

STAFF PROFILE

Sandy McCathie

Sustainable Building Consultant & Director of ecoSAVVY

Born and raised in South Australia, ecoSAVVY founder, Sandy McCathie developed a passion for the environment from an early age. She was inspired by the plight of the Murray River, camping holidays in the Flinders Ranges and her mum – a high school science teacher with an interest in environmental conservation.

Sandy's early adult life was spent in Western Australia, living in both Perth and the Pilbara where she worked in the mining industry, before travelling extensively throughout Northern Australia and overseas.

Settling in Townsville with her husband in 2003, Sandy's interest in tropical design and sustainable housing emerged. Along with a passion to see Townsville's built form better accommodate our tropical climate and the unique lifestyle it can provide.

Today, Sandy has a Bachelor of Science Degree with Honours in the earth sciences – majoring in hydrology (Flinders University, SA) and post graduate qualifications in sustainability (Curtin University, WA). She attends conferences and workshops regularly to grow her knowledge and skills.

Her professional expertise includes sustainability, tropical design, behavioural change, environmental management, cleaner production and eco-efficiency in industrial, small business, research, consulting, not-for-profit and government organisations.

She is an accredited HIA GreenSmart Professional, a representative on the HIA NQ Technical Committee, and a member of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's Water Quality and Coastal Development Reef Advisory Committee.

Sandy is a proud member of the Australian Conservation Foundation www.acfonline.org.au, the Townsville Business Women's Network www.businesswomen.com.au and the Australian Green Development Forum www.agdf.org.au.

In 2005, Sandy was a finalist in the Emerging Business Woman category of the Townsville Business Woman of the Year Awards.

During 2008, Sandy enjoyed serving as President of the Friends of the Birth Centre Townsville. www.fbctownsville.org.au

Sandy and her husband, Dean enjoy life in Townsville. Initially living in a Queenslander, they have now 'downsized' to a breezy apartment. They enjoy fishing (especially up to Cape York – a near annual pilgrimage), travelling, spending time with family, and being parents to their daughter, Stella. They are pursuing a lifestyle that is both conscious and sustainable.

