

Award Recipients in your local area: Blacktown, Holroyd, Ryde, Epping

- ✓ Blacktown- Blacktown City Council (HC for PSF Waste Management Award)
- ✓ Holroyd- Holroyd City Council (RU for DECCW Environmental Education Award)
- ✓ Ryde- City of Ryde (Winner for Heritage Branch Heritage Award, RU for PSF Waste Management Award, HC for **OVERALL**)
- ✓ Epping- Epping Boys High School (RU for Landcom Metropolitan Schools Environmental Award)

**STRICTLY EMBARGOED UNTIL  
6AM FRIDAY 14<sup>th</sup> August  
MEDIA RELEASE  
14<sup>th</sup> August 2009**



## **Ryde, Holroyd, Epping and Blacktown Take Out Top Sustainable Cities Awards!**

**Ryde, Holroyd, Epping and Blacktown have all received awards at the Sustainable Cities Awards Dinner hosted by the Deputy Premier, The Honorable Carmel Tebbutt MP, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment last night.**

The Sustainable Cities program recognises outstanding environmental initiatives implemented by local government authorities, schools and community groups and businesses whilst raising public awareness of a range of environmental issues affecting metropolitan NSW.

“Ryde and Blacktown have shown strong initiative in waste management this year, with Ryde receiving Runner Up and Blacktown receiving Highly Commended in the Packaging Stewardship Forum Waste Management Award.” Peter McLean, CEO of Keep Australia Beautiful NSW said.

The City of Ryde was awarded for the launch of a public recycling program which provides shopping centres parks and other public places with dual recycling and waste bins with double the capacity of the old bins and recycling signage. This has already resulted in large percentages of waste being appropriately deposited into the recyclables and has resolved the regular problem of waste overflow.

Blacktown City Council received Highly Commended for their dynamic, skills based Bicycle Recycle program which sees unwanted bicycles donated and repaired into functioning bicycles by community volunteers for community use. The program provides community social interaction, promotes a healthy lifestyle, and provides skills based training to mobility and mentally disadvantaged individuals, the unemployed community members and other volunteers. At the start of the program, the aim was to repair and donate 20 bikes. However, due to the program’s success to date, 166 functioning bikes have been returned to the community.

The City of Ryde was the Winner of the Heritage Branch Heritage Award. Petula Samios, Director of the Heritage Branch, Department of Planning applauded the project saying;

“The Heritage Branch, Department of Planning was very impressed with the restoration and conservation of Brush Farm House which cost The City of Ryde approximately \$5.5 million. The Winning project has transformed this elegant 19<sup>th</sup> century mansion into an arts, cultural and heritage centre will have significant long term benefits for the community.”

City of Ryde also received Highly Commended (3<sup>rd</sup> Place) for the top award on the night, the Overall Sustainable Council Award which recognises an innovative approach by Council’s to tackling the full range of environmental issues within their Local Government Area.

Eden Gardens in Ryde was the Winner of the Grundfos Water Conservation Award;

"It was particularly impressive to see Eden Gardens commitment to recycling programmes, for example water and pot recycling and the reach of its education programmes to schools and the general public. The Eden Garden Nurseries are representative of Alcoa's view that all businesses have the potential to recycle more and 'closed loop' recycling is the way of the future." John Costley, Location Manager Alcoa Rolled Products at Yennora said.

Epping Boys High School received Runner Up for the Landcom Metropolitan Schools Environment Award for the rehabilitation of school land for a wildlife corridor and for a variety of *learnsapes* such as an outdoor drama/teaching amphitheatre. The entire school population is committed to making the school a centre for environmental study in the local community and environmental studies is integrated into the full range of the curriculum.

Holroyd City Council, in collaboration with St George Community Housing, received Runner Up for 'Creating Sustainable Housing Communities', a project which engaged and educated two social housing communities in the Holroyd City Council area, to reduce their own consumption of energy and water, generation of waste and improve local biodiversity. Even in its early stages the project has produced significant behavioural change in residents which is expected to result in a reduction of energy and water consumption and waste to landfill.

The top award on the night of Overall Sustainable Council was presented to City of Canada Bay Council for their ambitious and strategic 'FuturesPlan20'. The 20 year plan integrates environmental, economic and social sustainability targets into all aspects of Council's management. This plan has already achieved significant water, energy and education targets for the Canada Bay region.

\*\*\*END\*\*\*

**For further media information or event photos please contact: Elizabeth Jarrett, Media and Communications Manager at Keep Australia Beautiful NSW on 02 9633 3380.**

**For media comment please contact Peter McLean, Chief Executive Officer of Keep Australia Beautiful NSW m 0416 227 158.**

**Editors Notes:**

| AWARD TITLE  | WINNER   | RUNNER UP   | HIGHLY COMMENDED  |
|--|--|---|---|
| <b>Overall Sustainable Council Award</b>   | <b>City of Canada Bay Council</b><br>Sustainable City Program                        | <b>Hornsby Shire Council</b><br>A Framework for a Sustainable Future    | <b>City of Ryde</b><br>Safe, Clean & Green – A Sustainable Future           |
| <b>Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW Environmental Education Award</b> | <b>Warringah Council</b><br>GREEN with ENV-E – a partnership with TAFE NSW           | <b>Holroyd City Council</b><br>Creating Sustainable Housing Communities |   |
| <b>Grundfos Water Conservation Award</b>   | <b>Long Reef Golf Club</b><br>Stormwater Reuse Project                               | <b>Warringah Council</b><br>Warringah Aquatic Centre                    | <b>Gosford City Council</b><br>Integrated Water Management Program          |
| <b>Alcoa Sustainable Business Award</b>  | <b>Eden Gardens and Garden Centres Pty Ltd</b>                                       | <b>Planet Press</b>   | <b>Visy Industries</b>  |
| <b>Landcom Metropolitan Schools Environment Award</b>  | <b>Manning Park Public School</b>  | <b>Epping Boys High School</b>  | <b>Middle Harbour Public School</b>   |
| <b>Packaging Stewardship Forum Waste Management Award</b>                                    | <b>Waverley Council</b><br>Lovin' My Bondi Beach                                     | <b>City of Ryde</b><br>Public Place Recycling Program                   | <b>Blacktown City Council</b><br>Bicycle Recycle                            |
| <b>ClubsNSW Sustainable Clubs Award</b>  | <b>Mounties</b>  | <b>Oak Flats Bowling and Recreation Club</b>                            | <b>Port Kembla Golf Club</b>  |
| <b>Heritage Branch Heritage Award</b>  | <b>City of Ryde</b><br>Brush Farm: Creativity in the Arts, Food and Wine             | <b>Canada Bay City Council</b><br>Heritage Management Program           | <b>Historical Aircraft Restoration Society</b><br>Aviation Heritage Complex |
| <b>Biodiversity Conservation Award</b>   | <b>Wolli Creek Preservation Society</b><br>A haven for biodiversity and conservation | <b>Warringah Council</b> Manly Lagoon Riparian Rehabilitation           | <b>Lane Cove Council</b><br>Backyard Habitat Program                        |

**The list above contains a full list of all Sustainable Cities award recipients for 2009**