

## Inaugural Western Port Biosphere Water Stewardship Forum, November 2017.

The Western Port Biosphere recognised the first two water stewards in the Water Stewardship Regional Recognition Program – the first such program to be established in the Water Stewardship framework – at the inaugural Western Port Biosphere Water Stewardship Forum on Thursday 16 November 2017 at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne.

The Forum provided a great opportunity to hear about the Biosphere’s Water Stewardship Program from Lance Lloyd (Water Stewardship Project Officer) and water stewards including Lisa Brassington (Peninsula Fresh Organics) who spoke about their farm, implementation of Water Stewardship and the cost savings and other benefits they expect from implementing water stewardship initiatives.

Our Keynote Speaker was Professor John Langford, whose talk “The Value of Good Water Stewardship to Businesses and Communities” provided the background to the International Water Stewardship Standard, how and why it was developed, how it is being applied around the world, and highlighted the benefits that sites gain from applying water stewardship principles through implementation. John also discussed how the Western Port Biosphere’s Water Stewardship Program is contributing to the implementation of the International Water Stewardship Standard worldwide.

Further, Inghams Enterprises, Somerville and Peninsula Fresh Organics, Baxter are the first two businesses to have fulfilled the requirements of the Biosphere's water stewardship recognition program, including completing a Site Water Stewardship Plan which conforms to the International Standard for Water Stewardship. Gate signs were presented to both businesses.



Here are links to presentations given by [Lance Lloyd](#) (Biosphere Project Officer), [Professor John Langford AM](#) (Chair, AWS Asia Pacific) and [Peninsula Fresh Organics](#).



Lance Lloyd presenting.



Gerard Seagrove and Boram Keam from Inghams receiving their award and gate sign from Duncan Malcolm, Biosphere Chair.



Lisa Brassington from Peninsula Fresh Organics receiving their award and gate sign from Duncan Malcolm, Biosphere Chair and Lance Lloyd.



Professor John Langford presenting.