

Darwin International Airport

# ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT

An Information Handbook for Operators at the Airport



**DISCLAIMER:**

While we've taken every care in preparing the information in this booklet you remain responsible for making sure that you understand the nature and extent of your environmental obligations and for taking the actions needed to meet them.



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# INTRODUCTION

We've prepared this booklet to help you to understand your environmental obligations at Darwin International Airport (Darwin Airport / the Airport). We've also provided information of a general nature that may help you to meet those obligations.

While we've taken every care in preparing the information in this booklet you remain responsible for making sure that you understand the nature and extent of your environmental obligations and for taking the actions needed to meet them.

# LEGISLATION

The *Airports Act 1996 (the Act)* and the *Airports (Environment Protection) Regulations 1997* (the Regulations) apply specifically at Federal Airports.

The **Darwin International Airport Environment Strategy** (the Strategy), which is a requirement of the Act and which describes our environmental management objectives and the actions we will take to achieve them, is also applicable.

These requirements are overseen and, where necessary, enforced by the **Airport Environment Officer** (AEO). The AEO is a statutory office holder of the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. The Act, the Regulations and the Strategy are

legally binding on all operators at the Airport - This not only includes the operator of Darwin Airport but all other operators at the Airport. That is, all lessees and sub-lessees, contractors and sub-contractors as well as casual or visiting operators at the Airport; indeed, anyone that has business at the Airport.

Because Darwin Airport operates on Commonwealth land all other federal legislation applies on Airport, including the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the *EPBC Act*) and the *EPBC Regulations 2000*, which provide for the management and protection of Australian and internationally significant species of flora, fauna, ecological communities and heritage places.

# TERRITORY LEGISLATION ALSO APPLIES

Territory legislation relating to Occupational Health and Safety matters, pollution from motor vehicles, ozone depleting substances and the use of pesticides also applies at Darwin Airport.

Moreover, other Territory legislation may apply at Darwin Airport in so far as it can

operate concurrently with Commonwealth legislation.

It is your responsibility to establish and understand which current Territory legislation applies in your workplace.

The following Acts and regulations may be applicable to your business.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION	RELEVANCE
<i>Bushfires Management Act 2016</i>	This Act outlines regulations and establishes penalties for certain acts relating to lighting fires.
<i>Fire and Emergency Act 1996</i> <i>Fire and Emergency Regulations 1996</i>	This Act outlines the establishment of the Northern Territory fire and rescue service, the operational and emergency response activities of the service, the protection of life, property and the environment against fires and other emergencies and for related purposes.
<i>Business Tenancies (Fair Dealings) Act 2003</i>	This Act applies to certain retail shops and premises leased for business purposes. Amongst other provisions, the Act sets out a regime of obligations for a landlord in entering into a lease, the terms of a lease and the resolution of disputes.
<i>Heritage Act 2011</i> <i>Heritage Regulations 2012</i>	<p>This Act provides a system for the identification, assessment, recording, conservation and protection of places and objects of prehistoric, protohistoric, social, aesthetic or scientific value. This includes geological structures, fossils, archaeological sites, ruins, buildings, gardens, landscapes, coastlines, plant and animal communities or ecosystems of the Territory. Although Aboriginal sacred sites and movable property located on those sites are excluded from the Act, it covers Aboriginal portable objects, such as ceremonial objects, log / bark coffins, human remains, portable rock / wood carvings or engravings and stone tools.</p> <p>Under this Act, it is an offence to desecrate or damage such objects without approval. All declared places and objects are located on the NT Heritage Register. The NT Archaeological Resources Database, maintained by the Heritage Branch (NT), is also established under the Act.</p> <p>Under the Heritage Conservation Act, the Chief Executive Officer of the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA) must be notified of the discovery of an Aboriginal burial site or skeletal remains, and has power to make decisions about appropriate protection of an Aboriginal burial site.</p>
<i>Litter Act 1972</i>	This Act outlines regulations and establishes penalties for certain offences relating to litter.
<i>Motor Vehicle (Standards) Regulations - Australian Vehicle Standard Rules</i>	This Act outlines Australian vehicle standard rules to ensure that vehicles do not emit visible emissions for a continuous period of greater than 10 seconds, unless the emissions are visible only because of heat or the condensation of water vapour.

