

24/5/06

Bay algae study still searching for answer

A PUBLIC forum and workshop was due to be held yesterday as part of ongoing investigations into recent algal outbreaks in Roebuck Bay.

Blooms of the toxic blue-green algae *lyngbya* – otherwise known as mermaid hair – were discovered in the bay earlier this year and in 2006.

Department of Environment and Conservation senior research scientist Bob Prince said investigations were continuing into the latest outbreaks to determine the status and threat posed by the blooms, which can affect wildlife such as fish and dugongs and potentially cause a range of symptoms if touched by humans.

"Initial investigations showed some evidence of elevated nutrient levels in town stormwater, but the investigation must now be expanded to look at the other potential sources and stormwater in more detail," he said.

Monitoring bores are being installed later this year near local wastewater disposal sites while blue-green algae experts from Perth and Queensland will be invited to plan the next stages of the investigations.

Scouts prepare to go door-to-door

BROOME'S scouts will be more prepared than ever after taking on part of the task of delivering the *Broome Advertiser* to households around town.

First Broome Scouts group manager Shelley Eaton said the money raised would go toward covering the cost of attending jamborees and other activities. Two Broome scouts were heading to New Zealand in December while a number of other scouts were working their way toward attending the 2010 jamboree in Sydney.

A group of cubs was heading to Perth in October this year and the scouts were heading to Perth in October next year.

Ms Eaton said other funds raised would go toward buying equipment and construction materials for projects such as shelters, rafts and other scouting activities. Money was also being raised to buy a covered trailer to take camping and other resources for the group.

• For more information on *Broome Advertiser* street delivery, see the advertisement on page 10.



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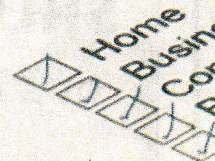


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