

2026

Stormwater Victoria Conference

1-4 JUNE 2026

LORNE, VICTORIA



STORMWATER
VICTORIA

Conference Program

Cloud to Coast

PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAM – MONDAY, 1 JUNE

	<p>Understanding and Applying Victoria's Stormwater Planning Requirements</p> <p><i>Sara Lloyd, Group Lead - Living Lands and Water, E2Designlab – a Water Technology Company</i> <i>Kate Matthews, Principal Town Planner, Tract Consultants,</i> <i>Mandy Bolton, Senior Policy Advisor, DEECA</i></p>
12.00pm	Registration, & Lunch, Foyer
12.30pm	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country
12.45pm	Policy content
1.00pm	<p>Introduction to planning requirements - what, why, how.</p> <p>Open discussion: what are your challenges</p>
2.30pm	Afternoon Tea
3.00pm	<p>Preventing toxicants entering the drainage system.</p> <p>Site management during construction</p>
3.30pm	Tools and resources
3.40pm	Development worked examples and discussion
4.15pm	<p>Demonstrating compliance - Apartment case study using Blue Factor tool.</p> <p>Blue Factor tool - Commercial site: group activity</p>
4.45pm	<p>General environmental duty (GEC).</p> <p>Future direction in stormwater flow volume management.</p>
4.55pm	Wrap up and close
5.00pm	Workshop Concludes
5.30pm	<p>Conference Registration and Welcome Reception, Foyer</p> <p>Exhibition Open</p>
7.00pm	Welcome Reception concludes

Please note: The Conference Program is subject to change

CONFERENCE PROGRAM – TUESDAY, 2 JUNE

8.00am	Conference Registration, Tea and Coffee on Arrival
Room	Convention Centre
9.00am	Welcome to Country <i>Given by Ebony Hickey of the Eastern Maar people</i>
9.10am	Welcome to the 2026 Stormwater Victoria Conference <i>Alice Lisitsa, President, Stormwater Victoria & Peter Woodman, Conference Chair, 2026 Stormwater Victoria Conference</i>
9.20am	Opening Address <i>Councillor Libby Stapleton, Mayor, Surf Coast Shire</i>
9.40am	Keynote Presentation: The Experience Edge: Energy, Excellence and the Impact You Leave Behind <i>Lisa O'Neill, Keynote Speaker, Business Mentor and Author</i> <i>In a world that rewards busyness over brilliance, the professionals who stand out aren't the ones who do the most, they're the ones who bring the most. To every room. Every conversation. Every project.</i> <i>Whether you're five years in or thirty, this session will challenge the way you think about the experience you create. For your clients, your colleagues, and yourself - and give you a new lens on the one competitive advantage no algorithm can replicate: you.</i> <i>You'll leave with:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A fresh understanding of how your personal energy directly shapes your professional impact</i> • <i>Practical tools to design better experiences at every business touchpoint</i> • <i>The clarity and confidence to show up as the kind of professional people remember</i>
10.30am	Association Sponsor Address: An update from Melbourne Water and Clearwater <i>Priya van Ryn, Stormwater and Environmental Water Program Lead, Melbourne Water</i> <i>Harsha Fowdar, Clearwater Program Lead, Melbourne Water</i>
10.35am	Platinum Sponsor address: The Atlan Way <i>Kurt Jensen, General Manager, Atlan Stormwater</i>
10.40am	Morning Tea
11.05am	Move to Concurrent Sessions

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM – TUESDAY, 2 JUNE continued

