

**Media Release:**

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## **Berry Springs Nature Park re-opens for Swimming**

The Berry Springs Nature Park will re-open for swimming this Friday 8 May 2008 from 8am.

Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Service Darwin Region Chief District Ranger Dal Hartley said the rangers have been working hard in order to have the popular Territory swimming spot open to the public again.

“Crocodile surveys of the Berry Springs Creek System are now complete and water levels are back to a safe level for swimming,” Mr Hartley said.

“We can only open the area to swimming once we have undertaken the crocodile surveys to ensure there are no crocodiles that may have moved into the area over the wet season, and on top of this we need to wait until the level of the pool drops to the safe marker, which is the bottom step of the main pool.

“While visitors and locals continue to visit Berry Springs all year round to picnic and enjoy the beautiful surrounds, being able to swim in the water again is something many have been waiting for.”

“Once the water level is down and the surveys completed we open as quickly as possible but people still need to take care as the water is still flowing at a reasonable pace.”

Mr Hartley said Berry Springs Nature Park has been closed since December 2007, which is an annual event when wet season rains flood the system and strong water flows make it dangerous for swimming.

“Saltwater crocodiles are extremely active during the wet season increasing the risk of crocodiles moving into the area during this time of year,” Mr Hartley said.

Visitors are advised to observe all signage at the site which identifies restricted areas and abide by glass restrictions in and near the water.

The Berry Springs nature park is located 47km south of Darwin and opening hours are 8am – 6.30pm daily.

To see the latest park access report go to [www.nt.gov.au/nreta/parks/access](http://www.nt.gov.au/nreta/parks/access)

Ends

**Media Note – for more information contact Dal Hartley on 0418 589 830**

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