



## NEWS IN THE REGION

**Perth Region NRM hosting the 2011 State NRM Conference in Perth**

**'Raising a glass to lower energy use in the Swan Valley' see page 2 for more information**

**Swan Landcare Program funding round closed for 2011**

**The 'Industrial Guidelines' are now available on the Perth Region NRM website**

## Perth Region NRM to host 2011 State NRM Conference

**Perth Region NRM is hosting the 2011 State NRM Conference in conjunction with International Symposium on Digital Earth 7 (ISDE7) and the WALIS Forum.**

This event will see the industries of digital earth technology; spatial sciences and natural resource management come together in one forum. The conference will be an exciting opportunity to share ideas, insights and innovations that will make a real difference to our world.

The ISDE is a non-political, non-governmental and not-for-profit international organisation which promotes international cooperation on the Digital Earth. ISDE aims to enable Digital Earth technology to play key roles in economic and social sustainable development, environmental protection, disaster mitigation, natural resources

conservation and improvement of human being's living standard.

WALIS Forum is one of the premier GIS conferences in Australia, attracting over 800 delegates from a diverse range of professions.

WALIS will be celebrating its 30 Year anniversary with a world-class conference with international speakers, interesting workshops, fabulous trade exhibition and brilliant Perth hospitality.

The 2011 Western Australian Natural Resource Management Conference provides an excellent opportunity for those associated with the natural environment to gather information about current best practice in natural resource management. The event aims to bring those with a view for conservation and sustainable management of the State's natural resources together in the one forum.

By holding ISDE7, WALIS Forum and the State Natural Resource Management Conference as a combined event, an exciting program will be on offer.

The three industries of digital earth modellers, the spatial sciences and natural resource management industries will come together to share ideas, insight and lessons learned on the way to becoming so important for the world we live in.

For more information please visit <http://www.isde7.net/>



## Raising a Glass to Lower Energy Use

Environment Minister Donna Faragher today launched a project aimed at improving winery energy management in Western Australia at Jane Brook Estate Wines in the Swan Valley.

The project '*Improving Winery Energy Management*' is funded in partnership between Perth Region NRM and the Grape Wine Research Development Corporation (GWRDC).

"The Australian wine industry has been working hard to regain its competitive advantage over emerging new world producers. Like all food and beverage production, turning grapes into wine requires significant amounts of energy, in fact it takes about 1.5 kW of electricity to produce just one litre of wine" said Keith Peikin, Project Officer at Perth Region NRM.

The project involves three wineries of different sizes and locations, Jane Brook Estate Wines, in the Swan Valley and Cape Mentelle and Ferngove in the South.

The three wineries are participating in Level 2 Energy Audits and implementing energy management strategies. The audits have been carried out by Perth Region NRM with Jane Brook Estate Wines being the first winery to go through the process.

"One of the key outcomes from this work will be the case studies that document the energy management strategies that have been developed at each site.

These case studies have been developed in partnership with the producers and the Wine Industry Association of WA. This is to ensure that they are relevant to all wine producers and will encourage

them to implement similar energy saving strategies to lower their energy use" says Keith.

Renewable energy suppliers such as Swan Energy are also working with Perth Region NRM and the Wine Industry to trial renewable energy options such as the 'Solar Tracker' which has been installed at Jane Brook Estate Wines to assess the cost effectiveness of renewable energy.

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