

Harbour Town recycles wastewater



WATER WISE ...
Mayor Ron Clarke uses recycled water to give the Harbour Town gardens a drink.

Good for plants

A LEADING Gold Coast developer wants local businesses to install their own recycling plants for industrial operations.

The Lewis Land Group of Companies and ING, its joint venture partner at Harbour Town Shopping Centre, have spent more than \$300,000 on installing a water recycling plant.

The plant, which can recycle 30,000 litres of water an hour, services the shopping centre and public areas of adjoining Harbour Quays.

"This type of facility

By LAURA NELSON

should be encouraged to service other business and industrial environments," said Lewis Land managing director John Cleland.

"This will reduce the use of our precious potable water supplies."

The recycling plant at Harbour Town takes treated effluent from the council's wastewater system and treats it to A-Class standard.

The water is then used to water parks, gardens and public areas at Harbour Quays and Harbour Town.

Mr Cleland said the company investigated the recycling plant when it was planning development of Harbour Quays.

"The soft landscaping contract for Harbour Quays was more than \$2.3 million and we had to consider ways, given the current water restrictions, to ensure that all our parks and gardens could be maintained to our high standard."

He said the alternative would have been to truck recycled water from near the Runaway Bay Sports Super Centre, which would have been time-consuming and costly.

The plant takes water from the council's main pipes it through the estate to a holding tank where it is treated before it is used for irrigating. "Council's system pumps out on the outgoing tide twice a day, which gives us the ability to tap into the main and replenish the main holding tank."

Mr Cleland said an agreement between Lewis Land and the council eliminated any chance of the treated water coming into contact with potable water.