Reducing plastic use in Canberra’s south

Did you know about 10 million plastic straws are used in Australia every day and then thrown away? The rise of plastic consumption is an increasing threat to our environment.

That Gelato Place in Weston is among numerous businesses reducing the amount of plastic straws used by replacing them with paper ones. That Gelato Place also cleans and re-uses their plastic spoons for the sampling of gelato flavours. Organisations can take the pledge at actsmart.act.gov.au

Have your say on how we can continue to reduce our plastic use in the ACT.

More at yoursay.act.gov.au

Straws suck!
Plastic straws take up to 200 years to breakdown

Message from the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr

The ACT is in the final stages of reaching our target of powering the city by 100% renewable energy by 2020. I’m proud that the Territory is demonstrating national leadership in taking action to become more sustainable.

However, there is more that we can do to become a sustainable city for future generations.

In Canberra, approximately 160,000 straws are used and discarded every day. Many Canberra businesses are already encouraging their customers to consider alternates to single use plastics and the Government wants to work with the community on how we can continue this trend.

Stamp duty changes for first home buyers

More first home buyers in Canberra's south won't have to pay stamp duty from 1 July 2019.

People with a household income below $160,000 won’t have to pay stamp duty on their first home whether it’s newly built or existing.

More at act.gov.au/our-canberra

In this issue

→ New artwork at Hughes Shops
→ Garran Primary wins award
Looking after cats in Canberra

One in four households in Canberra owns a cat.

The Draft ACT Cat Plan allowsCanberrans to have their say on how to better manage cats in the ACT for their health, welfare and safety, and to protect our local wildlife.

⇒ More at yoursay.act.gov.au

Illegal dumpers beware

A new compliance team will soon be visible around Canberra.

The team may issue fines to people seen doing the wrong thing, including illegal dumping, misuse of public land and irresponsible pet ownership.

They will be identifiable in ACT Government uniforms and marked vehicles.

⇒ More at tccs.act.gov.au

New playgrounds in Woden, Weston Creek and Molonglo Torrens and Waramanga will receive a play space review.

The review is planning for a better mix of playgrounds that cater to more ages, abilities and play styles.

⇒ Stay up to date at yoursay.act.gov.au

2019-20 ACT Budget on 4 June

Keep an eye on your mailbox for information on what this year’s budget means for your region.

New playgrounds in Woden, Weston Creek and Molonglo

2020 target for renewable electricity

We are close to reaching our target of 100% renewable electricity supply.

The 109 megawatt Hornsdale wind farm will start generating renewable electricity for the ACT in October 2019.

Reaching our renewable goal will ensure zero-emissions electricity forCanberrans and helps to stabilise electricity prices.

⇒ More at environment.act.gov.au

Photo: Neoen
70 new nurses for Canberra

New nurse graduates have started their careers at Canberra Health Services (CHS). 56 Registered Nurses and 14 Enrolled Nurses started a 12 month program, working across Paediatrics, Aged Care, Community Care, Rehabilitation, Mental Health, Oncology and more. The graduates are well supported through the CHS Transition to Practice Program.

→ Find out more about the program at health.act.gov.au

Garran Primary School tops sustainability awards

Garran Primary School won the Actsmart Sustainable School of the Year award in 2018. As part of the Actsmart Schools program, students called Eco-rangers and Eco-detectives ensure others are saving energy in the classrooms, manage the school gardens and encourage waste-free practices.

→ Find out more about the Actsmart Schools Program at actsmart.act.gov.au

Farrer locals receive Gold Award

Valerie O'Regan and her daughter Eileen Currie are among recent recipients of the Canberra Gold Award. The Canberra Gold Award is awarded to community members, businesses or associations who have been in Canberra for 50 years.

Valerie and her family moved to Farrer in 1969. “Ours was the first five-bedroom (government) house in Farrer. We all loved Farrer and Mum still lives in the house,” Eileen said.

→ Nominate for Canberra Gold at act.gov.au/cbргgold

New artwork replaces old favourite at Hughes Shops

A new artwork by artists Suzie Bleach and Andrew Townsend called A Delicate Moment has replaced an old favourite at Hughes Shops.

The original artwork, Stepping Out, by artists Giovanna Lanniello and Gerard Murphy was stolen from Hughes shops in May 2016. Following the theft, the Hughes community contributed to ideas for a new artwork to stand in its place.

→ More at act.gov.au/our-canberra
Wintervention is coming

Embrace the chilly weather these winter school holidays with Wintervention in Civic.

Ice skate in the open air as Civic Square is transformed into a winter wonderland.

Enjoy local food or treat yourself with a gift from the Winter Food and Makers Markets.

More at wintervention.com.au

New mountain biking tracks for Canberra

Mountain biking is expanding in Canberra with a new pump track opened at Majura Pines.

The Best of Canberra Mountain Biking project will continue to grow the city’s biking experiences.

In coming months, we will hold a series of engagement activities so the community can contribute to a new concept plan.

More info at yoursay.act.gov.au

World Environment Day in Canberra

Celebrate on 5 June with a variety of opportunities to be at one with nature.

More at environment.act.gov.au

Use MyWay across Canberra’s public transport network

MyWay is the smartcard ticketing system used to pay for travel across Canberra’s public transport network.

It’s now fully integrated across buses and light rail. Make sure you tap on and off at the validators located on buses and at each light rail stop.

More at transport.act.gov.au

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.