

YOUR CITY: YOUR SPACE

MAKING YOUR CITY SAFER

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win prizes!

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Melbourne Award?

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Roof to go green



The winning design by Bent Architecture

Melbourne is edging closer to a green city skyline, as the winners of the Committee for Melbourne's Growing Up green roof competition prepare to create a lush rooftop in the city at 131 Queen Street.

The Growing Up project aims to combat the effects of climate change by encouraging the creation of green roofs on Melbourne's buildings.

The Growing Up project team ran a competition offering central city building owners the chance to win a professionally designed and installed green roof.

For the competition, architects submitted design concepts for three city buildings selected for their suitability for green roofs: 131 Queen Street, 30 Collins Street and 234-236 Flinders Lane. Building owners

submitted their visions of how a green roof would be used and maintained in their building.

Bent Architecture took out first prize with the design, 'Head for the Hill', earning the company a \$10,000 cash prize and the chance to see the design come to life on the winning building - 131 Queen Street.

The design is a circular layout around a central, landscaped hill and includes rainwater tanks, a green wall system, edible and flowering plants, solar panels, and a variety of gathering spaces for the building's occupants.

The winning design will be installed by Brookfield Multiplex and Green Roof Technologies and is expected to be complete by the end of 2009.

Melbourne City Council Eco-city Committee Chair Cathy Oke said

green roofs insulate buildings, cut city temperatures, improve air quality, reduce solar radiation, capture rainwater and improve stormwater quality.

The City of Melbourne is one of the sponsors of the Growing Up project.

Want to talk about green roofs?

Check the City of Melbourne website at www.melbourne.vic.gov.au for details of the next meeting of The Canopy - Melbourne Green Roof Forums. There is also a green roof blog space at <http://greenroofs.wordpress.com>

NAPPIES TO REDUCE CARBON FOOTPRINTS

Did you know that around 3.75 million disposable nappies are thrown away every single day in Australia and New Zealand?

Most disposable nappies do not degrade in landfill sites. They contain plastic and gels that are simply not biodegradable.

Two childcare centres in the City of Melbourne are doing their bit to lessen the environmental damage, while educating local families to do the same.

The Central Carlton Children's Centre and Melbourne City Child Care have introduced a reusable nappies program which is having great success in reducing the number of disposable nappies going into landfill.

Reusable nappies are cloth washable nappies that can be used time and time

again. As well as having environmental benefits, they are cheaper in the long run.

Reusable nappies are fitted and come in a range of materials with fasteners.

The centres' staff discuss the benefits of the reusable nappies with parents, who can then elect whether their child will use cloth nappies while in care or if they would like to continue with disposable nappies.

The City of Melbourne, in partnership with the Australian Nappy Network, runs free information sessions about reusable nappies.

To arrange a free information session at your playgroup, childcare centre, workplace, or make a personal appointment, contact the City of Melbourne on (03) 9658 9658 or visit www.melbourne.vic.gov.au

Protecting our trees this summer

The City of Melbourne will be holding an eco-city forum, 'Our trees in a changing climate', on Thursday 8 October.

Eco-city Committee Chair, Councillor Cathy Oke, will host the session that will explore how the City of Melbourne is planning to help our drought-stressed trees this summer and respond to the challenges of climate change.

'In particular, we'll be looking at how the trees are coping with the impact of drought and climate change, our drought and extreme summer temperature management plan, and our longer term goals involving replacement trees, diversity and the urban forest concept,' Cr Oke said.

'Our trees in a changing climate' is on Thursday 8 October in the Yarra Room of the Melbourne Town Hall, 90 Swanston Street, Melbourne, from 6.30pm to 7.30pm.

Please RSVP to EcoCityForum@melbourne.vic.gov.au by 5pm, Monday 5 October.