

MEDIA RELEASE

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Teaching the teachers

'Position, position, position' is not just a catch cry of real estate agents as teachers attending an urban sustainability workshop at Toowoomba's award winning EnviroShack discovered.

The workshop organised by the Queensland Murray Darling Committee's Landcare Education Officers focused on how simple measures such as orientating your house carefully on your block can help work towards urban sustainability.

"Although it's easy to feel overwhelmed by global issues such as climate change, this workshop aimed to demonstrate the many simple things we can all do to ensure our homes and lifestyles are sustainable," said workshop organiser Laura Weedon.

"The EnviroShack showcases the latest innovations and materials and so was the perfect venue for the workshop," she said.

Teachers who attended come away with plenty of ideas for introducing urban sustainability into the classroom.

"The EnviroShack has some really interesting and innovative features. I have come away with lots of ideas for teaching these concepts to my students as well as some fantastic resources," St George State High School Agriculture teacher, Sheryl Rigg, said.

More workshops will be planned on a range of environmental themes including GIS, water quality monitoring, biodiversity and native plant propagation and growing.

The aim of these sessions will be to give teachers the knowledge and skills to run their own environmental projects with students, and to broaden their awareness of sustainable resource management practices.

"By focusing on teachers we hope to reach not only their students this year but also their students in future years," Ms Weedon said.

The workshops are part of the Queensland Murray Darling Committee's broader Learning Through Landcare program, which supports teachers to plan and carry out environmental projects.

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