**Water Conservation Award**

**Winner Division A**  
Who needs Backwash….we do!, Tumut Shire Council

Council developed & implemented an initiative contributing to sustainable water use outcomes by reducing the annual amount of backwash into the Tumut River by 88%. In undertaking this project Council has reduced their energy consumption by employing smaller recycle pumps with greater energy efficiency. Economic benefits of this project flow from lowered emission to the local environment, better utilization of a resource & reduced cost associated with the operation of the Tumut Water Treatment Plant (TWTP). In undertaking the project Council meets the legislation requiring Councils to have regard to the principles of ecologically sustainable development in carrying out their responsibilities.

**Contact**  
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**Winner Division B**  
Waterwise Bathurst, Bathurst Regional Council

Waterwise Bathurst represents a suite of projects with the objectives of; promoting demand management and undertaking effective asset management to ensure long term water security. Two priority projects are a Supernatant Recycling Project and Manganese Removal Trial. The supernatant project has maximised water recycling by upgrading infrastructure at the Bathurst Water Filtration Plant. Modification of the sludge lagoon outlets has enabled supernatant (treated water) to be piped back to the inlet mixing tank rather than being discharged to the Macquarie River. The Manganese Removal Trial has been undertaken to improve the quality of water entering the network and reduce volumes of water being wasted through reactive mains flushing. There are few effective measures for treating manganese once it enters the reticulated network, Council is undertaking this trial to determine options to remove it closer to the source.

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**Winner Division C and Overall Winner**  
Sustainable Water Management in the Duck River  
Auburn City (lead), Parramatta City, Bankstown City

The Duck River catchment is a highly urbanised catchment in Sydney's western suburbs covering 40 km2. Auburn, Parramatta and Bankstown City Councils, with funding from the NSW Environmental Trust, are in the process of completing a range of interlinked projects to implement sustainable water management practices in the catchment. Auburn has installed a golf course stormwater harvesting system, Parramatta has completed a water extraction and filtration system, and constructed new stormwater storage facilities, and Bankstown has commenced capital works to capture and store stormwater from flood and high runoff events to replace potable irrigation of playing fields.

**Contact**  
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Highly Commended Division B
Hudson Park Golf Course Sustainability Project, Strathfield Council

In 2011, an audit of Council's facilities revealed that the irrigation of Hudson Park Golf Course constituted almost half of Council's total annual water consumption. As the site is reliant on mains water for irrigation with no feasible alternative sources available, Council saw this as an opportunity to look at innovative solutions to water efficiency. Council worked with stakeholders to identify a range of water efficiency projects, including the installation of a new drought tolerant turf on the course's 20 greens. Strathfield Council is the first to install this turf on golfing greens in Australia and the project will act as an important case study for other facilities. The project will reduce water use by 40% and create an operational saving of well over $40,000/yr.

Contact
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Water Conservation Award

Winner Division A
Who needs Backwash…..we do!, Tumut Shire Council

Winner Division B
Waterwise Bathurst, Bathurst Regional Council

Winner Division C and Overall Winner
Sustainable Water Management in the Duck River, Auburn City (lead), Parramatta City, Bankstown City.

Highly Commended Division B
Hudson Park Golf Course Sustainability Project, Strathfield Council