

## If you see a cane toad:

- Take pets away from the vicinity and make sure children are supervised.
- Wear rubber or gardening gloves and safety glasses.
- Carefully pick up the cane toad by the back legs and put it in a plastic bag or container with air holes and a small amount of water.
- Transport the suspected cane toad, alive, to one of the drop-off points where it will be identified and humanely euthanased.
- Sterilise your hands and other items that have come in contact with the toad with antiseptic wash.

**Cane toads are poisonous at all stages of their life cycle, including as eggs and tadpoles. They secrete, and can squirt, toxin from glands on their shoulders when they are roughly handled or feel threatened. Their toxin causes severe symptoms and even death in people and animals. Cane toads are toxic even after they are dead. Contact DEC for appropriate disposal methods of dead toads.**

### For more information and assistance contact:

For Kimberley residents and visitors please call DEC's Kununurra office on (08) 9168 4200.

For all other areas of WA please call 1800 084 881.

[www.dec.wa.gov.au/canetoads](http://www.dec.wa.gov.au/canetoads)

Native Kimberley frogs



*Litoria inermis* - bumpy rocket frog

Native Kimberley frogs



*Platyplectrum ornatum* - ornate burrowing frog

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# Keeping toads out of your backyard

**There are a number of things you can do to help keep cane toads out of your backyard. The most successful way to ensure your property is toad-free is to regularly 'toad bust' your yard. This, and other methods, are detailed in this brochure.**



## 'Toad busting'

Toad busting your yard involves regularly checking your property for toads. You'll need a plastic bag or container with air holes to hold the toads, rubber or gardening gloves, eye protection, and a good torch.

## Cane toad traps

Cane toad traps may work in your yard. Kununurra and Wyndham residents can obtain a basic trap from the Shire depot for a small deposit fee. You will be provided with a cane toad trap sheet that outlines how to get your trap working.



Cane toad trap.



Department of Environment and Conservation

Our environment, our future



If you live elsewhere in WA or would like to purchase a cane toad trap, there are a number of options:

- Kimberley Toad Busters cane toad trap (phone (08) 9168 2576)
- The Backyard Toad Trap (available from Toad Trap Australia at [www.toadtrap.com.au](http://www.toadtrap.com.au))
- Paul Baker's Cane Toad Trap (write to Paul Baker, 3202 Edith Farms Rd, Katherine NT 0850)

## Maintain your fence

If you have a fence that is made out of iron or colourbond, make sure the gaps under the fence are filled. To block areas under the gate, use anything from shade cloth to a mesh product with a minimum size of 25-millimetre squares to keep toads out but allow native animals to move in and out of your yard.

## Reduce water around the house

Cane toads will use any source of water to breed in, so it is a good idea to minimise the amount of water around your house that cane toads can use. If you have a swimming pool or fish pond, you are advised to place toad-proofing material around the perimeter of these aquatic systems. Pools can be toad-proofed using shade cloth around the fence base that is 60 centimetres high. Fish ponds that native frogs use can be toad-proofed using shade cloth which has 'native doors' in it. Native doors can be gutter guard or similar mesh that allows native animals to get in and out of the barrier. Cane toad barriers will not keep every toad

out, so you will need to continue to do regular 'toad busts' in these areas.

## Turn off outside lights

Outdoor lights attract insects, which attract cane toads. Reduce the attraction of toads to your house by turning off outside lights as much as possible.

## Protecting our native frogs

Up to two-thirds of suspected cane toad sightings are native frogs. To help protect our native wildlife, the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) has established three live cane toad drop-off points in Kununurra:

- DEC Kununurra Depot – Lot 248 Ivanhoe Road
- Kimberley Vet Centre – 10 Leichhardt Street
- SWEK Depot – Bandicoot Drive



Drop-off point.

DEC field officers will empty these drop-off points on Mondays and Fridays. Cane toads will be humanely euthanased and native frogs will be released to appropriate areas around Kununurra.



For more information about identifying native frogs, visit [www.dec.wa.gov.au/canetoads](http://www.dec.wa.gov.au/canetoads)

