

Media Release:

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Temporary Closure to Wet Play Area at Leanyer Recreation Park

The Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport (NRETAS) advises that the wet play area at Leanyer Recreation Park will be temporarily closed for eight weeks from today while repairs are undertaken to clear up the issue of water visibility in the lagoon.

NRETAS Executive Director for Sport, Venues and Indigenous Development Steve Rossingh said the rubber soft fall area beneath the play equipment will be replaced however other areas of the Park will not be affected.

“The lagoon and remaining Park including the slides will be fully operational whilst repairs are being undertaken to the wet play area, and a planned upgrade to the play equipment will also be able to take place concurrently,” Mr Rossingh said.

“The black rubber compound beneath the play equipment is deteriorating and clogging the filtration system, not allowing the water to clean properly and making it dark and murky.

“The entire existing soft fall floor area will be removed, additional drainage to the underlining slab will be installed and new soft fall flooring will be installed.

“This course of action offers a long-term solution with minimal disruption to the YMCA and the Park’s patrons, and it will ensure the area is re-open in time for the Christmas holidays.”

The murky water was first identified on 27 September 2011 at which time it was believed to have been caused by asphalt residue from a repair undertaken to the wet play area the week earlier.

When the problem occurred a second time, further investigation revealed it was the black rubber compound causing the issue.

Mr Rossingh said when the issue was first identified on 27 September the YMCA took water samples to ensure the water quality is safe for swimming as is part of their standard daily practice, and results indicated safe levels for swimming.

“The area was closed due to issues of water clarity, not water quality, as lifeguards could not effectively monitor Park visitors,” Mr Rossingh said.

“An upgraded product will be used for the soft fall area since it was first installed, and as such the issue should be permanently resolved.”

Ends

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