



27 October 2014

### **Local award winning gardens focus on water conservation and biodiversity**

The City of Nedlands is proud to announce the winners of the Waterwise Garden Competition 2014 with a local school taking out the prize in the schools category for the second year running.

Water minimisation, biodiversity, layout and design were just some of the strengths to the winners of the waterwise garden competition this year which was judged in early October by a waterwise landscaping expert.

**Hollywood Primary School** won a \$500 Bunnings voucher for winning the schools category. Their title was well deserved for the hard work and effort that they have put into developing their food garden and waterwise garden. They are using both gardens to facilitate the children's education in sustainability.

**98 Stanley Street, Nedlands** were awarded first place in the residential category. The garden was awarded first place for its excellent example of a diverse native plant garden which uses waste minimisation principles, high quality mulch and attractive garden layout. Insect and bird activity was obvious during the judging.

In second place, **28 Clark Street, Nedlands**, was a fine example of a garden that utilised the small space to its full potential including tall trees, colourful and unusual native plants that made the garden look interesting and different from every angle.

In third place, **36 Clark Street, Nedlands** was a stunning example of a passionate gardener making the most of every piece of usable land to grow fruit and vegetables. High quality mulch was also used between the fruits and vegetables to keep water loss to a minimum.

The City of Nedlands Mayor, Max Hipkins, said: "The City of Nedlands is proudly a Waterwise council, endorsed by the Water Corporation. The City is committed to using water in the most efficient manner possible in all of its operations, and is encouraging its residents to do the same.

"Water efficiency is critically important for our community. Western Australia is experiencing the effects of a drying climate, and everyone needs to do their part to conserve water. You can reduce water use in your own garden by planting native plants, spreading a 5-10 cm thick layer of waterwise mulch, and only watering your garden on your two allocated watering days."

The garden entries were judged on eight key criteria:

1. Waterwise strategies;
2. Design and general layout;

3. Mulching and compost;
4. Waste minimisation;
5. Encouraging native wildlife;
6. Biodiversity and conservation features
7. Complementary planting and shading for moisture retention and wind protection;
8. Innovative Waterwise food gardening practices (for Waterwise Food Garden category).

Special thanks to Anderson Davies Real Estate who are the long-term supporters of the City of Nedlands' environmental improvement initiatives and generously donated \$2000 for prizes.

For more information please contact the City on 9273 3500 or [council@nedlands.wa.gov.au](mailto:council@nedlands.wa.gov.au)

**About the City of Nedlands**

The City of Nedlands is situated 7km from Perth and stretches from the banks of the Swan River to the edge of the Indian Ocean. A population of over 21,000 live in the suburbs of Nedlands, Dalkeith, Mt Claremont, Swanbourne, Karrakatta, and parts of Floreat and Shenton Park.

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