

## **CIVIC GARDENS WETLAND NEARS COMPLETION**

Project partners City of Canning, Swan River Trust and South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare (SERCUL) are thrilled with the nearly completed Wharf Street Drain—Civic Gardens Wetland development located on the banks of the Canning River at the rear of the Civic & Administration Centre.

The City constructed the 4 hectare wetland with design and funding support from the Swan River Trust (SRT) through its Swan and Canning River Nutrient Intervention Programme. Planting of over 100,000 native reeds, sedges and upland native shrub plants within and adjacent to the wetland basins has been conducted by SERCUL.

The nutrient intervention project intercepts drainage water from a 129 hectare upstream catchment from residential and commercial land that once flowed directly into the Canning River. Diverting the water through a series of vegetated compensation basins and sub surface media ,strips out polluting nutrients and contaminants from the storm water before it reaches the river.

The wetland treats low and medium size storm water flows, particularly first flush rain storms which often transport significant contaminants. Large storm water flows bypass the wetland directly into the river to prevent upstream flooding in the catchment and to avoid erosion within the wetland itself.

The development provides an attractive parkland transition from the Civic and Administration Centre, its parklands and lakes to the unique natural environment of the Canning River Regional Park. It features walks and cycle paths, parkland shelter and barbeques, open grassed areas and shrub lands featuring locally endemic native plant species.

A small viewing platform and an informal canoe launch ramp will be constructed at the waters edge below nearby Babington Court.

Several of the sub surface flow systems use recycled crushed concrete as media to support microbial nutrient reduction. These will require some further modification in coming months to improve performance and aid further plant growth. Early monitoring of water quality shows the wetland removing substantial amounts of nutrient and contaminants from the storm water. Water quality will continue to be closely monitored by SRT to determine the level of nutrient reduction.

For further information about the wetlands, please contact City of Canning Parks staff on 9231 0655.

