Environment Minister Dr Chris Burns is urging all Territorians to get out their rubbish bags and rubber gloves this weekend.

"Clean Up Australia Day is this Sunday, March 2 and it’s a great opportunity for Territorians to get out and do something for our environment," Dr Burns said.

"The Territory has a significant litter problem – roadside litter is amongst the worst in the country. No one likes to see litter in our streets, parks and beaches. It’s unsightly and kills our wildlife.

"Government is therefore looking at a range of initiatives to reduce litter in the Territory.

"Plastic bags often end up as litter and last year I agreed with other Environment Ministers to set a target to reduce plastic bag litter by 75 per cent by the end of 2004.

"I encourage all members of the community to come out this Sunday and take part in Clean Up Australia Day.

"I congratulate everyone who has taken part in Clean Up Australia Day in the past – and all the students who did their bit at school on Friday.

"It’s fantastic to see so many people who care enough about our environment to get out there and pick up rubbish, but it would be much better if everyone did the right thing in the first place and put their rubbish in a bin instead of throwing it on the ground.

"Our aim as a community should be to make sure special events like Clean Up Australia Day aren’t needed at all."