

Alcohol restricted premises

If you are concerned about friends or relatives causing trouble while drinking alcohol at your home or antisocial behaviour from people drinking in your area, you can apply to have your home declared alcohol free.

What is an alcohol restricted premises?

An alcohol restricted premises is an area where it is prohibited to consume, carry or store any alcohol.

Restrictions can be put in place for privately owned land and houses, public housing premises, schools, shopping centres, churches and hospitals.

You can apply to have your house, unit or a common area of your housing complex declared alcohol free.

Territory Families, Housing and Communities will support you to make this application.

How do I apply?

The Northern Territory Director-General Licensing administrates the system. Your Housing Officer will organise help through the local branch, who will help you complete your application and contact the Director-General Licensing.

The Director-General Licensing will make sure you understand the rules and consequences of having a premises declared alcohol restricted. You can give the Department permission to submit the application on your behalf.

What will happen when I apply?

The Director-General Licensing will make a decision based on the information provided in your application and discussions with you.

In all circumstances, you will need the support of most of the other occupants in your residence, or for common areas, the unit complex.

The Director-General Licensing will decide about the application after speaking to all other residents, the CEO (Housing), and the NT Police.

What happens when an application is approved?

The Director-General Licensing will arrange for a sign to be placed on the door of a unit or on the fence of a house. In the case of a unit complex, signs will be placed in common areas.

The sign will include information about the declaration and penalties for bringing alcohol onto that premises.

What happens if people drink in restricted premises?

The NT Police can enter an alcohol restricted premises without a warrant. Public Housing Safety Officers can enter a common area, your yard or with your permission, your residence.

If alcohol is found on the premises, NT Police or Public Housing Safety Officers can seize it and destroy it. The person responsible for the alcohol can be fined by the NT Police, and court action may be taken if necessary. Visitors drinking or storing alcohol at the premises can be banned by the NT Police for up to 12 months from the premises.

If visitors are causing antisocial behaviour in and around the public housing premises, you may ask your visitors to leave, call your local Housing office or Public Housing Safety Officer on 1800 685 743, or call NT Police on 131 444 for assistance. Public Housing Safety Officers can also issue visitors with a Notice of Direction to stop the behaviour. Refer to the Visitor Management fact sheet for more information.

What should I do if I see people with alcohol in restricted premises?

You should report this to the NT Police. For 24-hour assistance call NT Police on 131 444.

In case of an emergency, always call NT Police on 000.

Where can I get more information?

To find out more, visit the website nt.gov.au or contact your local Housing office:

Greater Darwin	(08) 8999 8814
Arnhem	(08) 8987 0533
Central Australia	(08) 8951 5344
Big Rivers	(08) 8973 8513
Barkly	(08) 8962 4497
Top End	(08) 8995 5122