Your guide to Clearwater’s training, events and resources
Who is Clearwater?

Clearwater is a non-profit organisation providing advice, training and online information to enable the transition to Water Sensitive Cities.

A Water Sensitive City will embrace integrated water systems and create liveable spaces where built and natural environments are in harmony and resilient to future change.

Our services

What we offer

Whether you’re new to sustainable urban water management or an experienced water practitioner, Clearwater can help broaden your skills and knowledge.

From training sessions and guided technical tours to simply connecting you with other like-minded organisations, we provide expertise, training and advice to practitioners who plan, design and manage our urban environments.

Our education program

Our program is designed to build your skills and knowledge in the following areas of sustainable urban water management:

• organisational development and commitment
• policy
• concept and design
• project management

Our educational program offers an extensive range of events and includes:

• principle training
• guided technical tours
• knowledge sharing events
• tailored events

Our website

Our website provides a gateway to relevant resources, case studies and industry information accessible to all levels of knowledge. It includes a comprehensive listing of events and resources containing the latest scientific research and online tools.

Why use Clearwater services?

Clearwater is a recognised and trusted source for guidance on sustainable urban water management. Our training and events are informed by the latest research and reviewed by industry experts. Our partnerships promote industry sharing and collaboration.

Quality training

Our comprehensive training programs and guided technical tours are specifically developed to help people who plan, design and manage our urban environments. Designed and delivered by some of the leading experts in the industry, our training programs are regularly evaluated using rigorous market research to ensure they remain relevant and responsive to industry needs.

Strong partnerships

To support the transition to Water Sensitive Cities, Clearwater has valuable connections with local, state and Federal government bodies, research institutions and commercial organisations. Our partnerships enable us to bring you the latest technical and scientific knowledge, behavioural research and policy development from the forefront of sustainable urban water management thinking.

One-stop-shop

If you’re interested in improving water management practices within your organisation or industry but aren’t sure where to start, or simply need access to the latest training and research, Clearwater has all your sustainable urban water management needs covered.
Clearwater’s education program - key capacity building themes

Our training, guided technical tours, networking and tailored events cover one or more of the following themes:

**organisational development and commitment:** develop personal skills needed to lead and engage others; explore leadership and organisational change theory; share relevant case studies, and discuss learnings with other participants.

**policy:** investigate the drivers, principles and strategies behind sustainable water management and weigh up the social, environmental and economic benefits.

**concept and design:** learn key technical considerations about designing and building Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) technologies and infrastructure; discuss how to overcome design challenges and how to design for best practice technical performance and social outcomes.

**project management:** learn to apply effective project management and stakeholder engagement skills across government, private industry (developers, consultants, contractors) and community; examine key project stages and understand how to build long-term maintenance into the project.

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**Guided technical tours**

| Growth area WSUD tour                                   | ✓      | ✓                  | ✓                  |
| WSUD retrofit tour                                      | ✓      | ✓                  | ✓                  |
| Kingston raingarden tour - on request                   | ✓      | ✓                  | ✓                  |

**Knowledge sharing events**

| Expert speaker seminar                                 | case by case |
| Hot Topics seminars                                    | ✓      | case by case |

**Tailored events - on request**

| Introduction to WSUD                                    | ✓      | ✓                  |
| Gaining institutional commitment for WSUD               | ✓      | ✓                  |
| Raingardens maintenance session (specialised training)  | ✓      | ✓                  |

Visit clearwater.asn.au for upcoming training dates.
Clearwater’s training, tours and events

Principle training

Clearwater’s principle training forms the foundation of Clearwater’s education program with workshops held on a regular basis throughout the year.

Stormwater harvesting: concept and design

Ideal for environmental planners, designers and engineers from government or commercial organisations, this one day training course introduces you to the concepts required to design an effective stormwater harvesting project. The course integrates the latest research on stormwater treatment technologies and conceptual designs as recommended by the Centre for Water Sensitive Cities at Monash University.

Raingardens essentials

Perfect for planners, architects, builders, landscape designers, site supervisors, horticultural staff, asset managers and environment officers, this popular one day workshop provides practical guidance on the design and construction of raingardens and biofilters. Training content covers site analysis, design, materials selection, construction and maintenance to ensure your project’s success.

Guided technical tours

Clearwater has partnered with several local councils that are leading the way in sustainable urban water management. Our guided technical tours will show you firsthand how to develop your own Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) project.

Growth area WSUD tour – City of Whittlesea and Hume City Council

Recommended for developers, planners, urban designers, engineers, landscape architects, environment/asset maintenance staff, this half day tour visits new housing estates with biofilters and wetlands as well as urban renewal projects incorporating WSUD and stormwater harvesting. Council experts and design consultants will discuss the opportunities and challenges faced by growth area councils to implement WSUD and emerging integrated water management principles. The tour concludes with a sit down networking lunch.