Stream	Policy, Planning and Education	Collaboration	Technical, Research and Innovation <i>Chair: Peter Woodman</i>	Technical, Research and Innovation <i>Chair: Zaki Matar</i>
Room	Convention Centre 1	Convention Centre 2	Convention Centre 3	Heritage Ballroom
11.10am	1.1 Planning for Water Across Country <i>Michael Browne, Integrated Water Management Officer, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Prof. Diane Kerr, Elder, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation</i>	1.2 Litter-ally Better: A Whole-of-Catchment Collaboration Managing Litter from Cloud to Coast, Lower Dandenong Creek. <i>Sarah Eggleton, Manager, Service Partnerships, Melbourne Water</i>	1.3 A Staged Framework for Flood Mitigation Planning Using Flood Sourcing Analysis and AI-Enabled Optimisation <i>Dr Ruijie Liang, Water Resources Engineer, KBR, Dr Michael Di Matteo, Principal Water Resources Engineer, KBR</i>	1.4 Harnessing Excess Stormwater for Distributed Environmental Flows <i>Sara Law, Senior Engineer - Wetland, Waterway and Integrated Stormwater Management, Streamology, Priya van Ryn, Stormwater and Environmental Water Program Lead, Melbourne Water</i>
11.40am	5 minute room change			
11.45am	2.1 Embedding IWM into Stonnington Council Operations <i>Lan Dinh, Water Sensitive City Officer, Stonnington City Council</i>	2.2 “Help Me Help You” – What You Wish Your Client/Consultant Knew <i>Lucie Bright, Senior Environmental Engineer, Alluvium Consulting</i>	2.3 Best Practice Integrated Water Cycle Modelling Tools for the Circular Economy <i>Mark Liebman, Director, Sustainability Workshop Pty Ltd</i>	2.4 Stormwater Data: Know It, Trust It, Use It <i>Jessi Raj, Melbourne Team Manager/ Environmental Engineer, Morphum Environmental</i>
12.15pm	5 minute room change			
12.20pm	3.1 Feel Good Inc, When Temporary Detention Makes Flood Worse: A Case Study from Cranbourne East <i>Jack Bowman, Engineer, Afflux Consulting, George Priest, Project Manager, Afflux Consulting, Chris Beardshaw, Director, Afflux Consulting</i>	3.2 Collaborative and Adaptive Management of Urban Stormwater Discharges into Northern Victorian Rural Drainage Systems <i>Rachel Bradshaw, Catchment Program Coordinator, Goulburn-Murray Water</i>	3.3 Clear flows Ahead: Peter Hopper Lake Construction Done, Results & Monitoring Just Begun <i>Matthew Gaite, Senior Associate, Spiire</i>	3.4 Which is Australia's Most Water Circular City? <i>Celeste Morgan, Arup Australasia Integrated Water Management Lead, Arup</i>
12.50pm	Lunch			
1.40pm	Move to Breakouts			

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM – TUESDAY, 2 JUNE continued

Stream	Policy, Planning and Education <i>Chair: Kirsten Fearn-Wannan</i>	Collaboration <i>Chair: Jessica Ward</i>	Technical, Research and Innovation <i>Chair: Peter Woodman</i>	Asset Management and Lifecycles <i>Chair: Katherine Haddock</i>
Room	Convention Centre 1	Convention Centre 2	Convention Centre 3	Heritage Ballroom
1.45pm	<p>4.1 Florida and Queensland: What Can Victoria Learn from Our Subtropical Colleagues?</p> <p><i>Larissa Aguiar, Senior Drainage Engineer, HDR</i></p>	<p>4.2 'How Much Can You Care About Sediment?' Community Involvement in Sedimentation Reduction</p> <p><i>Sarah Law, Senior Engineer - Wetland, Waterway and Integrated Stormwater Management, Streamology, Dominic Noonan-O'Keefe, Water and Coasts Officer, Mornington Peninsula Shire Council</i></p>	<p>4.3 Smart-Tank Technology in Apartments and Townhouses Delivers Substantial Water Supply, Stormwater and Flood Mitigation Benefits</p> <p><i>Prof. Tim Fletcher, School of Agriculture, Food & Ecosystem Sciences, The University of Melbourne, Dr Wei (Daniel) Xu, Researcher, The University of Melbourne</i></p>	<p>4.4 Partnering with EPA and the Community to Manage Pollution and Water Quality at Edwardes Lake</p> <p><i>Andy Sheehan, Market Leader – Water Resources Australia, Stantec Marina Murua, Principal Environment and Conservation, Darebin City Council</i></p>
2.15pm	5 minute room change			
2.20pm	<p>5.1 From “Unmitigatable” to Actionable: Catchment-Scale Flood Resilience in a Constrained CBD</p> <p><i>Luke Cunningham, Director & Senior Principal Engineer, Rain Consulting, Cintia Dotto, Water Sensitive City Lead, City of Melbourne</i></p>	<p>5.2 Water across Wurundjeri Country</p> <p><i>Michael Browne, Integrated Water Management Officer, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Celeste Morgan, Arup Australasia Integrated Water Management Lead, Arup Neha Shetty, IWM Consultant, Arup</i></p>	<p>5.3 Ephemeral Wetlands and Smart Tanks: A Pathway to 80–90% Stormwater Capture in Medium-Density Housing</p> <p><i>Dr. Edmond Lascaris, Stormwater Management Specialist, City of Whittlesea</i></p>	<p>5.4 Monitoring WSUD and Stormwater Asset Performance Using GIS and Drone-Based Spatial Analysis</p> <p><i>Adrian (Ian) Darmawan, Founder, Spatial Frontier</i></p>
2.50pm	Afternoon Tea			
3.15pm	Move to Plenary Room			

