

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 Sadgrove Creek/Winnellie West Environmental Management Unit (EMU)

Description:

The SADGROVE CREEK/ WINNELLIE WEST ENVIRONMENTAL UNIT (EMU) includes parts of the suburbs of Bayview Haven, Woolner and Winnellie. It also includes a large portion of Charles Darwin National Park.

The Natural Environment:

- 3 maintained recreation parks including Fanning Drive Park, Seascapes Park, and Brain Chong Wee Park.
- 6 road reserves including the street trees on Bayview, Hickman Street, Benison Street, Winnellie, drainage easement, and the seawall.
- 1 National Park - Charles Darwin National Park
- 2 registered Trees of Significance

The Social and Built Environment:





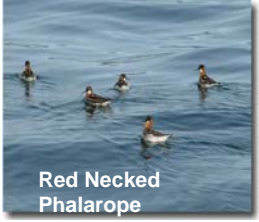


- The Sadgrove Creek/ Winnellie EMU is home to approximately 1890 people from diverse and multicultural background.
- Architecture of the EMUs suburbs consists mostly of single occupancy low or elevated homes, while Winnellie is a light industrial area.
- 1 Register of the National Estate - North Australia Railway Darwin to Pine Creek in Winnellie
- Marina

Land Ownership:











Land ownership rests with a variety of stakeholders, including NT Government, Darwin City Council, Department of Defence, 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>Multicultural neighbourhood – emphasis on social and recreational gathering</p>	<p>Vegetation communities/habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extensive mangrove communities (mangal), that have a vital ecological role. They protect Darwin from storm surges and coastal erosion, improve water quality by acting as a sink for sediments and Intertidal fauna and flora habitats Estuarine and other marine habitats. <i>Eucalyptus miniata</i> woodland 	<p>Land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Picnic and BBQ Bushwalking Cycling Bird watching 	<p>Foreshore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indigenous gathering place, shell middens The Mangal is used by the local Larrakia people as a food source. 	<p>Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Darwin City Council Parks and Wildlife (Department of Natural Resources, Environment and The Arts- NRETA) Department of Defence
<p>Social aspects – emphasis on outdoor recreational activities</p>   	<p>Fauna and flora</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population of the orchid, <i>Nervilia plicata</i>, listed as 'data deficient' on the NT Threatened Species List. High density of <i>Cycas armstrongii</i>, listed as 'Vulnerable' on the NT Threatened Species List. Small mammals The False Water Rat, considered vulnerable, possibly occurs as it has been found in similar mangrove habitat in Arnhem Land. Little is known about this species. Major nursery area for marine life, including fish species as well as supporting many other fauna species. Harbour supports a number of species of special conservation significance. Little is known about their status or the occurrence of other species, as few surveys have been done. These include Dugong, listed as vulnerable to extinction with the World Conservation Union; sea Turtles, listed as vulnerable, and the Bottlenose and Indo Pacific Humpback Dolphins commonly occur in the harbour. At least forty-eight species of waterbirds occur, of which twenty-five are listed under treaties. Notable mangrove/mudflat inhabitants include Great-Billed Heron, Chestnut Rail and Beach Thick Knee. Rare species recorded: Red Necked Phalarope, Sabine's Gull, and Black Tailed Gull. At least fifteen migrant shorebird species occur. The harbour is one of the best places in the world for seeing mangrove birds, because of the number of mangrove species and the accessibility of the mangroves from the nearby city. 	<p>Aquatic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing Boating/sailing   	<p>Places of cultural significance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Old defence storage structures at Charles Darwin Ex-firing range NP for defence 	<p>Commercial/corporate/business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Light Industrial 

Summary Table 2 Issues and Initiatives

Values	Issues	Initiatives	
		What?	Who?
<p>Environmental</p>  	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintaining vegetation/wildlife corridors Harbour management Changes to landforms and soils by filling, dumping, and excavating. Changes to hydrology due to increased urbanisation, filling and drainage works. Water quality – decline due to pollution from chemicals, nutrients, sediments, bacteria and litter. Uncontrolled vehicle and pedestrian access to the mangrove and estuarine communities Water weed Infestation Erosion – foreshore degradation Weed invasion Litter and rubbish Feral & domestic dogs and cats Over harvesting of fish, crustaceans and shellfish 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.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erosion amelioration and Weed control Litter management and dog patrol 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DPI) NRETA Development Assessment (DPI) Darwin City Council DPI NRETA Parks and Wildlife, NRETA  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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"> Fires Health hazards from littering and mosquitoes 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parks and Wildlife, NRETA NT Fire and Rescue Territory Health
<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 significant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 2004 Heritage Conservation Act 2000 Interpretive signage in trees listed on Significant Tree register 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority DPI DNRETA Greening Australia 
<p>Commercial/Business/Industry</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood mitigation Hazardous/ industry waste disposal Conducting or developing businesses that carry the risk to release pollutants in an area with high environmental values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 2003 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPI DPI NRETA 

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