<i>Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989</i>	<p>This is a key piece of legislation protecting Indigenous heritage in the NT. This Act protects Aboriginal Sacred Sites in the NT, mainly through the avoidance of sacred sites under Authority Certificates.</p> <p>The Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA) was established under this act. AAPA holds both a register of Authority Certificates and a register of Sacred Sites. Under this Act, all sacred sites in the NT are protected regardless of whether or not they are registered. The advantage of registration is that it increases the level of protection of the site, partly because the owner of the land must be informed of the registration process. The significance of a registered site is also immediately accepted in a court of law.</p>
<i>Soil Conservation and Land Utilisation Act 1969</i>	<p>This Act makes provision for the prevention of soil erosion and for the conservation and reclamation of soil.</p>
<i>Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1976</i>	<p>This Act provides for the establishment, study, protection, conservation and sustainable utilisation of Territory Parks and Reserves, and NT wildlife.</p>
<i>Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998</i>	<p>This Act protects and where practicable, restores and enhances the quality of the NT environment; encourages ecologically sustainable development and facilitates the implementation of National Environment Protection Measures (NEPMs) established by the National Environment Protection Council.</p> <p>This Act specifies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- That in carrying out an activity that generates waste, take all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent or minimise environmental harm and to reduce the amount of waste. In choosing the measures, consider the nature of the harm, the sensitivity of the receiving environment, best practice for the activity, and the financial implications of implementing the measures.</li> <li>- Do not store a contaminant or waste where it is reasonably likely that it could leak, spill, or escape from storage into the environment and cause environmental harm.</li> </ul>
<i>Water Act 1992</i>	<p>This Act provides for the investigation, use, control, protection, management and administration of water resources in the NT. It must be noted that the Act prohibits the release of "restricted substances" into watercourses but no such substances have yet been prescribed. Water quality standards have been declared by notice in the Gazette.</p>
<i>Weeds Management Act 2001</i> <i>Weeds Management Regulation 2006</i>	<p>Seeks to prevent the spread of weeds in, into and out of the NT and to ensure that the management of weeds is an integral component of land management in accordance with the NT Weeds Management Strategy 1996 - 2005 or any other strategy adopted to control weeds in the NT.</p>
<i>Dangerous Goods Act 1998</i>	<p>This Act sets out general duties for the manufacture, storage, transport, transfer, sale and use of dangerous goods.</p>
<i>Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011</i> <i>Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulations 2011</i>	<p>This Act regulates workplace health and safety (WHS) in the Northern Territory. It specifically aims to protect people at workplaces from risk to their health or safety and to promote safe and healthy work environments. The act was introduced as part of the 'harmonisation' package of Federal, State and Territory work health and safety legislation that commenced on 1 January 2012. (Note: NSW, Queensland, the ACT, the NT and the Commonwealth all commenced on that date. The remaining states have not yet joined the harmonised jurisdictions.)</p>

# YOUR DUTY OF CARE

The *Airports Act 1996 (the Act)* makes it an offence to cause environmental pollution and creates the concept of environmental harm and environmental nuisance.

The Regulations place a “duty of care” on all operators at Darwin Airport to prevent pollution and to preserve the environment of the Airport.

This means that operators must:

- » Take all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent pollution and ensure there are no adverse environmental consequences from their operations; and if prevention isn't possible;
- » Take all reasonable and practicable measures to minimise pollution and adverse environmental consequences from their operations.

To show that you've done everything that could be done to prevent pollution or that you've taken action to minimise pollution where prevention isn't possible, you must:

- » Make sure you have identified and assessed all the environmental risks associated with your operations;
- » Adopt or install appropriate measures to prevent pollution – or to minimise it if prevention is not possible;
- » Check and maintain your pollution control measures on a regular basis to make sure they operate effectively.

# ENVIRONMENT INCIDENTS

You must notify Airport Operations on **0402 088 145** as soon as you become aware of an incident that may cause environmental harm (e.g. a fuel or chemical spills, dumped waste materials).

