



The 4th National Waterwatch Conference

# NAVIGATING THE RAPIDS

7-10 February 2005, University of Melbourne

## **Call for Abstracts, Registration & Information Brochure**



**A Forum to Promote and Advance Community  
Involvement in Sustainable Water Management**

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## WELCOME

Come and join us in the challenge of “**Navigating the Rapids**” as community water monitoring and Waterwatch networks across Australia integrate into the regional NRM framework to achieve sustainable water management.

The Waterwatch Conference is an overarching national event for everyone across Australia who is managing, coordinating, facilitating and / or undertaking community water monitoring, on-ground river health actions or water / river health education and awareness raising activities.

The Conference is an opportunity to address the challenges of integrating community water monitoring activities into a regional approach.

The conference aims to provide a forum to promote and advance community involvement in sustainable water management by:

- Encouraging locally driven catchment health initiatives;
- Providing a networking opportunity to share knowledge, experience and innovative ideas;
- Enhancing the capacity of managers, coordinators and the community to promote and support community involvement in sustainable water management.

We encourage the following groups to attend:

- All volunteers involved in water monitoring & management of their waterways;
- Facilitators and Coordinators involved in community based natural resource management networks (including catchment education officers, land management educators and teachers);
- Local Government officers, State and Australian Government agency staff, Water Management Authorities and organisations, scientists, industry representatives, regional NRM bodies and catchment managers.

Attending this conference will provide you with opportunities to share, participate and showcase the diversity of community water monitoring and Waterwatch activities and the role the community can play in sustainable water management.

The Australian Government is subsidising the registration fees for the conference, to enable as many interested parties as possible to attend the conference and share their knowledge and experience.

## CONFERENCE VENUE AND ACCOMMODATION

Melbourne, Victoria boasts great festivals and shopping, a passion for food and wine, and fabulous arts.

The conference will be held at the historic University of Melbourne in the Economics & Commerce Building, Parkville campus. The campus is approximately 1.5 kilometers from the city centre, close to trams, parklands and the restaurants of Lygon Street.

Student style accommodation is included in the registration and accommodation package at Ormond College, University of Melbourne campus. Please see the General Information section on page 3 for further details.

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The conference will feature a range of informative paper sessions, interactive workshops, field trips, networking opportunities, social events and displays.

The following information provides an overview of what to expect in the 4th National Waterwatch Conference program. The Conference program will be continuously updated on the conference website

[www.waterwatch.org.au/conference](http://www.waterwatch.org.au/conference) including updated information on the social functions and the keynote speaker.

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Day	Time	Activity
Sunday 6 February	8 am – 12 pm	Accommodation check-in at Ormond College for those arriving into Melbourne on Sunday
	3 pm – 6 pm	Conference Registration Desk open at Ormond College
Monday 7 February	8 am – 12 pm	Accommodation check-in at Ormond College
	8.30 am – 5 pm	Conference Registration Desk open in the Economics & Commerce Building
	8.30 am & 10 am	Organised bus transfers from Melbourne Airport to Ormond College
	8.30 am – 10.30 am	Exhibition / Displays set up in foyer of the Economics & Commerce Building
	10.30 am	Morning Tea – Foyer of the Economics & Commerce Building
	11 am – 12.30 pm	Conference Official Opening Welcome & Keynote Address
	12.30 pm – 1.30 pm	Lunch
	1.30 pm – 3 pm	Session 1
	3 pm – 3.30 pm	Afternoon Tea
	3.30 pm – 5 pm	Session 2
	6 pm onwards	Offsite Welcome Reception followed by Dinner. Buses to depart Ormond College.
Tuesday 8 February	8.30 am – 4 pm	Conference Registration Desk open in the Economics & Commerce Building
	9 am – 5 pm	Conference Sessions
	6.30 pm onwards	BBQ & Barn Dance at Ormond College
Wednesday 9 February	8.30 am – 4 pm	Conference Registration Desk open in the Economics & Commerce Building
	9 am – 3 pm	Conference Sessions
	3 pm – 3.30 pm	Afternoon Tea
	3.30 pm – 6 pm	Sports / Free Time
	6 pm onwards	Conference Dinner – Offsite
Thursday 10 February	9 am – 12 pm	Conference Registration Desk open in the Economics & Commerce Building
	9 am – 11 am	Conference Sessions and Wrap-up
	11 am – 2 pm 11 am – 4 pm	Field Trips
	12 pm	Bus transfers to Melbourne Airport

## TYPES OF PRESENTATIONS

There are three session formats being offered – papers, workshops and displays.

