

NORTHERN TERRITORY CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DARWIN CORRECTIONAL CENTRE

Community Support Program - Guidelines

The Community Support Program (CSP) undertakes work activity outside the Correctional Centres. The program operates at both Darwin and Alice Springs Correctional Centres.

Community Service work is performed by low security prisoners for the elderly and disabled (on proof of a Pensioner Concession Card/Disabled Pension Card), non-profit organisations or other bodies as approved by the prison Deputy Superintendent of the Living Skills Unit. Requests for assistance are also directed on occasion through Local Government Associations for assistance in remote communities. Key tasks include rubbish removal, lawn mowing, whipper snipping, some tree lopping, painting, concreting, graffiti removal, furniture removal, hedge trimming, general cleaning and public relations.

Work is also generated by Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA's) on behalf of constituents in their respective electorates. Major events in principal towns play a significant part in workloads throughout the Territory. Calls for assistance to carry out work on a regular basis also come from other government agencies such as:

- Department of Planning and Infrastructure;
- Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines;
- Department of Health and Community Services;
- Department of Employment, Education and Training; and
- Department of Local Government, Housing and Sport.

Community groups that regularly receive assistance from the CSP are:

- Royal Darwin Show Society
- Fred's Pass Show
- Darwin Turf Club
- Beer Can Regatta
- Pre-cyclone clean ups
- Darwin City Council
- Palmerston City Council
- Darwin beaches
- Salvation Army
- Pensioners
- Greening Australia
- Banyan House
- Drug and Alcohol Services
- Scouts and Guides
- RSPCA
- Riding for the Disabled
- Disability Services
- Red Cross
- BMX Clubs
- Arafura Games

Process for requests for assistance from CSP:

All requests from MLAs' Electorate Offices must be forwarded via email or facsimile to the Deputy Superintendent, Living Skills Unit, Darwin Correctional Centre, on the CSP Request Form providing all relevant details as indicated on the form (refer to attached form).

The Deputy Superintendent will liaise with the CSP Coordinator at the Darwin Correctional Centre to determine whether the job can be included on the CSP Schedule. The Deputy Superintendent will advise the respective Electorate Officer of whether the job has been added to the schedule.

Once a request for on going ground maintenance has been approved by the Deputy Superintendent and included on the CSP Schedule, ground maintenance will normally be conducted on a calendar month cycle. During the wet season or at times of heavy workload this cycle may vary up to 6 weeks between visits.

If the applicant vacates the premises, the new tenant of that premises will have to lodge a request for assistance from the CSP. If the applicant vacates the premises and transfers to other premises a new request for assistance from the CSP will have to be lodged.

Note that the CSP Coordinator will make direct contact with the person requiring assistance if it has been established that the job can be fitted onto the CSP Schedule and will make arrangements for a suitable date to carry out the work in consultation with the applicant.

Remember, only the elderly and disabled (on proof of Pensioner Concession/Disabled Pension Card), non-profit organisations or other bodies as approved by the Deputy Superintendent, Living Skills Unit, Darwin Correctional Centre, can receive assistance from the CSP.

Contact:

Deputy Superintendent
Living Skills Unit
Darwin Correctional Centre
NT Correctional Services
Department of Justice
Phone: 8922 0111
Fax: 8922 0443