Spill Response Kits are provided on airside aprons for quick response to fuel, chemical or sewerage spills. Ensure your staff are familiar with the airport spill response procedures.





# AIR

The Regulations define *air pollution* as the presence of a substance in the air that can cause environmental harm or unreasonable inconvenience to another person, and establish standards for the protection of air quality at the Airport.

Darwin Airport is required to monitor air quality and if pollution is detected during monitoring we are required to notify the AEO. Dust, gases, smoke and other particulates from your activities or the products and equipment you use in your operations can cause air pollution.

Particulate emissions or dust have the greatest potential to affect off site air quality for the Airport, and can be generated by clearing of vegetation, subsoil removal and stockpiling, excavation, vehicle movement and wind erosion from exposed areas. Dust emissions may potentially impact upon sensitive receptors near the Airport if not controlled.

To protect air quality at the Airport you must:

- » Prevent uncontrolled emissions of substances that can cause air pollution from your premises and activities.
- » Advise the Property Manager on 08 8920 1834 if you intend to install a ventilation or extraction system at your premises.

Further actions you can take to protect air quality at the Airport include:

- » Source and use low volatile products (paints); use water based or biodegradable products where practicable.
- » Minimise the use of solvent products and keep them stored in a sealed container when not in use.
- » Use a spray booth or a sand blasting booth if you regularly spray paint or sand blast parts as part of your business activities.
- » Maintain spray paint booth and dust extraction systems regularly. Change filters when required and as recommended by the manufacturer of the equipment or your servicing agent.
- » Inspect and maintain your air conditioning plant cooling towers as required.
- » Inspect and maintain air conditioning units regularly to ensure refrigerant gases aren't escaping.
- » Install and use fire extinguishers that are appropriate for the type of fires that could occur in your premises.
- » Obtain a Halon special permit if you do need to store BCF extinguishers on your premises.<sup>1</sup>
- » Don't burn materials or light fires at the Airport - It's not permitted. Apart from being an air pollutant smoke is an operational hazard.
- » All tenants must take preventative measures to minimise fugitive dust sources as part of daily operations.

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<sup>1</sup> A Halon special permit is required if you store BCF extinguishers anywhere other than in an aircraft.

EcOz Environmental  
Scientist conducting  
surface water monitoring  
at Rapid Creek.  
Photo: Emma Smith



**LITRES CUPS**

BOILPROOF  
APPROXIMATE MEASURE

1.0 LITRE 4 CUPS

1000 ml

900

800

750 ml

3 CUPS

700

600

500 ml 2 CUPS

400

300

250 ml

1 CUP

200

100

1/2 CUP

125 ml



# WATER

The Regulations define *water pollution* as the introduction of any substance to water that causes or is reasonably likely to cause it to be adversely affected, or to adversely affect its beneficial use. The Regulations also establish standards for the protection of water quality at the Airport.

Darwin Airport is required to monitor water quality and if pollution is detected we are required to notify the AEO.

To protect water quality on the Airport you must:

- » Prevent anything other than rain water from entering stormwater drains on and near your premises.
- » Notify Airport Operations on **0402 088 145** immediately of any fuel, chemical or paint spill that threatens stormwater drains and also if water that is contaminated in any way enters a stormwater drain.

Actions you can take to protect water quality at the Airport include:

- » Store fuel, oil, chemical and paint products in a bunded area that is well away from any drainage point,<sup>2</sup> preferably inside your workshop. Outside stores must be bunded and undercover.

- » Capture and clean-up all fuel, oil, chemical product and paint spills and dispose of the spilled product appropriately.<sup>4</sup> Never wash spilled products down stormwater drains or sinks.
- » Sweep or dry-mop your workshop or hangar floors; never hose them unless all the water can be collected for appropriate disposal, or drained through an approved trade waste system.
- » Wash aircraft in the designated aircraft wash bay<sup>5</sup> and vehicles in an approved vehicle wash bay. General Aviation aircraft (Code A and B) must only be washed in the designated aircraft wash bay located on the Southern General Aviation Apron next to Gate India.
- » Undertake all engine and parts maintenance inside your workshop. Make sure you capture all waste solvents and chemicals for disposal via an appropriately licensed waste contractor.
- » Apply to the Airport for a Power Water Trade Waste Approval to dispose liquid wastes to sewer. If you're not sure where you need to apply for an Approval contact the NTA Environment Manager on 8920 1820.
- » Check that any drains inside your hangar aren't directly connected to stormwater. If they do drain to stormwater you must cap and seal them to prevent material from your hangar floor getting into stormwater.

