



Implementing the Integrated Water Management Victorian Planning Provisions - Case studies from Melbourne Councils

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Biography:

Ian Adams is the director of Organica Engineering. He is a Sustainability Engineer with over 15 years' experience in delivering sustainable buildings and developments.

He is also a lecturer at RMIT on water sensitive urban design and city infrastructure.

Ian has assisted many Councils with establishing sustainability assessment and WSUD programs in planning.

Ian is passionate about both technology and environmental issues, and loves getting out into wilderness while using the latest high tech gear.

Much has changed in stormwater in Victoria with the new Integrated Water Management (IWM) Victorian Planning Provisions (VPPs), the new State Environment Protection Policy (SEPP Waters) and the publishing in 2019 of the final version of Book 9 (the urban chapter) of the Australian Rainfall and Runoff guide (ARR).

This presentation looks at practical ways that local government is engaging development community to not only limit peak discharges, but to encourage best practice, and to enforce standards for IWM. The changes to planning policy, engineering guidelines, and environmental laws challenges the stormwater community to implement practices that include 'at source' retention, infiltration, volume management and landscaped conveyance of stormwater runoff.

The philosophy is to meet multi-purpose design objectives that enhance liveability of urban areas, mitigate nuisance, harvest water and to avoid damage to property and loss of life.

An 'At Source' management strategy employs small facilities that are widely distributed across the catchment, usually on private land. At Source approaches are recommended by the as part of a more comprehensive and integrated urban water strategy.

There are currently many roadblocks for Councils engaging with developers and civil engineers to deliver good source control outcomes. This presentation looks at policies, education programs, human resourcing and software that Victorian and South Australian Councils are using to engage with developers during the planning and building permitting process.

We will look at examples of this engagement that are improving the quality and quantity of 'at source' stormwater volume management and treatment facilities across a catchment.