



National Finalist



Keep Australia Beautiful announces finalists in the Australian Sustainable Cities Awards

The Australian Sustainable Cities Awards judge, Sean Rooney, has commenced his visits to the eight state and territory finalists.

The judge faces the tough task of determining which of the state finalists should be crowned the national winner for 2009 following Frankston VIC's success in 2008.

“The Australian Sustainable Cities Awards are highlighting the efforts of our urban communities in reducing their environmental impact. All the state finalists have demonstrated excellent environmental outcomes with each of their activities and I'm looking forward to visiting them.”

Finalists include

NT: Palmerston City Council, pop 25,000, 21km SE of Darwin

WA: Brunswick River Restoration Action Group (BRRAG),
Shire of Harvey, pop 21,317, 173km south of Perth

SA: City of Port Adelaide pop 102,929, 13km NW of Adelaide

TAS: Launceston City Council, pop 113,925, 197 KM N of Hobart

VIC: Hobsons Bay City Council, pop 81,000, 10km SW Melbourne

ACT: Oz Harvest Canberra and Communities@Work, ACT pop 347,000

NSW: City of Canada Bay, pop 61,500, 10km west of the centre of Sydney

QLD: Ipswich City Council, pop 140,000, 31 SW of Brisbane

The Australian Sustainable Cities Awards will be announced in Canberra on Friday 23 October. Details at www.kab.org.au

About the Judge - Sean Rooney:

Sean Rooney is a thought and practice leader working at the forefront of the 'cross-sector partnering' and 'sustainability' agendas in Australia. Currently the Sustainability Program Manager at leading international engineering, sciences and project management firm, Sinclair Knight Merz, Sean is also an Adjunct Associate Professor at Griffith Business School (QLD), focusing on sustainability and organisational strategy. Sean's previous roles include Founder and Director of CSIRO's Sustainable Communities Initiative and a faculty member of Cambridge University's World Bank Sustainable Development Leadership Program.

In addition, Sean regularly contributes articles to national publications and is frequently invited to speak at both domestic and international conferences. Sean is also an active participant in several influential bodies supporting debate and action regarding sustainability issues in Australia. In recognition of his expertise and impact in sustainability thought and practice leadership Sean was awarded a 2007 CSIRO Achievement Award and was a recipient in 2006 of a Future Summit Leadership Award for leadership in the sustainable development domain in Australia.

About the Australian Sustainable Cities Awards:

Keep Australia Beautiful seeks to lead, challenge and inspire all Australians to strive for a sustainable and litter free environment. It does this through the Australian Sustainable Communities Awards consisting of the Tidy Towns, Sustainable Cities and Clean Beaches Awards. Each awards program commences with state and territory awards and culminates in a national grand final. The awards focus on litter reduction and local sustainability.

The Australian Sustainable Cities Awards are sponsored by:

Packaging Stewardship Forum 'Do the Right Thing' program

The Packaging Stewardship Forum of the Australian Food and Grocery Council, works with partners to deliver industry recycling, litter reduction and education programs on behalf of its members, who consist of Australia's major beverage companies and their packaging suppliers.

The Forum's highly successful *Do the Right Thing* anti-litter campaign has proven to be a strong litter prevention message, with more than 80% of people recognising that *Do the Right Thing* means put your waste in the bin and more than 300 towns and cities around Australia taking the *Do the Right Thing* message to their communities

Grundfos Pumps

As a world leading pump and pumping systems manufacturer, Grundfos Pumps has joined with Keep Australia Beautiful to help all Australians achieve improvements in water conservation.

Sinclair Knight Merz (SKM)

A leading engineering, sciences and project delivery firm. Its purpose is to deliver a positive and enduring impact on the world. They work in close partnership with key clients in the public and private sectors, providing independent technical, strategic and commercial advice to deliver a wide range of projects in the communities in which they live.

ToysRUs

A leading retailer of toys and educational items for young Australians. They recognise the need to reduce their environmental footprint and are taking steps to reduce plastic bag useage by customers. They have chosen to partner with the Young Legends category of the Sustainable Cities Awards to help acknowledge the environmental achievements of young Australians and to use these case studies as an inspiration to others.