



Tidy Towns

Sustainable Communities



Tidy Towns
**Winners'
Book
2012**



Department of Environment and Conservation
Department of Regional Development and Lands
Waste Authority





Natural Environment Conservation Award

The natural heritage of Western Australia is very diverse and unique and any project which demonstrates sustainable management or interpretation of the environment is eligible for a Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities award.

State Winner Natural Environment Conservation Gnaraloo

Gnaraloo Station is situated adjacent to the Ningaloo Marine Park in the Ningaloo Coast National Heritage listed area, and has significant rookeries of highly endangered sea turtles, including the third most significant Loggerhead breeding area in Western Australia (WA) as well as Hawksbill turtles and Green turtles.

It is a unique 'community' because it is one of the only non-mining owned pastoral stations in Australia with a full-time senior environmental scientist. A number of outstanding actions are being undertaken. These include an internationally renowned turtle monitoring program which engages three Marine Science graduates, a fox control program, seed bank establishment and litter prevention.

The Gnaraloo Turtle Conservation program was established in 2008 in order to monitor the numbers of endangered sea turtles in a rookery at Gnaraloo Bay. In the first week of monitoring there were confirmed losses of more than 30 per cent of turtle nests.

A fox baiting program was then established with partnership from Animal Pest Management Services. The fox baiting program has been so successful that no turtle nests have been lost to fox, dog, or cat predation in the last two years.



Visitors to Gnaraloo have access to educational materials including signage, a comprehensive website and pamphlets on subjects such as water use, waste management, firewood, beach driving, fish and sea turtles.

The effort, time and expense that have gone into these projects make Gnaraloo the very worthy state winner of the 2012 Natural Environment Conservation Award.

State Category Finalists

Kimberley
Derby Bush Rangers

Pilbara
Hedland

Midwest-Gascoyne
Gnaraloo

Goldfields and
Central Wheatbelt
Northam

Great Southern
and South Coast
Albany

South West
Walpole