- **Papers** – in these sessions the participants will be presented with three papers on one theme from three different speakers with question time at the end of each paper.
- **Workshops** – in these sessions the presenter will engage the participants in an interactive session.
- **Displays** – there will be a designated area for state and regional community water monitoring and Waterwatch representatives to showcase their program or activities. If you would like to reserve a display area please contact the Conference Secretariat, the Australian Water Association via email – [waterwatchconf@awa.asn.au](mailto:waterwatchconf@awa.asn.au) or by contacting (02) 9413 1288.

## SESSION THEMES

There are three session themes which presentations will be based upon:

- **Monitoring, Evaluation & Regional Delivery**
- **Education and Engagement**
- **Communication, Networks and Partnerships**

### Monitoring, Evaluation & Regional Delivery

This theme will cover topics such as:

- A range of case studies relating to community data incorporating; data confidence, quality assurance and quality control, data leading to on-ground action, presenting and communicating data and data interpretation
- A variety of community monitoring initiatives as case studies relating to; estuarine, riparian biodiversity and groundwater monitoring
- Examples of community involvement in urban water initiatives such as stormwater monitoring
- Riverine environment including topics such as; index of stream condition, aquatic threatened species, water weeds, riparian vegetation, macroinvertebrates and frogs as indicators of river health

- Monitoring and evaluation (social, environmental, economic, cultural)
- A range of case studies relating to the integration and engagement of the community in regard to sustainable water management and regional delivery
- Research & development projects in river health

### Education and Engagement

This theme will cover topics such as:

- A range of regional information exchange sessions on the development of community and school education projects
- National Environmental Education Network
- Capacity Building and Community Engagement within the regional planning process
- Successes within the school community and curriculum framework
- Environmental Education
- Events – creative ideas for festivals / environmental education expos
- Adult learning
- Strategies for volunteerism
- Keystone species – using cute and cuddly to engage and educate i.e. platypus
- Opportunities to share resources, ideas and new education initiatives

### Communication, Networks and Partnerships

This theme will cover topics such as:

- A range of case studies which show the successful partnerships which have been made to support and deliver community water monitoring and Waterwatch activities in the regional planning framework
- Sponsorship, marketing and media
- New technologies and communication initiatives to engage the community (for example DVD, websites, mapping tools)
- Partnerships with businesses, industry and the community in sustainable water management (fishing, diary, irrigation, forestry)
- Indigenous partnerships and engagement

- International community monitoring projects
- Science & community partnerships

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

We would like to invite all interested parties who would like to present either a paper presentation or a workshop session at the 4th National Waterwatch Conference to submit an abstract.

Please keep in mind that the workshop sessions are interactive where the presenter engages the participants in the topic (a hands on option). Or an alternative is the paper sessions, which enable presenters to inform the participants of their topic.

Abstracts should be a maximum of 500 words (one page) and relate to one of the following three themes:

- **Monitoring, Evaluation & Regional Delivery**
- **Education and Engagement**
- **Communication, Networks and Partnerships**

Further information on the topics relating to the above three themes is available under the heading Session Themes.

Abstracts must include the following and be in a Word document:

- Conference – 4th National Waterwatch Conference
- Title – a descriptive name which outlines the topic of the abstract
- Author/s name and affiliation
- Theme – which of the three themes the abstract relates to
- Session – workshop or paper presentation
- Description – a brief outline of the content for your workshop or paper session

Sessions will be limited and presentations will be selected on their appropriateness to the themes proposed for the conference program. Papers must be no longer than 20 minutes and workshops are 90 minute sessions. Question time will be additional at the end of the paper sessions.

Abstracts are due by **Friday, 5 November 2004**. Please submit your abstract by emailing a Word document to – [waterwatchconf@awa.asn.au](mailto:waterwatchconf@awa.asn.au). Authors will be notified of the status

of their abstract by mid November. Full papers will be requested on notification of abstract acceptance.

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsorship opportunities such as the conference dinner or welcome reception are available. For further information, please contact the Conference Secretariat, the Australian Water Association via email [waterwatchconf@awa.asn.au](mailto:waterwatchconf@awa.asn.au) or by phoning (02) 9413 1288.

