

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

DOMESTIC GREEN WASTE DISPOSAL

CURRENT SITUATION

The green waste bins are emptied on average once a week utilising a Fuso hook truck. Green waste is also regularly dumped adjacent to the skips. A tip truck and backhoe are further utilised to remove the excess green waste at the bin locations as well as clean the empty concrete pads that continue to be used for green waste littering.

The green waste bins are currently located on Providence Circuit, Wuyal Road, Chippis Road, Jasper Road, Singing Rocks Road, Pandora Circuit and Whitewood Circuit.

NC employees have been required to remove this green waste due to concerns around fire hazards as well as providing habitat to dangerous animals - snakes in particular.



DECISION

In the interests of improving work practices and effective allocation of resources, the Board of Directors and Town Board members have united to decide to cease the provision of green waste bins. This service will cease as of 1 November 2019.

The Nhulunbuy Waste Management Facility provides all residents of Nhulunbuy free access to offload any residential green waste free of charge.

BENEFITS

The following benefits are expected to be achieved:

- Reduced labour requirements
- Reduced plant requirements
- Reduced littering – long term
- Improved town amenity
- Increased community ownership and awareness
- Increased labour available to attend to town maintenance
- Improved safety and reduced risks



FAQ's

Why have you taken away a service that has been there for so long?

We continually assess our practices to ensure continuous improvement, and like this practice we review those we think are not working as was originally intended. Unfortunately, there is as much green waste being littered as there is going into the waste bins. Therefore, it is not effective, and having a free waste site close to town provides all residents with the opportunity to dispose of their domestic green waste free of charge.

How are you going to manage littering?

We currently are managing considerable littering, using community messages and signage which will continue. We understand there may be continued littering until increased community awareness is increased. We also have authority within the NT Litter Act to infringe those who are found to have littered, which will be applied as required.

How will this benefit the community?

The costs savings associated with reducing labour and plant costs will be able to be allocated to other priorities in the community. The savings in the budget for 2019 will assist to enable the following projects:

- Playground equipment – renewal and upgrades,
- Pathway Plan
- Bouncy Castle – Aquatic centre
- New fencing (ovals and waste site)
- Improved town maintenance

What will happen to the concrete pads?

There will be a risk assessment conducted, and those considered a safety concern will be removed. The remaining pads will be open to suggestions and ideas from the community, particularly young people on re-purposing them. This could involve a combination of suitable games, art works and the like.

How will you communicate what's happening to the community?

There will be a series of communications across the next 7 months to ensure the community are well prepared for the change. This will include:

- Detailed information on the website
- One page – brief information, distributed across social media, website, email, hard copy at the office
- Social media messages and count down to 1st November 2019
- Radio community message and live information sessions
- Continuing to monitor to deliver best value to the community.

Any queries can be directed to the Administration office by calling: 8939 2200