



Australian Government
Australian National Botanic Gardens

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday 2 March 2012

Canberra's Rainforest comes to life at night

Canberra's young and old are invited through the garden gates for an evening of adventure — to discover the magically lit Rainforest Gully and experience the sounds and scent of the Australian National Botanic Gardens at night.

A new lighting display at the Garden's Rainforest Gully will be turned on for the first time tonight as part of Canberra's *Enlighten* festival.

"This special after dark experience will highlight the rich diversity of plants in our rainforest and provides a new tourism opportunity for visitors to the Gardens and Canberra," the Gardens' Executive Director, Dr Judy West said.

"This lighting project, jointly funded by the Australian National Botanic Gardens and the Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens, uses the latest technology in LED lighting — resulting in high quality lighting and low use of power."

"We are proud to support this wonderful new addition to the Australian National Botanic Gardens and are very excited to see the lights turned on for the very first time," President of the Friends of the Australian National Botanic Gardens, Mr David Coutts said.

The rainforest lighting experience can be booked by school and tour groups and will be available to the general public during special events.

The Australian National Botanic Gardens is celebrating *Enlighten* with a series of night-time guided tours titled *Twilight: A Family Adventure*. The tours will run on Friday 2 March, Saturday 3 March, Friday 9 March and Saturday 10 March.

Come along, who knows what you might discover in the Gardens at night?

Further details are available at: <http://enlightencanberra.com.au/>

Media contact: Julie Akmacic (02) 6250 9405 0419 441 772