



Media Release

Tuesday 31 May 2011

Garden makeover a stunning success

A landscaped coastal garden planted on the weekend at the CWA Seaside Flats at Middleton Beach has proved a stunning success with help from community volunteers.

After attending a water-wise coastal garden workshop at the Town Hall with more than 70 participants, about 45 keen gardeners and native plant lovers put their gloves on and went to work on a garden makeover sponsored by the Water Corporation.

The team converted a 90m² patch of lawn into a stunning coastal garden on Flinders Parade and applied much of the practical advice learnt at the workshop.

The coastal garden workshop hosted by Green Skills and South Coast NRM coincided with the launch of a new booklet, *Coastal Gardens: a planting guide for the Albany, Denmark and Walpole coastal region*.

Chris Ferreria, workshop host and regular commentator on ABC Radio's Gardening Show, said he hoped the workshops and the recently produced planting guide would inspire everyone to move from planting the more traditional European style gardens to native coastal gardens.

"These coastal gardens are not only beautiful but are easier to manage, require little fertiliser and use far less water," he said.

Free copies of the *Coastal Gardens: a planting guide for the Albany, Denmark and Walpole coastal region*, which highlights locals water-wise native plants suitable for gardens, are available from South Coast NRM and Green Skills.

The guide was adapted from an original design by the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges NRM Board of South Australia.

Technical input and photos for the South Coast adaptation were provided by the Albany Wildflower Society, local growers, nurseries and consultant Mark Parre.

ENDS

More photos available on request.

Sheryn Prior, South Coast NRM, Coastal Project Officer is available for interview on 0429 928 287

Jenelle Carter
Communications and Public Relations Coordinator
South Coast NRM
Direct (08) 9845 8521
Mobile 0428 928 536
Email jenellec@southcoastnrm.com.au