

BREAK THRU PEOPLE SOLUTIONS

WATCH OUT FOR THE GREEN ARMY INVASION

Next time you drive through Townsville, slow down and see if you can spot the Green Army hard at work. As of Monday 29 August, the Green Army have been out in force, helping council officers from Townsville City Council revegetate areas along creeks and rivers and in other spots in need post Cyclone Yasi.

The Green Army project is an exciting new initiative from local employment office, Break Thru People Solutions. The 30 local participants in the project are receiving both classroom based and on-the-job accredited training such as chainsaw operation, chemical application, First Aid and entry level construction skills. This in turn will give the participants a competitive edge when applying for a range of jobs with local councils, national parks, landscaping, horticulture and/or construction.

As an added bonus, the 30 local participants involved in the project are being paid for their work placement in the 26 week program.

“The response to the advertisement for participants was overwhelming with over 150 people applying within a few days,” says Darren Sense, Training Manager for Break Thru People Solutions. “The selection process was very difficult as there were only 30 positions available.”

The Green Army project has been funded through the *Skilling Queenslanders for Work* initiative. In 2011/12 the Queensland Government will invest \$104 million in the *Skilling Queenslanders for Work* initiative. This project also received a grant of \$617,880 from the \$83 million Queensland Natural Disasters Jobs and Skills package.

“Green Army has the potential to be extremely successful as a transition into work for many members of our local community. The local environment will benefit greatly as the Green Army team removes debris left over from the cyclone and revegetate badly eroded and damaged areas throughout Townsville,” says Darren.

For more information on *Skilling Queenslanders for Work* visit www.employment.qld.gov.au or call **1300 369 925**.



The Green Army

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THE GREEN ARMY IN ACTION AND HARD AT WORK

