

**Delivery of the Business Water Efficiency Program (BWEP)
by Cairns Regional Council**

The BWEP was an initiative of the Queensland State Government providing \$55 million in incentive funding to businesses in South East and regional Queensland to save water. The Program was funded by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Recreation, managed by SEQWater and delivered locally by Councils and water service providers. The BWEP began in South East Queensland (SEQ) on 18th August 2006 and was expanded to regional Queensland on 11th May 2007.

To be eligible for BWEP funding, businesses had to be privately owned, located in Queensland and consumed more than 1 million litres of reticulated water in 2005-06. Funding was offered to business in the form of rebates and subsidies. Rebates were available to help fund replacing existing showerheads, taps, toilet suites and clothes washing machines with water efficient products. Subsidies were provided to help fund the external capital cost of larger water efficiency projects including undertaking a water audit.

The aim of the BWEP was to reduce consumption of reticulated water by business across regional Queensland by 8 million litres per day. The State Government assigned a target of 1 million litres per day in reticulated water savings for CRC.

CRC began its participation in the BWEP in November 2007. On 24th April 2008, CRC employed a dedicated staff member to fulfil the role of BWEP Coordinator and facilitate local delivery of the BWEP until completion of the program.

The following outlines key outcomes from local delivery of the program:

- In total 30 businesses in the CRC area applied for financial assistance from the BWEP. These businesses ranged from accommodation, education, restaurants, tourist attractions to shipyards.
- CRC received 45 funding applications, with some businesses submitting more than one application.
- Over 40% of CRCs BWEP participants represented the Accommodation industry including hotels, resorts and caravan parks.

- Businesses spent over \$1.3 million on water efficiency improvements and the BWEF will contribute in excess of \$300,000.
- Each year BWEF participants in the CRC area will reduce consumption of reticulated water by 181 ML/annum. This equates to 49.5% of the water savings target of 1 ML/day set by the Queensland State Government;
- CRC was the most active Council in the regional Queensland BWEF when funding applications closed on 8th August 2008. CRC BWEF participants made up almost 40% of the applications received from regional Queensland.

List of Local BWEF Participants

Business Name	Water Saving Project	Water Savings (ML/annum)
Nazfay Pty Ltd t/a Red Rooster	Portable steam cleaner machines	0.572
Novotel Cairns Oasis Resort	Water efficient showerheads	5.776
Reef Palms Hotel	Dual flush toilet suites and water efficient showerheads	2.059
Sheraton Mirage Port Douglas	Replacement of inefficient dishwasher and glass washer	6.093
Holiday Inn	Dual flush toilet suites and water efficient taps and showerheads	37.822
Cairns Colonial Club Resort	Water efficient showerheads and tapware	28.305
Rydges Sabaya Resort Port Douglas	Dual flush toilet suites and water efficient showerheads and tapware	8.888
Bunnings Group Ltd	Rainwater tanks for toilet flushing and garden irrigation	3.528
Sofitel Reef Hotel Casino	Water efficient washing machines and swimming pool upgrade	2.635
Fishery Falls Holiday Park	Pool cover and installation of rainwater tank and pump to store and use bore water for irrigation and toilet flushing	1.151
Lend Lease Property Management (Australia) Pty Ltd (Cairns Central)	Water efficient tap ware and development of bore water for irrigation and toilet flushing	58.143

Business Name	Water Saving Project	Water Savings (ML/annum)
Trinity Petroleum Services Pty Ltd	Upgrade to water efficient car wash system	1.487
Tropical Reef Shipyard	Install of rainwater tanks, waste water recycling units to the slipway and washdown bay to recover wash down water.	14.932
Discovery Resort Cairns	Replacement of inefficient washing machine	0.366
Cairns Coconut Holiday Resort	Replacement of inefficient tapware, showerheads and toilet suites	1.816
Capta Group – Habitat Dome Pty Ltd t/a the Rainforest Habitat Wildlife Sanctuary	Replacement of single flush toilets with dual flush	0.148
Holy Spirit Care Services (Cairns) Ltd	Replacement of inefficient tapware, showerheads and toilet suites	2.076
LJ Hooker, Yorkeys Knob	Replacement of single flush toilets with dual flush	0.190