



The Sustainable Engineering Society

...engineering in harmony with ecology

WA SENG Newsletter

Upcoming events of interest

In these times of social distancing and working from home, webinars, teleconferencing and online learning have become de rigueur and the new norm. In line with this, the WA SENG committee has compiled a list of upcoming events with a sustainability theme that may be of interest to members.



Architecture & Biodiversity: Maximising value through planning

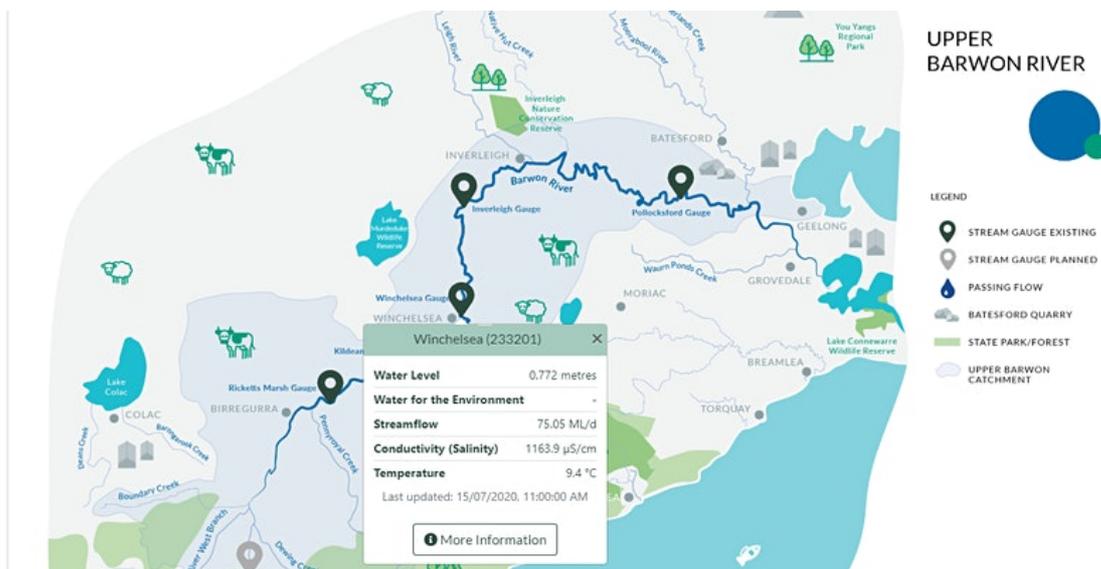
Webinar by the Australian Green Development Forum

Thursday, 30 July 2020, 08h00 AWST

transition to eco-mimetic and wildlife sensitive design remains challenging today. Integrating development with ecological systems, especially in urban and suburban areas, sits at the heart of any viable green initiative.

In this talk, ZLI Executive Director James Karl Fischer PhD RIBA will review the importance of ecological habitat for animals, identify key points of architecture affecting ecological habitats, and outline actionable biodiversity-loss mitigating planning steps that pursue bird-friendly design, natural light leadership and wildlife provisioning.

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/architecture-biodiversity-maximising-value-through-planning-tickets-112329123432>



Data Visualisation for the Water Industry

Webinar by the River Basin Management Society

Tuesday, 28 July 2020, 11h00 AWST

As professionals, we are constantly challenged to make the most of the data we collect and use this to make data-driven decisions. In this webinar, we have three guest presenters speaking about some of the tools and solutions that are being developed across the water industry to do just this. Join this webinar to learn about these tools, and different ways for visualising data. Presentations include:

- Sarah Martin and Sharon Blum-Caon from the Corangamite CMA presenting on the new CCMA online interactive webtool
- Christian Borovac from DiscoverEI presenting on Why Power BI is making waves in the Water Industry

Registration: <https://www.rbms.org.au/event/data-visualisation-for-the-water-industry/>



Behaviour change, the key to successful WASH

Free webinar by International Water Centre

Friday, 21 August 2020, 11h00 AWST

Sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programs and interventions require more than access to the appropriate technology and services – they require those facilities to be adopted and used appropriately. Historically, the WASH sector has focused on the delivery of infrastructure solutions without really understanding the end users are consumers with experiences, attitudes and preferences, often leading to major infrastructure investments that do not achieve the intended health and wellbeing outcomes.

