

Stormwater Management



Why should we bother, what can we do?

Speaker: *Cathy Angell*

Did you know that the average Tauranga household uses 493 litres of water a day, and that Tauranga has 460km of stormwater pipes, with 9800 manholes to take our rainwater to the sea? Plus, NIWA estimates that 130,000 tonnes of sediment pours into Tauranga harbour every year from the surrounding catchments.

Come and hear how you and your family, your house and garden can contribute to sustainably using our precious water resources. How we capture rain water, use it, store it, re-use it and dispose of it are all factors we can manage more sustainably, sometimes in innovative and beautiful ways.

Our key speaker is Cathy Angell, a sustainable landscape designer and permaculture advisor. Cathy was one of the key designers of the stormwater system at Earthsong Eco Neighbourhood, in West Auckland, and her presentation will show us how the houses and the layout of the neighbourhood were designed sustainably, including beautiful and practical planting of swales (drainage channels) and ponds. Cathy's special knowledge and expertise is in plant selection and design for sustainable gardens and landscapes. She says that many of the ideas can easily be used in our homes and gardens. Cathy's presentation will also show some of the aspects of the housing and layout of the Eco Neighbourhood.

We will also hear from Katrina Knill from the Department of Conservation about the Kaimai Catchment Project, in which community and resource management agencies and landowners are working together to reduce soil erosion in our rivers and streams, and improve our harbour water quality. Earlier this year, the NZ Landcare Trust won a coveted Green Ribbon Award in the "Caring for our water" category for this project.

Make a diary note now. Thursday August 25th - 7pm, Wesley Centre, 13th Avenue. Tauranga.