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<sup>2</sup> For more information on managing chemical products refer to relevant Information Bulletins on the NT WorkSafe website at [www.worksafe.nt.gov.au](http://www.worksafe.nt.gov.au).

<sup>4</sup> For more information on Spill Response refer to the Spill **Management Procedure** at <https://www.darwinairport.com.au/corporate/safety#spill-management-procedure>.

Pollution control  
device at the Darwin  
International Airport.  
Photo: Jill Holdsworth

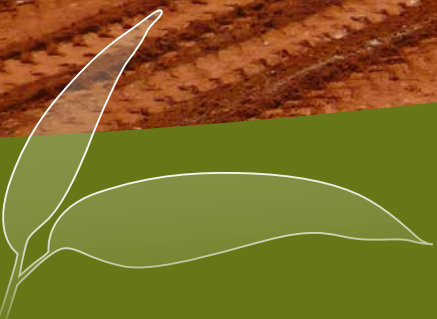


- » Check that all hand basins on your premises are connected to sewer. It's illegal to discharge water from hand basins to stormwater or the ground outside your hangar.
- » If you have a tap outside your hangar make sure that it isn't being used to wash-down parts and equipment or to wash out paint brushes; these activities should be done in your workshop where you can make sure the runoff is disposed appropriately.

## WATER EFFICIENCY

Darwin residents are amongst the highest water users in the country. As our population grows so does pressure on our water supply, the Darwin River Dam. If our water supply has to be extended water supply costs will rise for all of us. Darwin Airport supports the efficient use of water and encourages all operators on the Airport to do the same.

Earth works during apron expansion at Darwin International Airport.  
Photo: Jill Holdsworth



# SOIL

The Regulations define *soil pollution* as the contamination of land including groundwater by a substance that causes or is reasonably likely to cause it to be adversely affected, or to have an adverse effect on the current or a proposed use of the land, or groundwater.

The Regulations establish standards for the protection of soil quality at the Airport and require Darwin Airport to monitor for soil pollution. If soil contamination is detected during monitoring we must notify the AEO.

To protect soil from contamination on the Airport you must:

- » Prevent any contaminating materials such as oil, fuel, chemicals, paint, solvents and metal filings from entering the soil on or near your premises.
- » Notify the NTA Environment Manager on 8920 1820 if you become aware of, or you suspect, soil contamination has occurred on or near your premises or anywhere else on the Airport.

Actions you can take to prevent soil contamination include:

- » Conduct spray painting in a purpose built spray paint booth. If spray painting in a purpose built booth isn't practical because it's a one-off event or the item is too large for a local spray paint booth, spray painting can be conducted outside, but only during calm conditions and while using a drop-sheet large enough to catch

all overspray. No paint should be left on the soil or apron surface.

- » Conduct sand blasting in a booth fitted with a dust extraction system. If that isn't practicable, sand items indoors and sweep up all sanding residue when you finish, wrap it in plastic or place it in a container and dispose of it appropriately. If sanding indoors isn't practicable then you can sand outdoors but only during calm conditions and you must use a drop-sheet to catch all sanding residue. When you finish collect the sanding residue and dispose of it appropriately.
- » Contact the NTA Environment Manager on 8920 1820 before you bring fill or soil material onto the Airport. Any soil, gravel, sand or rock that is brought onto the Airport must comply with Schedule 3 of the *Airports (Environment Protection) Regulations 1997*, and must not contain asbestos materials.

For all developments all tenants must create a Construction Environment Management Plan which follows guidelines outlined in Best Practice Soil Erosion and Sediment Control, for further information contact the NTA Environment Manager.

