



Northern Territory Government
Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts



Communities to Combat Weeds during Weedbuster Week 2006

Territorians can help destroy invasive weeds by taking action as part of Weedbuster Week, a nation-wide event from 7th – 14th October 2006 to help combat weeds.

Weedbuster Week will be launched by 'Woody Weed', a national weedbuster mascot, on Saturday October 7th at Casuarina Shopping Square.

Woody will appear as part of the travelling weed show hosted by the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts (NRETA) Weed Management Branch, that will be visiting major centers around Darwin, providing information on major weeds throughout the Northern Territory.

NRETA Weeds Extension Coordinator, Alison Derry, says people will be able to come along and find out about local weeds and how to manage them on their properties.

"Many of the NT's plants, bushes and trees are in fact potential weeds that are causing considerable environmental and financial devastation which can cost the NT community hundreds of thousands of dollars each year," she said.

"Woody the Weed will be handing out information packs on local weeds of the Top End and there will be plenty of give away's for kids."

Ms Derry said the theme for this year's Weedbuster Week is '*Communities combating weeds*' and will include activities such as clean-up days, competitions/quizzes and games, informative talks and presentations, and much more.

"Family activities will commence on Saturday at the Territory Wildlife Park and Windows on the Wetlands," she said.

"There will be up to 20 activities planned throughout the NT, where members of the general public can get together and address weed problems as well as raise weed awareness with their children through active participation.

"Schools are welcome to participate in any of the organised activities and should contact the event coordinators to arrange this. They can find out these details by visiting www.weedbusterweek.info.au.

"Many hands make light work and Weedbuster Week will allow community volunteers to work as one against weeds.

“It’s a great way for urban and rural people to work together on an issue that affects all of Australia.”

The week will be coordinated by the NRETA Weed Management Branch and supported by the Territory Wildlife Park, Windows on the Wetlands, Bushfires NT, Parks Australia, Conservation Volunteers Australia and local Landcare groups.

Ends

Media Note – For more information contact Alison Derry on (08) 8999 4557 or 0428855162 or visit the Weedbuster Week Site www.weedbusterweek.info.au or contact

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