

**Media Release:**

**25.07.11**

## **Desert Park to Host Native Garden Walks**

Alice Springs Desert Park visitors can learn how to identify local plants and get expert tips on how to grow them by taking part in the Park's Native Garden Walks.

Hosted by the Park's horticulture team, the first one-hour guided walk will take place on Sunday, 31 July 2011 to celebrate National Tree Day.

Alice Springs Desert Park Curator of Botany Scott Pullyblank said the walk will focus on native tree species, including eucalyptus, hakeas and bloodwoods, and participants will get seeds to take home to plant their own trees.

"There is not a more rewarding experience in nature than planting seeds of native plants and waiting for the first leaves to emerge through the soil," said Mr Pullyblank.

"At the Alice Springs Desert Park, we offer locals and tourists the opportunity to experience our culture and natural environment, and the Native Garden Walks are another way to add to that experience.

"The horticulture specialists leading the walks will be able to give visitors helpful tips on propagation techniques for some of the local species.

"If you have a passion for the environment and love gardening, then these walks are perfect for you."

The second walk, which will be held on Sunday, 28 August 2011, will focus on the different wildflower species of Central Australia, such as Poached Egg Daisy and Yellow Tops, and participants will also receive wildflower seeds to take home.

Both Native Garden Walks begin at 11am and cost \$10 per person.

The cost does not include Park entry fees, which are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children (aged 5 to 15).

For further information on upcoming events at the Alice Springs Desert Park, go to [www.alicespringsdesertpark.com.au](http://www.alicespringsdesertpark.com.au).

Ends

**Media Note – for more information, contact Estelle Marshall on 8951 8707.**

**Image – Scott Pullyblank, left, and Doug Taylor prepare for the Native Garden Walks at Alice Springs Desert Park.**

Issued: 2:30pm Monday, 25 July 2011