Boeing 787  
Dreamliner engine.  
Photo: Tim Woods





# NOISE

The Regulations define *offensive noise* as noise that is generated at a volume, or in a way or circumstance, that intrudes offensively on individual, community or commercial amenity. The Regulations establish guidelines for the assessment of excessive noise and require Darwin Airport to monitor noise levels at the Airport.

To manage noise at the Airport you must:

- » Prevent the generation of offensive noise from your operations.
- » Minimise the generation of offensive noise if you can't prevent it.

Actions you can take to prevent the generation of offensive noise include:

- » Conduct engine ground running in the designated areas on the Airport in accordance with the Darwin Airport Ground Running Rules.<sup>8</sup>
- » Fit your vehicles and equipment with noise reducing equipment as specified by the manufacturer.
- » Maintain the noise reducing equipment fitted to your vehicles and equipment in good working order.

Advise Airport Operations on **0402 088 145** if you need to undertake an activity that you know will generate excessive noise that may be offensive to other people.

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<sup>8</sup> For more information on Ground Running Rules refer to the Darwin International Airport Engine Ground Running Management Plan at [www.darwinairport.com.au](http://www.darwinairport.com.au).



## WASTE

Waste management<sup>9</sup> on Darwin Airport is controlled under the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998* (NT) and the *Waste Management and Pollution Control (Administration) Regulations 1998*.

The objective of the Act is to protect, restore and enhance the Territory environment by, amongst other things:

- » Avoiding and reducing the generation of waste;
- » Increasing the re-use and recycling of waste; and
- » Effectively controlling the disposal of waste.

The Act places a general duty on all persons who conduct an activity or perform an action likely to generate waste to take all reasonable and practicable measure to:

- » Prevent or minimise pollution or environmental harm (as a result of the waste); and
- » Reduce the amount of waste.

Actions you take to minimise your waste and ensure it is disposed appropriately include:

- » Purchase only what you need for a particular job. Only buy in bulk if you know you'll use all of what you buy. It may be cheaper to buy in bulk, but if you end up throwing out most of what you buy, it isn't a saving.
- » Reuse or recycle materials wherever you can. Cardboard, paper, glass and most plastics can all be recycled - Talk to your

waste contractor how they want to collect this. Scrap metal is a valuable commodity that a metal recycler will collect free of charge and may even pay for.

- » Store waste materials properly before disposal. Separate your wastes according to type and store in a secure covered area; for liquid wastes the area must also be bunded. Make sure that rainwater can't accumulate in your stored wastes and create a breeding ground for mosquitoes.
- » Dispose of waste materials frequently; don't allow them to accumulate. Accumulating waste materials outside your premises isn't permitted because it constitutes a safety and environmental hazard.
- » Dispose of your waste materials appropriately. Certain types of waste are scheduled under the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act* and have special requirements for their disposal; This includes chemicals and their containers; paints including the liquids used to clean paint equipment; oil and grease including grease trap waste; asbestos containing materials; tyres; refrigerant gases; lead acid batteries.

All these materials may only be handled by an appropriately licensed waste contractor, so make sure the contractor who removes these wastes for you has the appropriate licence and gives you a receipt for the materials they remove.

<sup>9</sup> For more information on waste management in the NT visit the Cool mob website: [www.coolmob.org](http://www.coolmob.org).



# DANGEROUS GOODS AND HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS

Most workplace chemicals including solvents, fuel, oil and even paint are classified as Dangerous Goods or Hazardous Substances. Their sale, use, storage and disposal are subject to a variety of Regulations and Standards, including the new *Work Health and Safety*

*(National Uniform Legislation) Act & Regulations 2011*, which now refers to all of these materials as Hazardous Chemicals.<sup>10</sup>

Key things you need to know if you use or store dangerous goods or hazardous chemicals:

