Get a green bin for autumn

Green waste collections will be in place across Canberra from 1 April, just in time for the autumn leaves.

Get some help tidying up your garden by ordering your green waste bin before the first leaves start to fall.

Residents can opt-in to the service for a one-off $50 payment, with eligible concession card holders exempt from payment.

More at act.gov.au/greenbins

Upgrades to be completed mid 2019.

More improvements on Anketell Street

The second stage of improvements are currently underway on Anketell Street between Reed Street North and Pitman Street in the Tuggeranong Town Centre.

These improvements will not only make the town centre safer, but will provide the community with a friendlier and more accessible public space.

The upgrades will be completed mid 2019 and include improved paving, tree replacement, an off-road cycle lane, raised pedestrian zone, a low speed traffic environment and more.

More at tccs.act.gov.au

Message from the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr

The ACT Government is continuing to invest in more health infrastructure to give Canberrans access to high quality healthcare when and where they need it.

The Government has recently announced more plans about our new Surgical Procedures, Interventional Radiology and Emergency (SPIRE) centre, which you can read about in this Our CBR edition. This is on top of recent significant expansions of emergency departments at the Canberra Hospital and Calvary Public Hospital, Gungahlin’s new Walk-In Centre and more mobile dental services for vulnerable Canberrans.

We’re future-proofing our healthcare system to better meet the needs of a growing city.
Water refill options

You can now refill your water bottle with free tap water at any participating cafe or business when you see the Refill Canberra sticker displayed in the window.

Cafes across Canberra have already signed up and you can nominate your favourite cafe to consider joining up.

More at health.act.gov.au/refillcanberra

More hospital services for the future

Planning is underway for Canberra’s new Surgical Procedures, Interventional Radiology and Emergency (SPIRE) centre at the Canberra Hospital.

The centre will boost acute and hospital-based healthcare services, replace ageing buildings and completely renew the north-eastern end of the Canberra Hospital precinct. Construction is expected to start in 2020.

More at health.act.gov.au/infrastructure

Top up with new ticketing machines

Top up your MyWay card using new Transport Canberra ticket vending machines now installed at major bus stations and light rail stops.

Machines are stationed at the Belconnen, City, Gungahlin, Tuggeranong and Woden major bus stations. They have touch screens and are easy to use to check your MyWay card balance, instantly top up, or to purchase a single or daily ticket. You’ll also be able to use your MyWay card on light rail when operations start in the coming months.

More at transport.act.gov.au

More help with energy bills

Canberrans on low and fixed incomes will be able to access an increased Utilities Concession for energy bills from 1 July 2019.

The Utilities Concession provides eligible concession card holders with a rebate to help meet the ongoing costs of electricity and gas services. The $46 increase will bring the total payment to $700.

More at assistance.act.gov.au

In partnership with CANBERRA REFILL good to go
Have your baby at home

Eligible Tuggeranong women have the option of birthing their baby in the comfort and familiarity of their own home through the Canberra Health Services homebirth trial.

Find out more about homebirth at an information session on 29 March. You’ll hear from women about their recent homebirth experience.

More at health.act.gov.au/homebirth

New principal for Erindale College

School leaders have a vital role in guiding schools to be happy, productive environments.

Jessie Atkins is the new principal for Erindale College and said she is delighted to be joining a passionate and dedicated team.

“It’s an incredible privilege that I get to do something that I love every day – seeing the power of the passport we provide to better the lifelong outcomes of our students never gets old for me,” she said.

Millions of containers returned

More than 12.9 million empty containers have been returned since the Container Deposit Scheme started in the ACT on 30 June 2018.

Aluminium, glass and plastic make up the bulk of containers returned, together with smaller amounts of HDPE (high-density polyethylene), liquid paperboard and steel.

There are 18 return points located across Canberra, including two bulk depots in the south in Fyshwick and Phillip.

More at actcds.com.au

Say hello to your neighbours

Bonython’s Lyn Woodward is the ACT Neighbourhood Watch Member of the Year. Lyn was involved in setting up Neighbourhood Watch in her community nine years ago.

Lyn’s advice on being a good neighbour is to knock on your neighbour’s door or say hello over the fence and introduce yourself.

This National Neighbour Day on Sunday 31 March, take the opportunity to get to know your neighbours, especially the elderly and vulnerable.

Connect with your local Neighbourhood Watch at nhwact.com.au or on Facebook at @NHWACT.
Get a taste of Enlighten

Eat, see and explore Canberra as our city transforms for the annual Enlighten Festival.

Until 17 March the centre of Canberra is a hive of activity with a range of free and ticketed events, as well as the ever-popular architectural projections in the Parliamentary Triangle until 11 March.

Enlighten Festival is expanding into Civic again this year with illuminations by local artist Hannah Quinlivan on the Sydney and Melbourne buildings until 11 March.

→ More at enlightencanberra.com

Get cycling in March

As the weather starts to cool, March is the perfect time to hop onto a dockless bike.

The bike share service, with Australian provider Airbike, is still operating as the original six-month trial undergoes evaluation.

Data on the bike share trial has shown that dockless bikes were hired more than 8,000 times within six months in areas including the ANU, the City bus station and the Inner North.

→ More at transport.act.gov.au

Active ways to get to school

Active school communities not only help to reduce carbon emissions, they also reduce congestion around our schools, making it safer for children to enjoy riding or walking every day.

Support your kids to be more active in 2019 and take part in National Ride2School Day on 22 March.

→ More at transport.act.gov.au

Young CBR Citizen awards

Nominations are open for the 2019 Young Canberran Citizen of the Year Awards.


Enlighten events

- Lights! Canberra! Action! 8 March
- Canberra Balloon Spectacular 9–17 March
- Symphony in the Park 10 March
- Canberra Day – 11 March
- Hit 104.7 Skyfire 16 March

Produced by: Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate. For more stories and information from across Canberra, visit act.gov.au/our-canberra or follow us on social media.