Behaviour change is now recognised as a critical component of WASH programs because it has become increasingly evident that the provision of facilities and services alone are not enough, and that installing or repairing infrastructure may not have the expected effects if the behaviours of users are not taken into account.

Botero will explain why integrating behaviour change approaches is key to successful WASH interventions. She will present different case studies and approaches to behaviour change, demonstrating why it is important to understand what influences people's behaviours.

Registration: <https://watercentre.org/events/gender-equity-and-social-inclusion-facilitates-successful-community-projects/>

News



A Stronger Tomorrow: Infrastructure WA releases discussion paper

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Infrastructure Western Australia (IWA) scaled back work on preparing the State's 20-year infrastructure plan given the current uncertainty.

Following the State Government's success in handling COVID-19 in WA, IWA is now able to get back on track recommencing work on the 20-year plan - starting with the release of the discussion paper for public consultation.

The discussion paper is a key aspect to progressing the development of the 20-year plan and outlines how Infrastructure WA proposes to develop the State-wide long-term infrastructure strategy.

priorities over the next 20 years.

The release of the discussion paper marks the start of an eight-week engagement period, in which Infrastructure WA will conduct 14 workshops across the State and seek feedback through an online submission format.

Stakeholders from across Western Australia and beyond are encouraged to provide feedback on the issues and proposals outlined in the paper.

Discussion paper:

<https://infrastructure.wa.gov.au/DiscussionPaper>

Press release:

<https://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2020/06/A-Stronger-Tomorrow-Infrastructure-WA-releases-discussion-paper.aspx>



The independent review of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The statutory review of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) commenced on 29 October 2019. Professor Graeme Samuel AC has been appointed as the independent reviewer. An Expert Panel will support and provide advice to Professor Samuel on specific issues.

sustainable development into the future. All Australians are invited to participate in the review.

Interim report: <https://epbcactreview.environment.gov.au/resources/interim-report>

Submissions: <https://epbcactreview.environment.gov.au/get-involved#have-your-say>

Plastics and Tyres Processing Fund

McGowan Government boosts plastic and tyre recycling in Western Australia

The Government of Western Australia is calling for expressions of interest for funding to support the development of sufficient new plastics and tyres processing infrastructure to manage all of the plastics and tyres currently collected in Western Australia that will be restricted by the COAG waste export bans.

\$15 million dollars in grant funding will be provided to support local processing of plastics and tyres across the State. Access will also be provided to industrial zoned land valued at \$5 million for processing infrastructure.

State Government funds will be matched by the Commonwealth Government. State funding will also need to be matched or exceeded by industry investment meaning that total combined investment in local processing is likely to be greater than \$60 million.

Projects in regional and remote Western Australia are encouraged.

Expression of Interest:

<https://dwer.wa.gov.au/plastics-and-tyres-processing-fund>

Press release:

https://wmrr.asn.au/Web/Media/Media_Release/2020/WA_EOI_a_step_towards_boosting_local_reprocessing.aspx

Draft Guideline: Better Practice Composting

draft composting practices guideline until 25 November

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the department) is producing a series of industry specific guidelines to provide external stakeholders further information on how the department carries out its regulatory functions under Part V Division 3 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986.

The draft Guideline: Better practice composting is the first guideline developed in this series. The guideline was developed by the department in collaboration with the Western Australian branch of the Australian Organics Recycling Association (AORA WA). Members of AORA WA formed a working group with the department, helping:

Develop the guideline framework;

Provide feedback from an industry perspective; and

Develop approaches to manage economically viable operations while protecting and mitigating possible environmental impacts.

Feedback: <https://consult.dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-capability/draft-guideline-better-practice-composting/>

Mixed Paper and Cardboard Processing Fund

A Stronger Tomorrow: Infrastructure WA releases discussion paper

The Government of Western Australia is calling for expressions of interest to participate in a controlled grant funding process to support the development of new paper and cardboard processing infrastructure to manage Western Australia's estimated 80,000 tonnes of mixed and unsorted paper and cardboard.

Funding may be made available from the Government of Western Australia and matched by the Australian Government for one or more selected projects.

Expression of Interest:

<https://dwer.wa.gov.au/mixed-paper-cardboard-processing-fund>

Press release:



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