- » You must have an up-to-date Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for all the dangerous goods and hazardous chemicals you use or store on your premises. (You can get a copy of the SDS from supplier or the manufacturer of the product).
- » You must also ensure that any person using dangerous goods or hazardous chemicals on your premises is properly trained; this means that they know where to find the SDS for the products they use and that they can read and understand the SDS instructions.
- » You must ensure that any person using dangerous goods or hazardous chemicals on your premises has access to, and uses, appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- » You must ensure that all containers in which dangerous goods and hazardous chemicals are kept are labelled in a way that their content can be easily identified; this includes containers into which these products may be decanted for use. Food containers must not be used.
- » You must store dangerous goods and hazardous substances appropriately; that is, keeping substances that may react with each other separate and ensuring that any accidental leaks won't cause harm to people or the environment.
- » If you store more of a substance than prescribed under the *Work Health and Safety Regulations* you are required to notify NT Worksafe, and to have a storage facility that complies with relevant regulations and standards. (If you store less than the prescribed quantities you don't need to notify but you must make sure that the product is safely stored).
- » You must prepare for any potential accidents that may occur during the use and storage of the dangerous goods and hazardous chemicals; This means you must keep a spill kit stocked with sufficient quantities of an appropriate absorbent material for the type of products used or stored at your premises and you must have appropriate fire fighting equipment for the types of fire that could be associated with the products used at your premises. It also means that you and your staff must be trained in responding to accidents of the type that could occur during the use or storage of these products.

**REMEMBER: If you use or store any dangerous goods or hazardous chemicals you are responsible for knowing what is required of you under the law.**

<sup>10</sup> For more information on managing Dangerous Goods and Hazardous Substances refer to relevant Information Bulletins on the NT WorkSafe website at [www.worksafe.nt.gov.au](http://www.worksafe.nt.gov.au).

Top image:  
An example of good  
housekeeping in a Hangar

Bottom image:  
Solar powered taxiway  
lights on Taxiway Uniform  
at Darwin International  
Airport



# HOUSEKEEPING

Good housekeeping will not only boost the professional image of your business, it will also make it the less likely you'll have a costly accident or incident. We recommend you:

- » Keep the interior and the exterior of your premises in a neat and tidy condition, in accordance with your Lease Agreement. This includes removing any litter that may accumulate at your premises.
- » Store all excess parts, drums and other materials in a purpose built storage facility located within the confines of your premises.
- » Provide the appropriate type and number

of fire extinguishers within your premises, as per the Building code of Australia (This will be based on the type of activities you conduct and the products you use within your premises).

- » Ensure your fire extinguishers are regularly checked by an appropriately qualified person as per AS 1851 – 2005: Maintenance of fire protection systems.
- » Ensure you have appropriate signage in a clearly visible location for the products you store on your premises and for your fire equipment.

# RESOURCE USE

All the products that you purchase have some environmental effect associated with their manufacture, use and disposal. As the buyer of these products you are in a good position to make environmental improvements by choosing products with low environmental footprints that still meet your quality criteria.<sup>11</sup>

We suggest you use the following principles to rate and compare competing products and services:

- » Avoid products or services made with, containing or using environmentally harmful substances.

- » Avoid over packaged goods.
- » Maximise your use of recycled or recyclable products.
- » Minimise your use of non-renewable resources.
- » Buy only what you need, rather than in bulk.
- » Buy energy efficient equipment.
- » Buy water saving equipment and products
- » Work with suppliers and contractors who have adopted an environmental policy.

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<sup>11</sup> Power and Water Corporation has produced guides and useful tips to reduce power and water usage. Information is available on the PowerWater web site [www.powerwater.com.au](http://www.powerwater.com.au)

Photo: 2013 Scientists  
in Schools photograph  
competition Finalist.





# FLORA AND FAUNA

The Regulations place a duty on all operators at the Airport to make sure there are no adverse consequences for local flora and fauna and their habitat as a result of their activities.

Guidelines for the removal of vegetation issued by the Department makes it illegal to remove, or prune, any vegetation at an Airport without first consulting the AEO.

Darwin Airport has established reserves for protection and conservation of native bushland on the Airport as well as developed and implemented a landscape master plan that enhances the preservation of these areas. It has also developed landscaping guidance to help operators at the Airport select species that enhance flora and fauna habitat preservation while taking aviation safety considerations into account.

To protect flora and fauna on the Airport you must:

- » Consider the likely impact of your activities on flora and fauna at the Airport, and
- » Take all reasonable and practicable measures to ensure that those activities don't impact adversely on the flora and fauna at the Airport.
- » Advise the NTA Environment Manager on 8920 1820 if you propose to remove or prune any trees adjacent to your premises.
- » Report any native wildlife that requires relocation from your premises.
- » Confer with the NTA Environment

Manager to identify plant species suitable for use on the Airport if you intend to landscape your premises.

