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## Safety checklist



- Keep kids and pets away from the cane toad



- Pick up the toad by its back legs, pointing its head away from you



- Wear a glove or put a plastic bag over the toad



- Wash your hands with soap afterwards

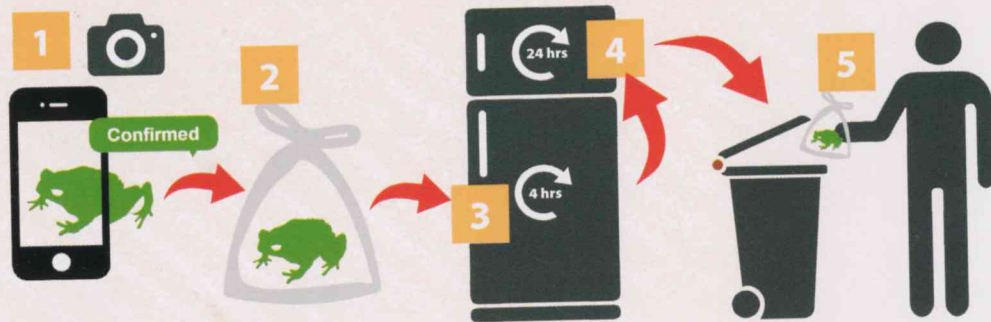
## Poisons Information Line 13 11 26

## Euthanasing cane toads – cooling and freezing

Cooling and freezing is the widely-used and preferred method for members of the public to kill cane toads. The following five steps are recommended:

- 1 Check the ID (see over the page for ID checklist) to ensure it is a cane toad, take a picture and text or email it to Parks and Wildlife Service to confirm the ID (see details below)
- 2 Place cane toads in a container, such as a plastic bag or container with a secure lid.
- 3 Put the container in a refrigerator for a minimum of four hours (this will anaesthetise the toads).
- 4 Put the container in a freezer until the toads are frozen solid (at least 24 hours).
- 5 Dispose of the container in your big green bin on bin day.

*If plastic bags are used, toads should be wrapped first in paper to prevent their skin from freezing to cold surfaces.*



For more information and assistance visit:

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

If you think you have found a cane toad, take a clear photo and text it to 0400 693 807 or email [canetoads@dbca.wa.gov.au](mailto:canetoads@dbca.wa.gov.au)

Cover: Common planigale sniffing a cane toad. Photo – Jonathan Webb



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# Cane toads in Western Australia



DOWNLOAD THE  
**CANE TOAD APP**  
from the iTunes app store



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## Biodiversity facts

- Native species can be poisoned when they try to eat cane toads.
- Key species at risk include some snakes, goannas, bluetongue lizards, freshwater crocodiles and northern quolls.
- Cane toads have not caused any species to become extinct, but can significantly impact local populations.

## What is being done?

### Quarantine

- Cane toads have been known to hitch a ride on trucks, caravans, and other vehicles.
- Parks and Wildlife reminds all travellers leaving an area with cane toads to **'check their load for a toad.'**

### Education

- Parks and Wildlife's education team visits schools to teach the community about cane toad identification, and the impact of cane toads on native species.
- Parks and Wildlife has released a cane toad teacher resource. **For more information visit [www.dbca.wa.gov.au/canetoads](http://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/canetoads).**

### Research and Collaboration

- Ongoing research is being carried out Australia-wide to develop new tools for managing cane toads.
- Parks and Wildlife is implementing landscape scale projects to mitigate the impact of cane toads on native species, using taste aversion and teacher toads.

## Is it a cane toad?

As many native frogs can easily be mistaken for cane toads, it's important to know how to tell the difference.

The big glands on the cane toad's shoulder release a poisonous milky substance when the toad feels threatened.

Cane toads have a very distinctive bony 'm'-shaped ridge over their nose.

Cane toad skin is dry and warty, rather than moist and slippery.



## To check:

- Is the skin dry and warty?
- Are there glands on the toad's shoulders?
- Is there an 'm'-shaped ridge on its nose?

Any toads found **outside** the East Kimberley must be reported to Parks and Wildlife Service (see over the page). Do not kill these animals, a Parks and Wildlife officer will contact you with further directions.

## Native frogs commonly mistaken for cane toads

### South west frogs



*Heleioporus eyrei* – moaning frog  
Photo – Brad Maryan



*Litoria moorei* – motorbike frog  
Photo – Brad Maryan



*Limnodynastes dorsalis* – western banjo frog

### North west frogs



*Limnodynastes convexiusculus* - marbled frog



*Cyclorana australis* - giant frog



*Litoria meiriana* - rock hole frog