## KEY DATES

Abstracts Due  
5 November 2004

Early Bird Registration Closes  
20 December 2004

Full Papers Due  
7 January 2005

Registration Closes  
4 February 2005

Conference  
7–10 February 2005

## FIELD TRIPS

There are two post-conference field trips available on Thursday 10 February 2005. The first option is the Water Discovery Centre from 11 am – 2 pm. The second option is the Forest Waterwatch Project from 11 am – 4 pm. **Please note your field trip preferences on the Registration Form.** The field trips will be dependent on the numbers of interested delegates, both minimum and maximum numbers have been set.

### Water Discovery Centre

Western Treatment Plant,  
Werribee  
Thursday 10 February 2005  
11 am to 2 pm

Take a journey of water discovery with Melbourne Water to explore the water cycle from catchment to coast. You'll find out more about where Melbourne's water comes from, what goes on in the city beneath us and how you can help to create a sustainable environment.

A bus will depart from the front of Ormond College at 11am and will return to the Melbourne City Centre

including a stop at Melbourne Airport. Delegates will be provided with a lunch box for lunch.

**Cost – \$11 per person (including GST)**

### Forest Waterwatch Project

Thursday 10 February 2005  
11 am to 4 pm

The Forest Waterwatch project brings together a number of key stakeholders involved in the Department of Sustainability & Environment's Tall Forests Project. Located in the forests surrounding Poweltown, conference delegates will hear from a range of people from different backgrounds who have come together to work collaboratively on a water quality project, monitoring the upper tributaries of the Yarra River. The project seeks to actively involve people whose employment is forest based. This workforce is a critical element in maintaining or improving aspects of water quality in forests and may be the nucleus of an ongoing, successful program that integrates community interest and concern with practical day-to-day on-ground action.

A bus will depart from the front of Ormond College at 11am and will return to the Melbourne City Centre including a stop at Melbourne Airport. Delegates will be provided with a lunch box for lunch.

**Cost – \$38 per person (including GST)**

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Registration

The registration and information desk will be open from Sunday through to Thursday. Please see exact opening times and locations in the program overview box on page 1.

### Conference Venue

The conference will be held in the Economics & Commerce Building at the University of Melbourne, Parkville campus. For further information, the University website is [www.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.unimelb.edu.au). This direct link will take you to a map of the Parkville campus [www.pb.unimelb.edu.au/CampusMaps/Parkville.pdf](http://www.pb.unimelb.edu.au/CampusMaps/Parkville.pdf)

### Accommodation

Student style accommodation plus continental breakfast is included in the registration and accommodation

package at historic Ormond College, at the University of Melbourne campus for the nights of Monday to Thursday inclusive. **Please indicate the nights you will be staying on the Registration Form.**

Breakfast from Tuesday through to Thursday inclusive will be served in Ormond College's unique dining hall, one of Australia's finest Neo-Gothic buildings.

All rooms are single occupancy with wardrobe space, linen, towel and shared bathroom facilities. Laundry facilities and access to the College's tennis and squash courts are available free of charge (racquets not provided). Ormond offers a comfortable guest lounge with meeting tables, complimentary newspapers, TV and self-service tea and coffee. The accommodation reception desk is staffed from 8am to midnight each day.

**Please note:** If you wish to stay on Sunday 6 February please indicate this on your Registration Form. This night is not included in the registration costs and will incur an additional fee for bed and breakfast of \$65 (including GST).

The main building of Ormond College is accessible by stairs only. Please indicate on your registration form if you require a room on the ground floor.

Further details and images of Ormond College can be obtained by visiting the website – [www.ormond.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.ormond.unimelb.edu.au)

## SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

A number of social functions have been organised to enhance networking and fun during the conference.

### Monday 7 February

#### Welcome Reception

On Monday evening, the Welcome Reception will include a cocktail party followed by dinner offsite.

Further information will be updated on the conference website [www.waterwatch.org.au/conference](http://www.waterwatch.org.au/conference).

Please note dress is smart evening wear.

### Tuesday 8 February

#### BBQ & Barn Dance

To be held in the Junior Common Room and quadrangle at Ormond College. Please note dress is jeans, western shirts, big buckles and boots. Prizes awarded for the best ensemble!

