

Where you live in Darwin is special

Did you know that where you live is special and so are 24 other areas in Darwin? Each area has its own unique environmental, recreational, social, cultural and land use characteristics and issues. Darwin City Council is developing an Environmental Management Plan to protect Darwin's environment and your quality of life into the future.

Did you know that environmental issues and concerns differ greatly across Darwin? For example, some pollution moves with stormwater. Stormwater flows into drains and mainly discharges into the harbour. Therefore, the things that we do can have a big impact on the quality of stormwater and its impact on the harbour.

Did you know that for us to protect what is important to you we have to know what we have in the first place? Our first step has been to create a 'map' of each area, which we call an Environmental Management Unit and these are then combined in an Atlas. To ensure that this Atlas "covers all the bases" we have started with what information we already know about each area and have identified what some of the issues are. Most importantly we need to be sure that:

- It represents the views of Darwin residents.
- Council is aware of what you would like to see protected now and into the future.
- Important environmental concerns, problems and issues in your neighbourhood are recorded so that Council's Action Plan reflects the wishes and expectations of the community as a whole.

Help us to protect your environment and have your say
Please take the time to complete and return the enclosed survey

To find out more – **Come and talk to your Aldermen and EMP Advisory Committee members at the Parap Markets on Saturday 25 March 2006, from 9:00 am**

Your Aldermen are Alderman Joanne Sangster phone: 0408 746 487 (Chairman, Environment Management Plan Advisory Committee)
Alderman Rodger Dee phone: 0439 751 954, Alderman Helen Galton phone: 0400 659 661
and Alderman Heather Sjoberg phone: 8981 0714 (A/H)

An Atlas extract for your local area is provided below. The full Atlas and all related strategies can be viewed at Darwin City Council Libraries at Casuarina, Karama, Nightcliff and City (Civic Centre) and on the Council website: www.darwin.nt.gov.au

EMP Atlas Extract for Mindil Beach/Bullocky Point Environmental Management Unit (EMU)

Description:

The MINDIL BEACH/ BULLOCKY POINT ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT UNIT (EMU) includes the suburb of The Gardens, about 5% of the CBD, Skycity Casino, George Brown Darwin Botanic Garden, the Gardens Park Golf Course, St Johns College and part of Darwin High School.

The Natural Environment:

- 7 maintained recreation parks including George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens, Mindil Beach Reserve, the Amphitheatre, Harriet Park, Dashwood Park and the grounds surrounding the ovals.
- 3 road reserves
- 1 Northern Territory registered site - George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens.
- 3 registered Trees of Significance
- 2 ovals including Gardens Oval and Palmerston Park Oval.

The Social and Built Environment:









- The Mindil Beach/ Bullocky Point EMU is home to approximately 1583 people from diverse and multicultural backgrounds.
- Architecture of the EMUs suburbs consists mostly of townhouse and units/ apartments with a small percentage of single occupancy low or elevated homes.
- The Register of the National Estate includes Burnett House, Mines House, Giese Residence, Bradley Residence, Gardens Cemetery, Former Navy Victualling shed, Tropical House, former Vestey's water tank.

Land Ownership:










Land ownership rests with a variety of stakeholders, including the Darwin City Council, Skycity, Parks and Wildlife Commission, private and commercial community (freehold).



Summary Table 1 - Known Values (Uses, Importance, Significance, Appeal, Attraction)

Social Values	Environmental Values	Recreational Values	Heritage/Cultural Values	Economic & Governance Values
<p>Mixed neighbourhood – emphasis on recreation (Botanic Gardens and beach) and tourism (multicultural markets).</p>  	<p>Vegetation communities/habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part of the Darwin foreshore listed on the Register of the National Estate. Sand dunes and intertidal fauna and flora habitat Marine habitats <p>Bullocky Point</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The cliffs at Bullocky Point display an easily interpreted unconformity between two types of sedimentary rocks and are a valuable educational resource. Cretaceous rock platforms in the area contain some of the few ichthyosaur fossils found in Australia outside the Queensland Artesian Basin. 	<p>Land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dining out Shopping Markets Walking/running Cycling Sunset viewing Bird watching Sailing/boating Windsurfing Lawn bowls 	<p>Foreshore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indigenous gathering place, potential for burial sites and/or shell middens   	<p>Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Darwin City Council  NT Government Agencies including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DPI) Department of Natural Resources, Environment and The Arts (NRETA) 
<p>Social aspects – emphasis on markets, gardens and water related recreational activities.</p> 	<p>Fauna and flora</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Crateva religiosa</i>, considered to be a nationally rare plant, occurs at Bullocky Point. Birds, including migratory species Bats and frogs Lizards and crocodiles 	<p>Aquatic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water skiing Sailing, boating Wind surfing Fishing Swimming 	<p>Places of cultural significance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burial Island is a significant sacred site Gardens Cemetery Register of National Estate listing 	<p>Commercial/ Corporate/ Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tourist/recreational activities including Botanic Gardens, Gardens Park Golf Course and Mindil Beach market.

Summary Table 2 Issues and Initiatives

Values	Issues	Initiatives	
		What?	Who?
<p>Environmental</p>  <p><i>Cycas armstrongii</i> Botanic Gardens. Registered 'Significant Tree'</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintaining vegetation/wildlife corridors Harbour management Erosion, foreshore degradation Weed invasion Litter and rubbish (land and water, in particular sharps, bottles, plastic, fast food wrappers) Acid sulphate soil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Draft Assessment of the Conservation Values of the Parks and Reserves of the Greater Darwin Area'. 'Central Darwin Planning Concepts and Land Use Objectives' 1999. Erosion amelioration Planning controls (erosion) Weed control Litter management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPI NRETA Development Assessment (DPI) Darwin City Council DPI NRETA Darwin City Council DPI NRETA Darwin City Council
<p>Social</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Itinerant camping and sleeping arrangement Public health Consumption of alcohol and associated amenity/peace disturbance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DCC Public places program Community patrol General patrols 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DCC Regulatory Services Mission Australia NT Police Service St Vincent De Paul
<p>Recreational</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jellyfish and crocodiles Health hazards from littering and mosquitoes  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crocodile trapping/relocation Crocodile and jellyfish warning signs Mosquito management (spraying) Public place litter program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPI NRETA Territory Health Darwin City Council
<p>Heritage/cultural</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognition and respect of sacred sites Protection of heritage building Protection of registered Trees of Significance  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 2004 Heritage Conservation Act 2000 Interpretive signage on trees listed on Significant Tree register 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority DPI NRETA Greening Australia 
<p>Commercial/business/ industry</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial/retail/wharf waste disposal Sewage/ballast water disposal from mainly recreational shipping Littering (retail, tourism, recreation) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shoal Bay landfill Public place litter program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Darwin City Council

Examples of current environmental protection action by Darwin City Council include:

- Biodiversity - fauna and flora surveys at Rapid Creek and Lake Alexander
- Public places litter audits for 400 ha of bush and park lands managed by Council
- Construction of a \$1,250,000 million Regional Recycling and Resource Recovery Facility at Shoal Bay Waste Depot
- Development of an Energy Conservation Plan for Darwin City Council in partnership with the Cities for Climate Protection Program
- Environmental education programs with Darwin schools, including recycling education and the "Champions for the Environment Darwin" program whereby individual schools champion a problem site and work to enhance or protect native habitats and/or waterways