & Trade Day on November 23rd, at Wesley College in Glen Waverley.

Our Treasurer and WASSH representative Andrew Allan (Manningham City Council) presented "Practical Tips for Planning Projects", giving attendees an overview on reasonable yield targets, linkages between water efficiency and stormwater harvesting and the risks and guidelines to follow for upcoming projects.

SV member and friend Geoff Connellan (G & M Connellan Consultants) educated attendees on "Quality Irrigated Turf Surfaces - What's Involved", explaining strategies and technologies for high water efficiency, site sustainability and water sources, and irrigation performance evaluation.

Finally, our Secretary Damien D'Aspromonte (Parson's Brinckerhoff) presented "Stormwater Harvesting Case Studies", with practical insights on Event Flow & Base Flow stormwater harvesting, and the not-so-obvious benefits of this technology.

There was great enjoyment all round as demonstrations of industry equipment, large and small, took place on the oval, and guests were treated to an irrigation audit or a bus trip to Mt.Scopus to view the turf trial update and plot inspection. A fun and productive day.

It's definitely worth marking on the calendar for next year!!

Dates for the Calendar

December 25th, 2011:
Christmas Day

January 1st, 2012:
New Year's Day

February 1st, 2012
Clearwater:
MUSIC training courses

February 8th, 2012
SV Networking
Kick-Off Event - Lawn Bowls

February 22nd-24th, 2012:
Water Sensitive Urban Design
(WSUD) Conference

March 7th, 2012:
SV Mini Seminar 1
Flooding

EVENTS

Hallmark Edition - Innovation in Urban Water Management & Treatment Conference

In a special invitation, SV's president Rod Wiese (Storm Consulting) was requested to speak at the Hallmark Edition 'Innovation in Urban Water Management & Treatment Conference', on November 22nd at the Sebel Albert Park. This conference included presentations from industry leaders to analyse cutting-edge engineering practices, technologies and strategies that support local governments and water authorities to implement sustainable and integrated water management systems in Australia's cities, suburbs and rural town centres.

Rod presented a synopsis on the award winning projects from Stormwater Victoria's recent Excellence Awards, acknowledging the outstanding performances of members of the Stormwater Industry, and their impacting projects.

It was a great opportunity for Stormwater Victoria to reach a wider audience in the Integrated water management community, and continue working alongside our industry friends.

SV End of Year Get Together

Stormwater Victoria would like to thank all the members who attended our 2nd "Annual End of Year Get Together" at James Squire Brewhouse, in the Docklands, last week.

After a busy year, it's a great night for us to get to know our members, and it was a wonderful turnout this year, We're looking forward to seeing you all (& more) next year!!

STORMWATER V I C T O R I A



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of information for the community?

Please forward to:
office@stormwatervictoria.com.au

For further information, please call
Kate Dunn on 0409 978 453



IN THE OFFICE

Meet the Committee ...

President



Rod Wiese (Storm Consulting)

Rod has 18 years experience as a Civil/Environmental Engineer initially in State government, then in the consulting arena.

Rod formed STORM in 1997 and has since operated at a senior role to plan and deliver sustainable stormwater/drainage and wastewater solutions. Over the last few years STORM has been privileged to receive numerous Victorian, NSW and national awards for various categories in stormwater management including Stormwater Harvesting and Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD).

Rod is regularly invited to contribute to forums and technical discussions or deliver presentations and workshops on WSUD-related issues. He has developed materials for Clearwater and regularly presents seminars on their behalf. He is also often engaged through Melbourne Water's Living Rivers Program capacity build local government in developing and implementing smarter stormwater management solutions.



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year !!!

As Christmas and New Year rapidly approaches, Stormwater Victoria's Executive members and Committee would like to wish you a very happy and safe holiday season.

We greatly appreciate the support of our members throughout the year, and we've really enjoyed seeing you at all of the events and functions.

We hope this time for you is restful, fun and in great company!!

*Blessed is the season which engages the
whole world in a conspiracy of love!*

~ Hamilton Wright Mabie

We look forward to see you in the New Year !!!



Www.StormwaterVictoria.com