

# How the 9-11 Junior Ranger Program Runs



The Junior Ranger Program is coordinated by the Community Education Unit, Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts.

Office Hours (all regions): Monday - Friday, 8 am - 4.21 pm

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## THE PROGRAM:

The 9 - 11 year old Junior Ranger Program provides an opportunity for Northern Territory youth to discover their natural and cultural environment through practical, nature-based activities.

## COST:

The Program is provided free of charge with the majority of associated costs being met by the Program. However members may be required to pay a minimal fee for some activities, but will be advised of this.

## MEMBERSHIP:

The opportunity to join the Program is limited to certain times of the year and restrictions on membership numbers may apply. Membership to the Junior Ranger Program is advertised by various means prior to the commencement of the school year.

Potential members must be between 9 and 11 years of age at the commencement of the program in April. Membership is valid for 1 year and members need to reapply each year.

Potential members will be required to provide the name of a teacher who may be contacted to provide a reference to support their application. Due to the limited number of membership places available and in fairness to all applicants, acceptance into the Program will be based on the applicants ability to commit to the Program and attend activities. Should an application be unsuccessful, the applicant will be advised.

As part of membership, Junior Rangers receive 4 issues of the Junior Ranger Review, a free quarterly environmental magazine packed full of information and puzzles on our terrific NT flora and fauna.

## ACTIVITIES:

Activities are usually conducted after school on Tuesdays or Thursdays and on Sundays and during school holidays between April and October. Activity duration is usually 1.5 hours although longer activities may sometimes be programmed. All activities promote environmental awareness.

A brochure advertising upcoming activities is issued every two months. Activities may range from investigating bush tucker, mammal trapping and nature craft to frog watching, spotlight walks and quiz nights. Family activities are held regularly. On these occasions all family members are welcome and at least one parent/guardian **must** accompany the Junior Ranger. Most activities are conducted in local Parks and Wildlife Parks and Reserves. Some outer region and non-park venues are visited occasionally.



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## BOOKING ACTIVITIES:

Junior Rangers may choose a maximum of two activities a month. Bookings for activities open on a given date and time and can be made by ringing the phone number provided in the activities brochure. The booking line can become congested, so please persevere.

## NOTIFICATION:

A minimum of 10 bookings are required to run an activity. The program reserves the right to cancel the activity if bookings are below this threshold. Notice will be given during the week of the activity.

## COMMITMENT:

Once activities are booked, a letter of notification is sent to the member. This is to remind the member of the activities they have booked. This letter lists details of the activity including items Junior Rangers need to bring along on the day.

## NON ATTENDANCE:

Members are expected to attend all activities they book. If a Junior Ranger is unable to attend an activity they must contact the office or call the mobile to advise of their non-attendance (please see 'Contact in the Field' for times when the mobile will be switched on).

## TRANSPORT:

With three or more non-attendances without good reason or prior notice, it will be assumed that the member no longer wishes to remain with the Program and will have their membership cancelled. Cancelled members will be notified and advised of the re-enrolment procedure.

## MAPS:

It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to transport or to organise transport for Junior Rangers to and from all activities.

## CONTACT IN THE FIELD:

Maps of activity locations are provided so that you can find your way to our meeting points.

## FIRST AID:

A mobile phone is carried on all activities and for your convenience will be switched on 30 minutes prior to activities, during activities and for 30 minutes after the scheduled finishing time. There is a voicemail diversion service should we be unable to take the call. A portable satellite phone is carried in remote areas. Details of how to contact us in remote areas will be supplied prior to such an activity.

## SUPERVISION:

A first aid kit is carried on all activities and Program staff are qualified in Senior First Aid. **It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to ensure that all necessary medications are carried by their child(ren).**

## UNIFORM:

On children only activities, Junior Rangers are supervised on a ratio of one adult per 15 children. On family activities, at least one parent/guardian **must** attend with the Junior Ranger. Throughout family activities discipline and supervision remain the responsibility of the parent/guardian. Program staff will manage the group but will not be responsible for supervising or disciplining children.

## BEHAVIOUR:

After attending 3 activities participants are to advise the Junior Ranger Coordinator in order to be issued with their uniform. This consists of a polo shirt and hat provided free of charge. It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to provide brown shorts/trousers. Uniforms are to be worn to all activities. Footwear appropriate for the activity is indicated in the letter of notification.

## PRIVACY:

Program participants will be expected to abide by a Code of Conduct. Unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated.

Any information that you provide will only be available to the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts and it will only be used for its intended purpose. For further information this Department's Privacy Statement can be viewed at <http://www.nt.gov.au/nreta/>

