



Canberra Celebrates Local Leaders in Sustainability

Today, at a function at the Legislative Assembly, Keep Australia Beautiful celebrated the achievements of the participants in the seventh annual ACT Sustainable Cities Awards.

The awards are open to community, business and all levels of government in the ACT. The awards celebrate achievement in litter reduction and the broader sustainability agenda including water and energy conservation.

This year the category winners included amongst others:

- Riversmart for the *Spinnaker Island Weed Removal and Habitat Restoration* Project
- Charity Computers Australia for the reuse and dismantling of dated computers from public, business and government sectors.
- Canberra's Sustainable House for practices including Canberra's first waterless composting toilet, rainwater and stormwater harvesting, and a roof made entirely out of solar panels which creates double the energy of the house's needs.
- *Gungaherra Homestead Redevelopment* by CHC Affordable Housing for its low maintenance, energy efficient townhouses.
- *Suburban Challenge* by the ACT Planning and Land Authority, an education interactive schools programs that allows students to self-discover the built environment in which they live.
- *Canberra's Westbourne Woods Project* by the Conservation Volunteers Australia, involving weed removal, distributing native plant seeds, and photo-point monitoring to record progress

And the overall winner was the Canberra Institute of Technology for the Sustainable Skills Training Hub which was a project entered by the Canberra Institute of Technology and its project management partners Project Coordination, one of Australia's largest privately owned mid-tier construction and management companies.

Chair of the Judging Committee Rolfe Hartley commented:

“Once again the entries for the ACT Sustainable Cities Awards have demonstrated innovation and a commitment to fostering and achieving sustainability in our community. The overall winner, the CIT Sustainable Skills Training Hub, shows a strong focus on education for a sustainable future, as well as achieving sustainability in its physical infrastructure and operations. From what we have seen this year, Canberra continues to do some world class thinking on this important subject”

The overall winner in the ACT awards is now a finalist in the Australian Sustainable Cities Awards to be announced in Perth on 21 November 2011.

Ends

Contact

-Rolfe Hartley, Chair, ACT Judging Committee, 0418 285 634

-Bianca Bateman, Keep Australia Beautiful, 02 9698 8773

The ACT Sustainable Cities Awards are judged by:

Rolfe Hartley	Engineers Australia
Su Wild River	ANU
Denis Wilson	Anson Meridian
Andrew Smith	National Capital Authority
Drew English	Conservation Volunteers Australia
Kevin Green	ACT Territory and Municipal Services
John Kenworthy	The Village Building Company
Cathy Atkins	Communication Toolbox
Simon Grose	Science Media
Andrew Wilson	HBO and EMTB Architects

The ACT Sustainable Cities Awards are sponsored by:

- *Do the Right Thing* Program of the Packaging Stewardship Forum, Australian Food and Grocery Council, contact Jenny Pickles, 02 6270 9014
- Australian National University, Energy and Sustainability Office, contact Su Wild River, 0422 167 867
- The Canberra Times, contact Ken Nichols 02 6280 2122

Other finalists announced to date in the Australian Sustainable Cities Awards include:

-Subiaco WA
-Burnie TAS

About Keep Australia Beautiful in the ACT

Keep Australia Beautiful seeks to lead, challenge and inspire all Australians to strive for a sustainable and litter free environment.

The ACT Sustainable Cities awards aim to encourage, motivate and celebrate local community initiatives in environmental, social and economic sustainability. Full details and past examples at www.kab.org.au/sustainable-cities/what-we-do/act/

Keep Australia Beautiful also offers the Environmentors program to ACT Schools
www.kabnsw.org.au/programs/WasteWatchers.aspx

and is providing direct financial support for Beverage Container Recycling
www.kab.org.au/what-we-do/beverage-container-recycling-grants/

plus measuring litter within the territory through the National Litter Index
www.kab.org.au/national-litter-index/litter-research/what-we-do/australian-capital-territory/

Keep Beautiful National has also launched new program Trash My Ad. Motivating young people to create an ad to encourage litter prevention.
www.kab.org.au/what-we-do/trash-my-ad/

**Keep Australia Beautiful ACT
Sustainable Cities Awards 2011**

<u>Category</u>	<u>Sponsored by</u>	<u>Won By</u>
Community Action and Partnerships	<i>Do the Right Thing</i> Program of the Packaging Stewardship Forum, Australian Food and Grocery Council	<i>Spinnaker Island Weed Removal and Habitat Restoration Project</i> Riversmart
'Dame Phyllis Frost' Litter Prevention		No winner
Resource Recovery and Waste Management		Charity Computers Australia
Environmental Innovation & Protection	ANUGreen	<i>Spinnaker Island Weed Removal and Habitat Restoration Project</i> Riversmart
Water Conservation		Canberra's Sustainable House
Energy Innovation		Canberra's Sustainable House
Heritage and Culture	The Canberra Times	<i>Canberra's Westbourne Woods Project</i> Conservation Volunteers Australia
Sustainable Buildings and Gardens – Residential		<i>Gungaharra Homestead Redevelopment</i> CHC Affordable Housing
Sustainable Buildings and Gardens – Commercial		<i>Canberra Institute of Technology Sustainable Skills Training Hub</i> Canberra Institute of Technology and Project Coordination
Young Legends		<i>Suburban Challenge</i> ACT Planning and Land Authority
Overall Winner		<i>Canberra Institute of Technology Sustainable Skills Training Hub</i> Canberra Institute of Technology and Project Coordination

Note: details of highly commended and other participants in winning entries will be available from www.kab.org.au/sustainable-cities/what-we-do/act/