### Wednesday 9 February

#### Conference Dinner

A night of lively entertainment, socialising, celebrating and dancing will be held at Telstra Dome on Wednesday night. The Dome is known as one of Melbourne's newest and most innovative venues, boasting spectacular views over the exciting sporting venue plus the city skyline and Victoria Harbour. The cost of the conference dinner is \$60 (including GST).

Please note dress is smart casual.

### Special Needs

Please advise of any special requirements (dietary, access etc) so that appropriate arrangements can be made on your behalf. Please note your special requirements on the Registration Form.

## TRAVEL

Travel to Melbourne must be organised by the delegate.

### Airport Transfers

#### Arrival –

There will be complimentary bus pickups from Melbourne Airport to Ormond College at the University of Melbourne on Sunday 6 and Monday 7 February 2005.

If you are arriving on Sunday 6 February 2005 please indicate on the registration form at what time and which flight you will be arriving on. Delegates who are arriving on Sunday will be notified by email of what time the complimentary buses depart Melbourne Airport. The bus times offered will be dependant on the number and time at which delegates arrive on Sunday.

On Monday 7 February the conference bus will depart Melbourne Airport from the coach area, out the front of South (Virgin Blue) and Qantas Domestic terminals at 8.30am and 10am.

**Please indicate on the Registration Form if you would like to catch the complimentary bus, at what time and which flight you will be arriving on.**

Delegates arriving after these times will need to arrange their own transport to the University of Melbourne.

#### Departure –

For delegates not attending the post conference field trips, conference buses will depart Ormond College for Melbourne Airport at approximately 12pm on Thursday 10 February.

**Please indicate on your Registration Form if you will be using this service.**

### Meet and Greet

Conference staff will be in attendance at Melbourne Airport on Sunday 6 and Monday 7 February to assist delegates with transfers to the University.

## Other Transport Options

For those arriving outside of the times above, other transport options are listed below:

**Please note:** only the complimentary bus services listed above are included in the registration fees. The following transport options listed below are at the cost of the delegate.

### Skybus

Skybus operates 7 days a week, 24 hours a day and is the official public transport link between Melbourne Airport and Spencer Street Railway Station in the city. A one-way trip is \$13.00 and tickets can be purchased from the Skybus desk on the ground floor of Melbourne Airport.

Further details on Skybus can be obtained from the website – [www.skybus.com.au](http://www.skybus.com.au) or by calling (03) 9335 3066 for recorded information.

### Taxis

Taxis are available from the ground floor level of Melbourne Airport. A number of taxi companies operate in Melbourne, some numbers are below:

Embassy Taxis	131 755
Silver Top Taxis	131 008
Yellow Cabs	132 227

**Please Note** – The cost of a taxi from Melbourne Airport to Ormond College at the University of Melbourne is approximately \$40–45.

### Parking at the University

Parking in the grounds of Ormond College is available for \$7.65 per day. Parking vouchers can be arranged at the Ormond College accommodation reception desk, which is staffed from 8am to midnight each day.

Alternative parking is available at the University Square carpark, close to the Economics & Commerce Building. Parking here is available for \$7.50 per day. Enter from Gate 10 on Grattan Street.

#### 4th National Waterwatch Conference Secretariat Australian Water Association

The Australian Water Association is providing Conference Secretariat services for the 4th National Waterwatch Conference. The team at AWA looks forward to assisting you with all details relating to your registration and social requirements.

If you require further information or have additional queries, please contact AWA as follows:

Address: PO Box 388  
Artarmon NSW 1570

Telephone: 02 9413 1288

Facsimile: 02 9413 1047

Email: [waterwatchconf@awa.asn.au](mailto:waterwatchconf@awa.asn.au)

All details advised in this brochure are correct at the time of printing. Changes that occur will be updated regularly on the website [www.waterwatch.org.au/conference](http://www.waterwatch.org.au/conference).

#### Conference Registration and Accommodation Package

\$275 (early bird rate which must be paid by 20 December 2004) or the standard rate of \$385 will apply after 20 December 2004.

A conference registration and accommodation package is available for students / community water monitoring volunteers for \$220.

The Conference Registration and Accommodation package includes all conference sessions, all meals and social functions (except the Conference Dinner), single room accommodation at Ormond College from Monday morning to Thursday morning inclusive and the conference handbook & proceedings.