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM – TUESDAY, 2 JUNE continued

Room	Convention Centre
3.20pm	<p>Panel Session: AI in Stormwater: Risks, Rights & Real-World Value <i>Moderator: Alice Lisitsa, President, Stormwater Victoria</i> <i>Panellists include: David Lisitsa, Director, NewLaw.com</i> <i>Matthew O'Brien, Environmental Consultant & Founder, AI for Enviro</i> <i>David Moret, Principal Engineer, DPM Consulting Group Pty Ltd</i></p> <p>This panel explores how artificial intelligence is influencing stormwater modelling, planning, design, asset management, and governance. It brings together a technology lawyer, a hydraulic modeller, a data security expert and a council/authority representative and to examine risks, rights, and practical value as AI tools become embedded in engineering workflows. The session aims to demystify AI, clarify legal and professional responsibilities, and provide practical guidance for councils, consultants, and authorities considering or already using AI-driven tools.</p>
4.20pm	<p>Stormwater Victoria Update & Member Engagement Session: <i>Alice Lisitsa, President, Stormwater Victoria & Belinda Hatt, Melbourne Water</i></p> <p>In this session, Alice Lisitsa, President of Stormwater Victoria will provide an update on current and future association activities. The Stormwater Victoria committee will report back on the results of the 2025 member and industry survey and how we've responded to those results. This interactive session is also a chance for members to share their current goals and challenges with the Stormwater Victoria committee. This information will help shape our priorities and actions as we move into the planning phase for the next year.</p>
5.20pm	<p>Best Presenter Award & Day 1 Wrap-Up <i>Peter Woodman, Conference Chair, 2026 Stormwater Victoria Conference</i></p>
5.30pm	Day 1 Close

Room	Heritage Ballroom	
6.30pm	Pre-Dinner Drinks	
7.00pm	<p>2026 Stormwater Victoria Awards for Excellence <i>Presented by Alice Lisitsa, President, Stormwater Victoria</i></p>	
Room	Convention Centre	Sponsored by:
7.45pm	2026 Stormwater Victoria Conference Dinner	

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM – WEDNESDAY, 3 JUNE

8.00am Conference Registration – Tea and Coffee on Arrival				
Stream	Policy, Planning and Education <i>Chair: Belinda Hatt</i>	Collaboration <i>Chair: Alice Lisitsa</i>	Policy, Planning and Education	Asset Management and Lifecycles
Room	Convention Centre 1	Convention Centre 2	Convention Centre 3	Heritage Ballroom
9:00am	6.1 Impacts of Stormwater Flow Reduction on Flood Extent <i>Nigel Corby, Principal Engineer, Micelle Consulting, Priya Van Ryn, Stormwater and Environmental Water Program Lead, Melbourne Water</i>	6.2 The Symbiosis Between Reclaimed-Water and Stormwater in the Creation of Optimum BGI in Urban Environments <i>David Fleeting, Director, David Fleeting Architects</i>	6.3 Waterway Health in Western Sydney: Retaining a Naturalised Flow Regime for a Newly Developed Catchment <i>Lucas Buncle, Senior Civil Engineer, AT&L Associates</i>	6.4 Real-Time Monitoring and Control of Rainwater Tanks and Lakes for Stormwater Management and Other Benefits <i>Dr. Rhys Coleman, Waterways and Wetlands Research Manager, Melbourne Water</i>
9.30am	5 minute room change			
9:35am	7.1 Implementing Priority Area Flow Performance Objectives in Greenfield Development <i>Angela Ganley, Senior Policy Officer, DEECA</i>	7.2 Alira – A Collaborative Success Story <i>Valerie Mag, Principal, Stormy Water Solutions</i>	7.3 Mythbusting Permeable Interlocking Concrete Pavements <i>Jack Gill, General Manager, Concrete Masonry Association of Australia</i>	7.4 Advancing Flood Mapping Practices Through Early Data Gap Assessment and QA <i>Zaki Matar, Principal Consultant, Foresight Advisory, Sadjad Mehdizadeh, Senior Practitioner - Flood Information, Melbourne Water</i>
10.05am Morning Tea & Poster Presentations				
10.20am	PP01 Are You Still Using the Default Losses for Pipes? <i>Lee Canavan, Engineer, Beveridge Willams</i>			
10.25am	PP02 Asset Management Decision-Making through a Sustainability Lens – A Case Study of Innovation in Grantville, <i>Phillip Pritchard, Asset Planning Officer - Pathways And Drainage, Bass Coast Shire Council</i>			
10.30am	Move to breakout rooms			

