Gary Higgins
Minister for the Environment

Bess Price
Minister for Local Government and Community Services

**Wallace Rockhole – a Four Star community**

22 April 2015

Congratulations to Western MacDonnell Ranges community Wallace Rockhole on the formal hand over of their Keep Australia Beautiful NT 4 Gold Star Rating Tourism Award in the Tidy Towns awards.

Environment Minister Gary Higgins and Local Government Minister Bess Price have sent their best wishes to the community which is celebrating the award recognising residents’ pride in their community.

“The Tidy Towns awards have been operating nationally for 25 years and encourage, motivate and celebrate sustainability achievements of Australian communities. Wallace Rockhole is an excellent example of a local community proving they really care about their environment,” Minister Higgins said.

“The simple act of keeping a community beautiful through anti-litter initiatives should not be underestimated. The pride in a community has a positive effect on residents and often translates into better conditions and attitudes for all.”

Minister Price said she wasn’t surprised by the award when it was first announced late last year.

“I’ve visited Wallace Rockhole in the past and their determination to keep their community clean and tidy as well as their pride in promoting their community is a good example to others,” Ms Price said.

“I congratulate the community and the MacDonnell Regional Council in particular which has demonstrated good leadership through its programs and services for the community.”

The 4 Gold Star Rating Tourism Award also demonstrates the commitment to creating an outstanding community for tourism purposes.
“The Gold Star Rating initiative offers a further challenge to others across the Northern Territory to present their communities with the same respect and pride they show through their tourism operations,” KAB NT CEO Heimo Schober said.

“Wallace Rockhole created and initiated the Star Rating concept and leads the way for other Northern Territory communities to follow their lead by optimising efforts to shine as an outstanding community to visit.”

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