



The stormwater sampler at Manly Golf Club

STORMWATER RESEARCH AT MANLY GOLF CLUB

By Bruce Simmons

A new national Cooperative Research Centre for Irrigation Futures (CRCIF) has been created to help save Australia's water resources. As a part of this

national research centre, the University of Western Sydney (UWS) will lead a key research venture to investigate efficient urban irrigation and the many possibilities of urban, industrial and rural communities sharing and re-using water.

UWS is combining with Manly Golf Club (superintendent Michael Bradbery) and Manly Council to research the sustainable use of harvested stormwater for groundwater recharge and irrigation onto the course.

This will have application for the more than 1500 golf courses throughout Australia, as many of these, particularly in urban areas, rely fully or partially on potable water supplies for irrigation of fairways and greens.

The project will also investigate the practices required to restore and sustain the local hydrology such that irrigation needs and environmental goals are met. UWS will investigate the potential for all urban golf courses to 'live within' their own hydrological

cycle thus contributing to the reduction of competition between urban supplies and peri-urban agriculture.

The main activities over the next three years will be:

- Developing an understanding of ground water resources in the area for quality and capacity for supply;
 - Evaluating stormwater quality and quality for irrigation and groundwater recharge;
 - Understanding (in concert with engineering designers) requirements for stormwater capture, storage and use for irrigation;
 - Investigating water requirements for local wetland ecology and environmental flows;
 - Developing a suitable decision support system and guidelines for best practices in the use of stormwater for golf course irrigation.
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