

Territory's Lifestyle and Environment

The Territory is a great place to live, work and raise a family. The Government is committed to making our lifestyle even better and ensuring our unique environment is protected.

Investing in Our Parks

Our parks provide recreational opportunities for Territory families, promotes tourism and creates jobs in the Territory and preserves our pristine environment for current and future generations to enjoy.

Budget 2008 includes:

- \$5.2 million to upgrade Leanyer Recreation Park, featuring new water slides and more shade
- \$4.4 million to upgrade facilities at Litchfield National Park, part of a \$7.5 million program
- \$1.5 million to build the new Fogg Dam Monsoon Forest Boardwalk
- \$1.5 million to develop the Red Centre Way Interpretative Centre for the West MacDonnell National Park

Supporting Territory Sport

Budget 2008 provides \$25.8 million for sport and recreation throughout the Territory including:

- \$6.4 million for sport and recreation grants to support clubs, administrators, volunteers and communities

- a \$1 million initiative for grants for community sporting facilities

Supporting Events and Facilities

The Northern Territory continues to attract key events and improve sporting facilities including:

- the Crusty Demons
- the Arafura Games to be held 9-17 May 2009
- the Masters Games to be held in Alice Springs in October 2008
- 3 One Day International Cricket matches against Bangladesh
- a pre-season National Rugby League match
- V8 Supercars in June 2008
- high quality AFL matches
- Heineken Hottest 7's in the World Rugby Tournament
- completion of the \$4.8 million Marrara outdoor netball centre
- \$0.9 million towards the upgrade of Hidden Valley Raceway facilities

Territory's Lifestyle and Environment

Fishing in the Territory

Budget 2008 supports boat ramp improvements across the Territory including:

- \$4.6 million for continuing works to provide a new boat ramp and associated facilities at East Arm
- \$0.45 million to construct a new pontoon at Dinah Beach
- \$1 million to improve fishing infrastructure across the Top End

Climate Change

Budget 2008 provides \$11 million over three years to tackle climate change through:

- \$5 million for a package of incentives to encourage businesses and households to reduce their energy use
- \$6 million to improve Government's own carbon footprint with upgrades to facilities such as schools and health clinics

In addition:

- \$1.07 million will be spent on the Alice Springs Solar City program to help local communities save energy
- \$10.8 million to deliver clean energy to remote Indigenous communities

Territory Music Events

Budget 2008 continues funding for Bass in the Grass, featuring Powderfinger, and Bass in the Dust.

Elton John will perform in the Territory for the first time and will be supported by the Territory's own Geoffrey G Yunupingu.

Territory Arts

\$5.25 million in arts grants are available this year, including \$0.3 million for public art for artistic and creative Territorians.

An additional \$0.78 million will be provided to support the Darwin Festival over the next three years.

Protection of Our Environment

For 2008-09 an extra \$2 million will be provided to support the Bushfire NT volunteers and brigades. This will assist in preventing, managing and responding to fire hazard.

Additional ongoing funding of \$0.5 million will be provided to implement the National Water Initiative and improve management of the Territory's water resources.

An air quality program will be established for the Darwin region at a cost of \$0.7 million.

\$0.56 million for environmeNT grants will be available to community groups, councils, organisations, industry bodies and associations.