#### Conference Registration Only

\$220 (early bird rate which must be paid by 20 December 2004) or the standard rate of \$330 will apply after 20 December 2004.

This package includes all conference sessions, all meals and social functions from Monday morning to Thursday morning (except the Conference Dinner & Breakfasts) and the conference handbook & proceedings. **Accommodation is not included in this package.**

#### Conference Day Registration

\$88 (early bird rate which must be paid by 20 December 2004) or the standard rate of \$110.

A conference day registration is available for students / community water monitoring volunteers for \$55.

This package includes all conference sessions on the nominated day, all meals and social functions on the nominated day (except the Conference Dinner & Breakfasts) and the conference handbook & proceedings.

#### Social Functions

##### *Conference Dinner*

Wednesday 9 February 2005 \$60

This includes transfers to / from Ormond College to the dinner venue.

##### **Additional Function Tickets**

Additional function tickets are available should you wish to bring additional people to any of the functions. For registered delegates these functions are included in your conference package.

##### *Welcome Reception & Dinner*

Monday 7 February 2005 \$55

This includes transfers to / from Ormond College to the venue

##### *BBQ & Barn Dance*

Tuesday 8 February 2005 \$25

#### Cancellation

Cancellation notified in writing before 7 January 2005 will incur a \$100 cancellation fee per delegate with all other monies paid refunded. Cancellations notified in writing after 7 January 2005 will incur full conference fees with no eligibility for a refund of monies already paid. However, another person may attend the Conference in the original delegate's place.

#### Insurance

We recommend that all delegates take out their own travel insurance. The policy should include loss of fees / deposit through cancellation of your participation in the Conference, loss of airfares for any reason, medical expenses and loss or damage to personal property.

# REGISTRATION FORM

4th National Waterwatch Conference  
Navigating the Rapids

7-10 February 2005  
University of Melbourne, Victoria

This form becomes a tax invoice upon receipt of payment

## PERSONAL DETAILS

Title (please circle) Prof / Dr / Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms

First Name

Surname

Position

Organisation

Postal Address

State

Postcode

Tel Work

Mobile

Facsimile

Email

(Upon receipt of your registration form, the Conference Secretariat will send a confirmation email)

Any special requirements?

(dietary, access, ground floor accommodation etc.)

## REGISTRATION FEES (prices include GST)

Please indicate:

### Option A: Registration Including Accommodation

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Bird Registration (prior to 20 December 2004)  | \$ 275.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non Early Bird Registration (after 20 December 2004) | \$ 385.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student* / Volunteer Registration                    | \$ 220.00 |

### Option B: Registration Only

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Bird Registration (prior to 20 December 2004)  | \$ 220.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non Early Bird Registration (after 20 December 2004) | \$ 330.00 |

### Option C: Day Only Registration

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day Only Registration (prior to 20 December 2004) | \$ 88.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day Only Registration (after 20 December 2004)    | \$ 110.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student* / Volunteer Day Only Registration        | \$ 55.00  |

\*Students need to provide a copy of their Student ID card and a letter confirming their status as a full time student from their department.

Please indicate which day:

- Monday  Tuesday  Wednesday

Subtotal:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES (prices include GST)

Please indicate if you are attending:

### Monday 7 February

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Reception (included in registration package) |          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Welcome Reception Ticket                  | \$ 55.00 |

### Tuesday 8 February

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barn Dance & BBQ (included in registration package) |          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Barn Dance & BBQ Ticket                  | \$ 25.00 |

### Wednesday 9 February

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conference Dinner | \$ 60.00 |
|--|----------|

### Thursday 10 February

Field Trips

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Discovery Centre    | \$ 11.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forest Waterwatch Project | \$ 38.00 |

Subtotal:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_





AUSTRALIAN  
WATER  
ASSOCIATION

**4th National Waterwatch Conference Secretariat**

**Australian Water Association**

**PO Box 388, Artarmon NSW 1570**

**Tel: 02 9413 1288**

**Fax: 02 9413 1047**

**Email: [waterwatchconf@awa.asn.au](mailto:waterwatchconf@awa.asn.au)**

**ABN: 78 096 035 773**



**Communities Caring for Catchments**



**Natural Heritage Trust**

*Helping Communities Helping Australia*

An Australian Government Initiative