WSUD retrofit tour - City of Stonnington and City of Port Phillip

Ideal for anyone involved in sustainable water planning or asset maintenance/design such as developers, planners, architects, environment and maintenance staff, this tour highlights an array of retrofitted WSUD stormwater treatment measures and harvesting systems. Council experts and design consultants will be on hand at each site to provide insights into the development and management of each project, while discussing challenges, learnings and outcomes from concept to completion. This half day tour concludes with a networking lunch at a local restaurant.

Kingston raingarden tour

Highly recommended for those considering building a raingarden, this tour provides a valuable opportunity to view an impressive variety of established raingardens. The City of Kingston has been a leader in retrofitting WSUD for more than ten years and has developed expertise in design, construction, community consultation and maintenance. Leaders from the City of Kingston will share insights into successes and lessons learnt from each site. The tour concludes with a networking lunch at a local bayside restaurant. This half day tour is available upon request.
Knowledge sharing events

These events are a series of networking and knowledge sharing seminars where you can learn from industry experts and peers about the latest news and challenges in sustainable urban water management.

Expert speaker seminars

These seminars are an opportunity to hear from local and international experts, researchers and academic leaders on all aspects of sustainable urban water management. The aim of these sessions is to translate research outcomes and provide a communication channel between research and industry practitioners.

Hot Topics seminars

Hot Topics is a series of peer-to-peer learning and networking initiatives, delivered in partnership with councils and Melbourne Water. These seminars focus on all aspects of sustainable urban water management through expert and practitioner presentations, and facilitated discussions. Clearwater runs four of these interactive sessions per year. Past topics have included an Introduction to Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) asset maintenance, policy and planning; stormwater infiltration; green spaces; Water Sensitive Cities; and how to develop an integrated water management strategy.

Tailored events – on request

Clearwater also offers tailored events that underpin the principles of sustainable urban water management and are designed to specifically meet the individual needs of your organisation.

Introduction to Water Sensitive Urban Design

This course provides an excellent introduction and overview for those new to the concept of WSUD. You will learn about the benefits of applying WSUD, the range of sustainable water management techniques being used across the industry, and relevant policy and legislation. Also offered is the option of being trained in using the online STORMV calculator to quickly assess stormwater projects, anticipate run-off volumes and meet quality targets.

Gaining Institutional Commitment for WSUD

This workshop has been designed for council staff responsible for implementing and maintaining WSUD projects that require buy-in from numerous stakeholders within an organisation. The session provides participants with the skills to assess organisational capacity, build commitment into planning and policy, and engage stakeholders to adopt new initiatives.

Specialised training and workshops

In addition to Clearwater’s education program, we can help develop and facilitate initiatives for specific projects such as in-house training for a department within your organisation, regular information sharing workshops for a group of stormwater funding recipients or workshops for researchers to present their findings to partner organisations.
Where can you register for Clearwater training or find more information?

Visit clearwater.asn.au to register for an event or to find out more information about our educational program.

Our website is an excellent place to learn about Water Sensitive Cities, discover the latest industry news or explore scientific data.

Delve into the resource library for:

- papers and reports
- case studies
- fact sheets
- presentations
- policy and guidelines
- tools

Subscribe to Clearwater’s e-news to keep up with the latest training, industry news, case studies, guidelines and much more.

What our customers say about Clearwater...

“The Clearwater program is a great support for anyone trying to make water sensitive design work in the field. The Yarra Ranges Shire Council has supported a range of projects promoting stormwater harvesting and stormwater ground filtration. Attending Clearwater courses helped us build our knowledge in this area and when we had the experience we were invited to share our story at a Hot Topics event. I was also involved in filming a short clip about the Little Stingybank Creek project, explaining the role the community can play in protecting the creek by using stormwater. Now that clip is available for everyone to watch on the Clearwater website.”

Gary Whinnauds
Co-ordinator Catchment and Services
Yarra Ranges Shire Council

“The Clearwater program is playing an important role in communicating the importance of integrated water management across the water sector and bringing together the organisations working in this space.”

Mathew McPherson
Manager Water Innovation
City of Water

“Clearwater is an important bridging organisation that disseminates the latest stormwater research out to industry and helps us understand the needs and issues of local government. As we work towards the vision of Water Sensitive Cities, this collaboration and knowledge sharing is vitally important.”

Rob Catchmore
Environmental Consultant
Atlassian Consulting

“Clearwater provides great opportunities for local councils to share information. The week after we presented Moonee Valley’s Integrated Water Management strategy at a Hot Topics seminar, we were contacted by several councils wanting to talk over ideas on developing their own integrated strategy. We are more than happy to share information because it means the whole industry moves forward.”

Perry Mueller
Sustainability Officer
Shire of Shire

Moonee Valley City Council

Water sensitive rooftop garden, 131 Queen Street Melbourne

A journey of knowledge sharing, collaboration and continuous learning will help make the transition to Water Sensitive Cities.