



Australian Capital Territory

URBAN SERVICES FEES FOR 2000-01

ACT Urban Services Minister, Brendan Smyth today announced a number of changes to fees to take effect on 1 July 2000 as part of the 2000/01 budget. Urban Services administers approximately 2400 fees, and some of the major changes are listed below.

“As we progress the *No Waste by 2010* strategy, fees for additional kerbside garbage and recycling collection above the normal collection cycle will increase. Additional garbage collection for a minimum of 4 months will rise from \$18 to \$28.60, with additional recycling rising from \$12 to \$19.80 for a 4 month period,” Mr Smyth said. “However, on the whole tip fees in the ACT are still far lower than anywhere else in Australia.”

There will also be some increases in tip fees for household garbage with half a tonne or more rising from \$25 to \$30. Sedans and station wagons carrying up to half a tonne will rise from \$3 to \$5, with trailers and other motor vehicles rising from \$5 to \$10. Commercial tip fees will also rise from \$25 to \$33 per tonne of industrial and commercial garbage.

The ranger guided activities at Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve have proved extremely popular with an increased demand from the community for these services. In order to provide more services out of normal operating hours some fees will be introduced. Activities during normal operating hours will continue to be free. For example, for spotlight nature walks outside normal operating hours, a family fee for annual passholders will be \$38.50 with non-passholder family fees at \$44.00.

“These services enable the community to choose which activities they’d like to participate in at times that suit them,” Mr Smyth said. “This will hopefully make the park more accessible to a wider range of Canberrans.

“A revised fee structure will apply to permits for the use of public land for outdoor cafes. Instead of a flat rate for all areas of Canberra, a zonal structure will be introduced. A prime zone will be \$30.00 per square metre, secondary zone \$25.00 per square metre and a tertiary zone \$20.00 per square metre. The purpose of this change is to provide a more equitable structure for café operators, with higher pedestrian traffic areas, such as the City, Kingston and Manuka, paying more than a suburban café for example,” he said.

The fee structure for impounded dogs will change with dog owners to be charged based on the number of times their dog has been seized. A first offence will be \$100.00 for the first day, second offence \$150.00 and third or more offences at \$200.00. A further cost of \$10.00 per day will apply for each additional day of impoundment. This is to encourage more responsible dog ownership in our community.

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) will apply to a range of services provided by Urban Services. These include: camping fees at ACT Forests and parks and reserves; additional recycling and garbage collection; some tip fees; hire of government facilities; entry fees to Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve; library services such as photocopying and Internet training; government publications; parking fees in voucher parking areas and administrative fees in Planning and Land Management such as inspections. Vehicle registrations and driver’s licence fees will not be subject to the GST, however driver’s licence tests will include the GST.

For more information on the GST, please refer to Budget Paper 3.

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