WHERE SHOULD ALL THE TREES GO? STATE BY STATE

NORTHERN TERRITORY
Average canopy cover for urban NT is 28.9%, up 0.85% from 28.05% in 2009.

In the City of Darwin, there has been a 7.1% increase in hard surfaces and a consequent 9.1% loss in grassed areas. This may signify an overall increase in hard surface infrastructure at the cost of green spaces.

In the City of Palmerstone there has been a 5.5% increase in tree canopy, whereas in the City of Darwin, there has been a 3.8% decline in canopy.
THE MOST & LEAST VULNERABLE

TOP URBAN GREENING OPPORTUNITIES:
Both the City of Darwin and the City of Palmerston, the only two urban parts of the Northern Territory, would benefit from urban greening.
SNAPSHOT

KEY STATISTICS 2009* 2016

Tree Canopy Cover 28.05% 28.9% 0.85% Gain
Shrub Cover 8.91% 10.9% 2% Gain
Grass Cover 44.95% 35.7% 9.25% Loss
Hard Surface 18.05% 24.4% 6.35% Increase

SHRUB & TREE CANOPY COVER CHANGES IN NT LGAs 2009-2016

GREEN COVER GAIN & LOSS IN NT LGAs 2009-2016

An urban heat island is an area that heats up more than – and stays hotter than – its surrounding areas due to human impact of hard surfaces and development. Colours are used below to differentiate intensity of urban heat islands.
URBAN HEAT CONTINENTS

Contiguous areas of urban heat spots or islands show a phenomenon more akin to an urban heat continent than a spot or island. The colours differentiate the various heat continents.
Despite the 3.8% decline in canopy in the City of Darwin, there has been a 5.69% increase in shrubbery, which according to trends elsewhere in the country, would suggest an increase in canopy over time.

In the City of Palmerston, the 5.6% increase in hard spaces has been balanced out by an almost equivalent increase in canopy cover.
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