



Media Release

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Raingarden to be installed in Valentine Park, Campbell Town

Northern Midlands Council is the latest recipient of a new raingarden which will not only filter stormwater but educate the community about how green infrastructure fits into public spaces as well.

With the support of NRM North, a small scale raingarden will be installed in the empty garden bed on the eastern side of the toilet block in Valentine Park, Campbell Town. It is part of a larger program to implement raingardens across the northern region and to improve awareness around Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD).

Raingardens are designed to improve water quality by acting like a filter. They also capture the 'first flush' during large rainfalls which helps to reduce pollution and erosion associated with stormwater runoff.

Beneath the surface of a raingarden is a series of different sand and soil layers which capture contaminants. Plants that live and grow in the raingarden also absorb and filter out pollutants captured in stormwater flows.

NRM North's Stormwater and Catchment Officer, Jesse Webster, said he is excited about the implementation of raingardens across the state's north.

"Raingardens are a simple way everyone can help the environment and improve the health of our local waterways while increasing the aesthetics and biodiversity of your garden. I am excited to see these being implemented across the northern region," Mr Webster said.

"By installing a raingarden in your backyard, you are creating a small bioretention cell that cleans stormwater, reduces peak flows and provides a habitat for birds and butterflies."

David Downie, Northern Midlands Council Mayor is supportive of the project.

"Council is pleased to support this innovative project which will brighten and create yet another feature in Valentine Park, Campbell Town," said Mr Downie.

Construction of the raingarden will take place on Tuesday 5th of May and should be completed on the day. A step by step guide on how to build your own raingarden planter box is available on the NRM North website in the stormwater section.

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For more information or interviews, please contact NRM North CEO James McKee on 6333 7777 or 0412 704 229 or Communications Officer Biba Bell on 6333 7776 or 0458 666 609. *Please note: Biba works Tuesdays/Wednesdays.*