

Alice Springs Landcare Inc Celebrating National Tree Day

A community tree planting at Dixon Road Community Park in Alice Springs was made possible through an Environment Grant from Power and Water.

Alice Springs Landcare celebrated National Tree Day 2009 by planting and mulching 220 trees and shrubs at Dixon Road Community Park.

The grant, along with support from other project partners, also assisted Alice Springs Landcare to achieve:

- installing over 900m of irrigation lines, and planting 80 seedlings (by students from Batchelor Institute)
- completion of accredited training for 16 students in Conservation and Land Management studies
- 24 Year 6 students from Braitling Primary School taking part in a Schools Tree Day event
- the promotion of Landcare activities on ABC radio and in the Centralian Advocate
- installation of 40m of bollards to protect a sacred corkwood tree from disturbance by vehicles.

Tree planting has now been completed in all areas of the park, which will ensure the cover of local native species well into the future and create a habitat for birds and animals.



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desertSMART EcoFair Spreading the word

More than 1100 people attended the desertSMART EcoFair 2009 at Olive Pink Botanic Gardens in September 2009 – an event made possible by an Environment Grant from Power and Water.

Organised by desertSMART COOLmob and the Arid Lands Environment Centre, the EcoFair brought together a range of government services, businesses and community organisations such as Birds Australia and Indigenous groups. The EcoFair included 35 stalls and 18 presentations and workshops.

On the day, ABC radio broadcast from the site, conducting vox pops and interviews. Garden sales and bird week activities brought people in, along with kids' activities such as face painting and paper making workshops. The EcoFair also featured Qi Gong and drumming workshops, free bike services and a raffle for those choosing to walk or ride to Olive Pink.

Organisers believe the desertSMART EcoFair 2009 set the standard for environmentally-focused events in Alice Springs.



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YMCA Katherine Flushed with success

The YMCA of Katherine was successful in gaining funding from Power and Water to install water saving devices in the bathroom facilities of the Henry Scott Recreation Centre.

In line with the 2008–2012 YMCA Vision, which includes a Commitment to Environment, the YMCA of Katherine wanted to start “environmentally proofing” the current building.

The organisation decided to start small with tasks that could be completed without requiring major structural changes.

In the women’s, men’s and disabled bathrooms the following was installed:

- water saving cisterns for flushing on 16 toilets
- water saving rose heads on 10 showers
- push tap timing buttons on three basins.

The energy rating for the toilet cisterns is 4 stars with just 4.5 litres used per full flush and 3 litres per half flush. The average per flush is 3.5 litres of water.

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