



**Media Release
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NEW WETLAND TO BE BUILT IN CARDIFF

Work has begun on the construction of a new wetland at Aruma Place, Cardiff to help control sediment and nutrient problems feeding into Lake Macquarie.

The project is the largest constructed wetland undertaken by The Office of the Lake Macquarie & Catchment Coordinator, worth over \$235,000.

Situated at the back of Cardiff industrial estate, it will treat storm water run-off from a catchment of 185 hectares, comprised mainly of residential and light industrial land uses. This type of catchment is associated with high nutrient loads and other contaminants in storm water run-off.

The watercourse from this area currently feeds into Cockle Creek.

The wetland has been specifically designed to collect sediment and reduce nutrients from the catchment's storm water flows. It will also filter out other impurities and elements, preventing them from entering the Lake.

The wetland will consist of three components; a sediment basin, two open water zones and two shallow reed areas.

"Wetlands are nature's way of filtering out sediments, nutrients and other contaminants before they enter the Lake. Worldwide research has shown that natural processes, such as those carried out by wetlands, significantly contribute to the Lake's health," Lake Macquarie & Catchment Coordinator Jeff Jansson said.

It is anticipated that the project will be completed in November.

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