

Mains water neutral gardening: an integrated approach to water conservation in sustainable urban gardens.

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Abstract

The role of urban green space in contributing to the liveability of urban gardens make up a large portion of urban green space and how they contribute to environmental enhancement and resource depletion and pollution. This thesis demonstrates how sustainability through thoughtful design and the clever management of resources can achieve this objective: 'Sustainable Urban Gardening' and 'Mains Water Neutral Gardening'.

Sustainable Urban Gardening (SUG) is a multi-criteria sustainability approach including Energy Efficiency; Organic Waste Recycling and Soil Health; Organic Pest and Disease Management; Local Food Production; and Water Conservation for Household Users.

Mains Water Neutral Gardening (MWNG) is a site-responsive approach to water management in residential gardens. It incorporates available rainwater and groundwater, with efficient irrigation practices and holistic water budgets that are capable of meeting garden water requirements.

Three residential case study gardens based on the SUG and MWNG approach, as part of this research, whilst also featuring extensively in Australia's leading gardening magazine, demonstrated a reduction in household mains water consumption to below local averages whilst addressing the intended SUG goals. The

and sustainably managed groundwater to contribute to main design and household, however the high cost of supply in co basis) presents a barrier to broader adoption. Nonetheless, n demonstrated, enabling increased household resilience while supplies.

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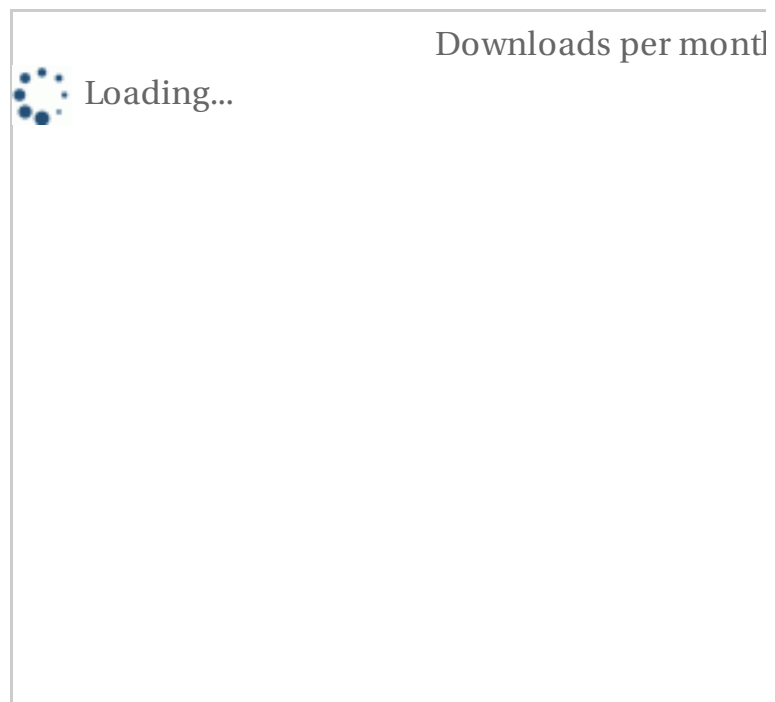
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