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM – WEDNESDAY, 3 JUNE continued

Stream	Policy, Planning and Education <i>Chair: Ruth McDonnell</i>	Technical, Research and Innovation <i>Chair: Fei Thim Yong</i>	Technical, Research and Innovation <i>Chair: Katherine Haddock</i>	Asset Management and Lifecycles <i>Chair: Leticia Da Silva Pinto</i>
Room	Convention Centre 1	Convention Centre 2	Convention Centre 3	Heritage Ballroom
10.35am	8.1 Stormwater as Landscape: Designing Urban Waterways for People, Ecology and Change <i>Brett Foulis, Manager – Landscape Architecture, Beveridge Williams & Co</i>	8.2 Everything, Everywhere, All At Once - Monitoring Stormwater Impacts in the Sparrovale Wetland System <i>Jarrod Gaut, Civil Engineer and Principal, Water Insites, Donna Smithyman, Environmental Project Officer, City of Greater Geelong, Prof. Lloyd Chua, Associate Professor, Deakin University</i>	8.3 Expanding WSUD Capability in Victoria Through Permeable Concrete Pipe Systems <i>Diogo Fagundes, Product Manager, HydroCon, Wiebke Benze von Fritz, Managing Director, HydroCon</i>	8.4 Birrarung-Marr Stormwater Harvesting Scheme Offtake Modifications and City of Melbourne Gross Pollutant Trap Condition Assessment <i>Murray Powell, General Manager, Optimal Stormwater, Hugh Williamson, Senior Environmental Engineer, Optimal Stormwater</i>
11.05am	5 minute room change			
11.10am	9.1 DEECA Brolga Habitat Protection Policy - Don't Let It Fly over Your Head! <i>Julia Baumann, Engineering Manager, Dalton Consulting Engineers</i>	9.2 Stormwater Flow Targets and the GED: Defining Reasonably Practicable Contributions Across Scales <i>Priya Van Ryn, Stormwater and Environmental Water Program Lead, Melbourne Water, Daniel O'Halloran, National Urban Water Lead, Alluvium Consulting Australia</i>	9.3 Engineering Resilience: Distributed Stormwater Strategies for Complex Airfield Projects <i>Jarrod Ambrose, Senior Associate Civil Engineer, Beca, Chris Melton, Associate Civil Engineer, Beca</i>	9.4 Mansfield Mullum Wetlands Rejuvenation - Breathing New Life into Mullum Wetlands <i>Steve Darwent, Manager VIC & SA, Optimal Stormwater, Hugh Williamson, Senior Environmental Engineer, Optimal Stormwater</i>
11.40am	5 minute room change			
11.45am	10.1 Responding to the GED – An Adaptive Plan for Stormwater Flow Management <i>Dr Gayani Chandrasena, Principal Engineer, Water Technology, Aaron Dowling, Civil Engineer, Water Technology</i>	10.2 Smart Stormwater: How Device Networks Reduce Risk and Cost with Real-Time Data <i>Ciaran O'Reilly, IoT Applications Manager, Matter</i>	10.3 New MW Temporary Basin Guidelines <i>Chris Beardshaw, Afflux Consulting, David Reginato, Senior Manager Catchment Planning & Engineering, Melbourne Water, Alice Lisitsa, Director, Floodplan</i>	10.4 Panic! At the Wetland: Had to Have High, High hopes That Our Wetland Wasn't Leaking <i>Jack Bowman, Engineer, Afflux, Tess Fuhrmann, Project Manager, Afflux</i>

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM – WEDNESDAY, 3 JUNE continued

