

Bottled Water Scourge Countered by Manly Council's Free Filtered Water

by Warren McLaren, Sydney on 09.10.08

Australia's Manly Council is striving to wean its residents and tourist visitors off bottled water. After Bondi Beach, Manly is possibly Australia's most well known beach suburb and thus attracts a plethora of visitors who often cross Sydney Harbour by ferry to get there. However being such a drawcard has its downsides, like the sheer volume of single-use, bottled water containers.



So the local municipal council have installed six free filtered-water fountains to “combat climate change and decrease our impact on the environment by reducing the purchase of bottled water and associated waste.” And impact there is. [The Age](#) newspaper commenting on the story gleaned figures which suggest that Australians slurped \$431 million AUD of bottled water last year.



Thirsty folk are encouraged to either drink direct from the water fountains, (known Down Under as ‘bubblers’) and to fill up their own reusable bottles, instead of buying bottled water.

Teamwork

The Bubbler Project is the result of Jon Dee (co-founder of Planet Ark) teaming up with Manly Mayor, Peter Macdonald, and Councillor, Barbara

Aird plus a filtered water company. Jon Dee's new campaign [The Bottle Water Alliance](#) and he has said, "The aim is to reduce bottled water use by 20% over two years."