

Media Release:

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Cracker Night at Casuarina Coastal Reserve

Revellers heading to Casuarina Coastal Reserve to celebrate Territory Day this Tuesday 1 July 2008 are reminded to protect the delicate nature of the Reserve and ensure public safety is adhered to.

Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Service senior district ranger Paul Cawood said there are very few places in the world that still permit fireworks and bonfires within a nature reserve.

“We’re reminding people that the Casuarina Coastal Reserve is an important conservation area and is sensitive to external effects, so care needs to be taken to return the area back to its natural state, which includes removing rubbish and extinguishing fires before leaving” Mr Cawood said.

“We’re asking people not to burn treated timbers, glass bottles, plastics, cans or tins, and not to bury their fire as hot sand and coals can cause injury to other beach users.

“People must supply their own firewood free of nails, screws and other fixtures, and firewood can not be collected within the Reserve.”

Mr Cawood said the beach between Rapid Creek and the northern tip of Lee Point is the only area within the Casuarina Coastal Reserve that fireworks and bonfires are permitted.

“Buffalo Creek beach is off limits for both fires and fireworks as it’s a habitat for migratory birds,” Mr Cawood said.

“Rangers will be patrolling car parks, cliff tops, picnic areas and other ‘no-go’ zones to ensure public safety is adhered to.

“We will also be handing out garbage bags on the night for people to take their rubbish home, or to leave by the bin for collection the next morning, it is important people don’t burn or bury their rubbish.

“Cracker night at the Reserve is always a top spot – it has a spectacular setting and provides a fun time for all – so it’s important that we protect and preserve it for future Cracker nights to come.”

For more information people can contact the Casuarina Coastal Reserve Ranger Station on 8947 2305.

Ends

Media Note – for more information contact Paul Cawood on 8947 2305

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