

New laws on smoke alarms introduced

THE NT Government has announced changes to the Fire and Emergency Regulations to mandate the installation of photoelectric smoke alarms in all NT residences from November 1 of this year.

I believe the requirement to have photoelectric smoke alarms in every residence in the Territory is possibly the most significant fire safety law ever introduced.

I have no doubt that it will save lives.

Prior to 1998, there were no laws relating to the requirement for smoke alarms in homes within the Northern Territory.

The new compulsory photoelectric smoke alarms are strongly favoured by fire services everywhere as they are able to detect smouldering fires that are not as quickly picked up by the ionization type alarms.

Our sense of smell is drastically reduced while we sleep and smouldering fires emitting poisonous gases can burn for some time without us even being aware of the imminent danger.

It has been found that most fire deaths in the home are as a result of these smouldering fires that occur during the night.

Recently we have experienced our own such tragedies, therefore it is very timely and important that the legislation is introduced to help reduce future incidents of this type occurring.

From the start of next month, all residential and moveable dwellings and temporary accommodation including



With Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service Community Fire Safety Section District Officer GRANT HAMON

safari style tents are required to have a working photoelectric smoke alarm.

If you already have a working smoke alarm, you do not have to change it until one of the following occurs:

- your smoke alarm ceases to work, in which case you will need to replace it with a photoelectric type smoke alarm
- you sell your home
- you rent out your premises or renew a tenancy
- you hire out your caravan.

The cost of the photoelectric smoke alarms are very reasonable, however please be sure to purchase the correct type – a photoelectric 10 year lithium battery.

They are available from hardware stores, retail outlets and electrical stores.

The new regulations are a major step forward in protecting vulnerable people and I urge everyone to get onboard.

For more detail on smoke alarms and the new regulation, please go to www.fire.nt.gov.au or call 8995 5400.

AirAsia introduces daytime flights to Top End

PASSENGERS on Air Asia flights between Darwin and Bali no longer need to travel in the early hours, with the airline starting daylight services from October 31. Services will leave Bali at 10.30am and arrive in

Darwin at 2.40pm. Returns will leave Darwin at 3.20pm and arrive in Bali at 4.35pm. The new schedule will operate on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday but may become daily next year.



Territory together

A Territory Government initiative

New Policy For Territory Women

The Northern Territory Government's policy for women is due to expire in 2012 and submissions are now welcome from individuals and women's organisations to help shape the new policy, which will advance the social, economic and political position of Territory women.

Submissions that address key issues of relevance to Territory women will be accepted, and can be made in a variety of formats and of any length, including:

- a return email with a few dot points
- a fully referenced research paper on a specific issue or topic
- directing DCF to academic research on topics specific to women
- a copy of a gender analysis on a relevant topic
- an issue relating to inequity of funding
- an issue not currently being addressed by government
- proposed solutions to current inequities
- suggestions for a research program
- suggestions for community engagement or consultations mechanisms.

The current women's policy *Building on Our Strengths: A Framework for Action for Women in the Northern Territory 2008 – 2012* can be found at: www.women.nt.gov.au.

Submissions close on Monday 31 October 2011 and can be sent to Janette Galton, Manager of the Office of Women's Policy at Janette.galton@nt.gov.au or phone (08) 8999 2604.

www.territorytogether.nt.gov.au



Northern Territory Government

Brand new units in Johnston from \$320K

The ballot is now open for eligible Territorians to apply to purchase one of the 21 affordable units at The Parks, Johnston.

Prices range from \$320 000 to \$390 000 and purchasers could be moving in to their brand new home by Christmas.

To be eligible you must meet specified eligibility criteria including having pre-approved finance through a private financier or HOMESTART NT and meeting the required income limits.

Purchasers may also be eligible for the \$10 000 BuildBonus grant and \$7000 First Home Owner Grant.

Want to learn more about this opportunity to become a home owner?

Ballot information session
Thursday 20 October
Gray Community Hall at 6.00 pm

Open day - Sunday 23 October
242 Farrar Boulevard, Johnston
from 12.00 noon – 3.00 pm

housing the Territory

A Territory Government initiative

For further information visit www.housingnt.nt.gov.au or call 8999 8471.

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