



# Media Release

Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014

---

## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT STORMWATER ISSUES

NRM North is targeting students in its community education campaign on stormwater.

NRM North Stormwater Officer, Darren Green, and Education Officer, Michael Black, will deliver an educational session to grade seven students at Deloraine High School tomorrow.

The presentation will include information on the issues arising from unmanaged stormwater and will include an interactive floodplain model to demonstrate what impact changes in the landscape can have on the natural environment.

“The aim of the day is to educate and raise awareness about these issues, how these issues are being managed, and what students can do at home to help manage stormwater,” Mr Green said.

“Because after all, stormwater management is everyone’s responsibility, and there’s plenty we can all do at home to reduce the quantity and improve the quality of stormwater.”

When urban areas were first developed, stormwater management was all about quantity management, draining urban areas as quick as possible.

This approach has been very effective in flood mitigation, but unfortunately, equally effective in washing large amounts of stormwater and pollution directly into our natural waterways.

“Declining water quality and ecological health in urban waterways together with recent drought conditions, has got us looking at incorporating new stormwater quality management practices into the traditional stormwater quantity focused management practices, and looking at ways to capture and reuse stormwater as a resource.”

NRM North will talk to students about these new ways of managing stormwater quantity and quality approaches such as Water Sensitive Urban Design which is all about incorporating natural treatment systems like wetlands, and storage systems like rainwater tanks, into urban environments to treat, capture and reuse stormwater at the same time as providing flood protection.

It is hoped students will be more mindful of actions they take around the house and in their day to day lives, for which our natural waterways will ultimately benefit.

Ends

---

For more information contact:  
Melissa Lewarn, Manager – Community Engagement & Communications, NRM North,  
6333 7776 or 0427 354 058