Environment Minister Marion Scrymgour has urged Territorians to purchase their backyard cane toad traps following sightings of the toxic pests in Palmerston recently.

The NT Government has spent $1.2 million on cane toads, including funding to Frogwatch to run community cane toad control initiatives.

“The NT Government is determined to protect our unique Territory lifestyle from the spread of this pest,” Ms Scrymgour said.

“The NT Government has committed more than $1 million in specific new programs to combat the cane toad on a number of fronts, including the allocation of $300 000 towards research into a long-term biological control mechanism.

“We have also committed $300 000 to our Island Ark project aimed at protecting native animal species, and we are spending $420 000 to fund the community-based campaign co-ordinated by Frogwatch.”

The NT Government announced in June last year that it will subsidise the cost of cane toad traps by $30 per trap – available for traps approved by Parks and Wildlife.

“Since the subsidy was announced 96 Top End residents have claimed rebates off their cane toad traps.

“I urge more people to take advantage of our subsidy scheme and purchase their traps to help control cane toads in their area.

“Biological controls, along with trapping programs such as this one, both have their place if we are to wage a successful campaign against one of the most serious environmental threats the Territory faces.”

People who find a cane toad/s should contact FrogWatch on 1800 243 564 or email toadreport@frogwatch.org.au.

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