Bess Price
Minister for Parks and Wildlife

Parks and Wildlife Easter activities across Central Australia

24 March 2016

The four-day Easter break presents a perfect time for Territorians and tourists to hit the open road and spend the long weekend camping, fishing and partaking in other outdoor activities.

Minister for Parks and Wildlife Bess Nungarrayi Price says "The Territory’s Central Australian parks offer fantastic outdoor spaces for families to enjoy. “The Country Liberals are committed to providing safe and fun areas for families to enjoy the healthy and outdoors lifestyle. I encourage everyone to get outdoors this Easter break to enjoy the many updated facilities."

Close to town Alice Springs Desert Park will be hosting an Easter Bilby Family fun day on Sunday 27 March, 12pm-4pm. Join in the fun at the Alice Springs Desert Park with a day of special Bilby talks, treasure hunts, competitions and a chance to learn and discover lots about the beloved Bilby.

Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historical Reserve is a great spot for families to visit with shaded lawns for picnics and barbecues, cycling paths, mountain bike trails, walking tracks and a kiosk. The Heritage Precinct is open between 9am and 5pm for a small entrance fee.

For the more adventurous, recent rainfalls in most parks have filled popular waterholes in the central region so it is the perfect time for swimming. In the west, waterholes such as Ormiston Gorge, Ellery Creek Big Hole, Redbank Gorge and Glen Helen Gorge are all open.

"The Commission looks after some of our most culturally and historically-rich places in the country with walking tracks are a great way to experience the natural, scenic and cultural features of our national parks and reserves," Minister Price said.

“Visitors will find walking tracks suitable for all levels of fitness and experience throughout the region. Tracks in Watarrka National Park and Tjoritja / West MacDonnell National Park are all open and offer an opportunity to experience the beauty and solitude of the outback.”

Camping at Owen Springs Reserve, Tjoritja / West MacDonnell National Park, Trephina Gorge Nature Park and Finke Gorge National Park are all open for the weekend.
Rangers and Police will be conducting patrols around all parks throughout the Easter period to enforce the glass bottle bans and ensure the public are acting in a safe manner and respecting the rights of other park visitors.

The Parks and Wildlife Commission encourage those travelling to remote parks to please check road and weather reports to ensure they don’t get caught out by bad weather or closed roads. Remember; always let a reliable family member or friend know what your travel plans are and when you expect to return. Make sure you are well prepared, carrying the appropriate food, water, camping and recovery equipment.

Weather conditions can change quickly at this time of year, and visitors are encouraged to check local conditions prior to travel and heed all safety messaging.

Visitors are encouraged to plan to undertake any walks early in the day on hotter days, be well prepared, carry and drink adequate water and wear suitable sturdy footwear and a shady hat.

The Parks and Wildlife Commission Facebook page will have up to date information on openings and closures: [https://www.facebook.com/ParksandWildlifeNT/](https://www.facebook.com/ParksandWildlifeNT/)

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