12.15pm Lunch and Poster Presentations	
12.35pm	PP03 Choosing SSP Climate Change Scenarios for Flood Mapping: Evidence Based Recommendation, <i>Sai Htin Aung, Engineer, Engeny, Pratheebh Sritharan, Engineer, Engeny, Sina Akram, Principal Flood Modelling Lead, Melbourne Water</i>
12.40pm	PP04 Collaborative Stormwater Planning: Building Resilience through Integrated Engagement, <i>Dr Rohan Bajracharya, Drainage Engineer, East Gippsland Shire Council</i>
12.45pm	PP05 Evaluating Opportunities and Challenges of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) Asset Maintenance in Australia, <i>B. K. A. Bellanthudawa, PHD Candidate, Monash University</i>
12.50pm	PP06 From Reactive to Proactive: Rapid Microbial Source Tracking from Spill Management to Targeted Asset Renewal, <i>Stephen Marshall, Director, Bio2lab Pty Ltd</i>
12.55pm	PP07 Future Flows Meet Present Constraints, <i>Dylan Brand, Senior Engineer, Alluvium Consulting</i>
1.00pm	PP08 Future Stormwater Resilience Under Climate Change and Urbanization: WSUD Retrofit Impacts in West Melbourne, <i>Fatemeh Khalaji, Master of Applied Research Student, Victoria University</i>
1.05pm	PP09 Stormwater Voluntary In-Lieu Scheme – Is Your LGA a Good Place to Start? <i>Dr Xixi Shi, Civil and Environmental Engineer, Water Technology, Dr Dale Browne, Senior Principal Environmental Engineer, Water Technology</i>
1.10pm	Move to Plenary
Room	Convention Centre
1.15pm	<p>Stormwater Victoria’s VUDM Update <i>Alice Lisitsa, President, Stormwater Victoria</i></p> <p>This session will provide you an update on the VUDM, plans for next stages and a sneak peak at the first completed draft chapter and game changing industry tool for SWMPs.</p>
1.45pm	<p>Keynote Presentation: Reframing stormwater as a lever for thriving places <i>Charity Mosienyane, Lead Convenor Swimmable Birrarung, Regen Melbourne</i></p> <p>Stormwater is often referred to as the poor sibling of the water industry. What if we reframed this view and started prioritising resources to value stormwater? Why? Because stormwater could be the trojan horse (stay with me) that unlocks some of the solutions required to address the challenges we are facing on our water resources. Stormwater has the potential to be an agent for thriving communities (human and non-human) and place.</p> <p>In this keynote, Charity Mosienyane will share some of the lessons learned from working on the Swimmable Birrarung project, a wildly ambitious project for make the Yarra River Birrarung healthy, thriving and swimmable again, and the opportunities that lie ahead.</p>

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM – WEDNESDAY, 3 JUNE continued

2.45pm	<p>Panel Session: Managing the impacts of urban growth and planning reform on the delivery of IWM outcomes – a land use planning perspective</p> <p><i>Moderator: Caroline Chandler, Senior Associate IWM Planning, E2Designlab, A Water Technology Company</i></p> <p><i>Panellists include: Shannon Best, Council Alliance for Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE)</i></p> <p><i>Jane Keddie, Director, Urban Planning, Hansen Partnership</i></p> <p>Victoria is growing, with current shortfalls in housing supply and a significant need to build more homes in the decades ahead. The Victorian Government’s Housing Statement and Plan for Victoria outline strategic actions to address housing affordability and increase housing supply across the state, with significant action in planning reform to increase the efficiency of the development approvals and building process.</p> <p>Significant action has already been taken in some areas, including broad reform to the Victorian Planning Provisions in 2025 and additional reform expected in 2026. The most significant outcome includes the replacement of the existing performance-based approach with deemed to comply standards, with other changes to activity centre planning and progress towards the integration of flow targets in planning.</p> <p>This panel will consider the challenges associated with recent planning reform and discuss practical approaches in land use planning and across other regulatory mechanisms that can be taken to increase the delivery of stormwater management outcomes in urban development.</p>
3.45pm	<p>Best Presenter Award, Exhibitor Prize Draws and Conference Wrap Up</p> <p><i>Alice Lisitsa, President, Stormwater Victoria & Peter Woodman, Conference Chair, 2026 Stormwater Victoria Conference</i></p>
4.00pm	<p>Conference Concludes</p>

POST-CONFERENCE PROGRAM – THURSDAY, 4 JUNE

8.00am	<p>Technical Tour Registration</p>
8.30am	<p>Bus departs for Technical Tour</p>
8.45am	<p>The Stormwater Victoria Technical Tour will look at stormwater assets that specifically relate to the challenges of managing stormwater across the Surf Coast region. Locations will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Jan Juc Creek Daylighting Project, where underground drainage has been restored to a natural waterway • Karaaf Wetlands show how drainage assets are managed to ensure stormwater quality and quantity from the residential areas meet the health needs of the aquatic ecosystem where it is discharged. • Winchelsea Greening and Stormwater Treatment project, showcasing integrated water management approaches to enhance urban amenity and protect the Barwon River . <p>Transport and catering are provided, with expert-led insights and opportunities to connect with peers throughout the day.</p>
3.30pm	<p>Technical Tour returns and guests depart</p>

Timings may vary.

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