## PROTECTED SPECIES

Darwin Airport has protected plant species *Cycas armstrongii*, before any clearing or movement of these plants occurs a "Permit to Take or Interfere with Wildlife" must be obtained from the Parks and Wildlife Commission. Contact Project Manager for the Procedure to apply for permit.

## WEED MANAGEMENT

*The Weed Management Act and Regulations* is enacted legislation in the NT. In the Territory controlling weeds is the responsibility of the land manager.

There are 3 classes of weeds:

Class A: To be eradicated

Class B: Growth & spread to be controlled

Class C: Not to be introduced into the NT.

Airport ground – staff conduct regular checks, with biannual surveys carried out by consultants.

Tenants need to be aware of weed species commonly found in the area. Class B species observed at the Airport include Gamba Grass, Mission Grass and Hyptis. For more information on identifying and managing weed species refer to the Department of Natural Resource Management website at [www.lrm.nt.gov.au](http://www.lrm.nt.gov.au) category weeds and follow to the relevant links.



# CULTURAL VALUES

The Regulations place a duty on all operators at the Airport to make sure there are no adverse consequences for existing aesthetic, cultural, historical, social and scientific values of the local area; this includes any areas of indigenous significance on the Airport.

To date, all items of cultural significance identified at Darwin Airport are located on the RAAF lease site. Rapid Creek, immediately adjacent to the Airport, has cultural significance for the Larrakia people. Darwin Airport supports the Larrakia Nation in the protection and enhancement of their cultural heritage within the Rapid Creek Catchment.

You can help to protect the aesthetic, cultural, historical, social and scientific values of the local area by making sure that any activities you undertake or any new developments you may consider don't detract from these values. If you're not certain whether your activities could have a detrimental effect on any of these values we recommend you discuss the matter with the NTA Environment Manager.

A path in the Matboerma  
Garden, Darwin  
International Airport  
Photo: David Silva



# CHECKING ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

We recommend you review your environmental performance regularly; its good practice to conduct an environment self-audit at least once a year. This audit should check whether you are meeting all your environmental responsibilities as identified in this document and also those you may have identified in the Environment Management Plan (EMP) you are required to prepare for your operations. For further information contact NTA Environment Manager.

In addition to these reviews, the NTA Environment Manager may conduct an audit of your business and its operations. These audits will be very similar to the self-audits you may conduct but this time you will be asked to demonstrate by visual inspection or by the provision of documents (monitoring results, receipts, written procedures, reports) that you are actually doing what you say you are doing. The benefit of an audit conducted by an independent person is that they may see risks and opportunities for improvement that you, through your proximity to the business, no longer see.

On completion of the audit you will be provided with a brief report. The audit report will document what was found during the audit, identify any environmental risks associated with your operations and will

also list the things you must do to meet your legal obligations as well as provide recommendations or opportunities for improvement that could help you to reduce your environmental risks and improve your operations (some of these may even save you money).

If significant environmental risks are identified in the course of an audit you may be required to demonstrate to the NTA Environment Manager, during a subsequent inspection, that the matter has been satisfactorily addressed and no longer presents a risk.

You are legally required, as an operator on Darwin Airport, to give all reasonable assistance to the NTA Environment Manager during the audit process.

In addition to these reviews of environmental performance, the AEO, the Commonwealth Government's representative who oversees the requirements of the Act and the Regulations, may at any time enter your lease area for an inspection – While entry is subject to your agreement, if you don't agree the AEO can seek a warrant to require your cooperation.

We work in close co-operation with the AEO and recommend you do too.



# FURTHER INFORMATION

This document provides general guidance only. For more detailed information on a range of topics please refer to Darwin Airport's website at [www.darwinairport.com.au/working-airport/environment](http://www.darwinairport.com.au/working-airport/environment) or contact the NTA Environment Manager on 8920 1820.





**Darwin**

*International Airport*

DARWIN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT | Airport Management Centre  
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