Media Release

Willem Westra van Holthe, Member for Katherine
Deputy Chief Minister of the Northern Territory, Minister for Land Resource Management

Stay safe on Territory Day

30 June 2015

Residents are being encouraged to enjoy Territory Day celebrations in a safe and responsible way, to minimise the risk of injury from fireworks and limit the potential for fires.

Minister for Land Resource Management Willem Westra van Holthe said Territory Day is traditionally an extremely busy time for Bushfires NT staff and volunteers.

“Territory Day is a time for celebration and fun but it’s important people do everything in their power to remain safe and reduce the risk of injury or wildfire,” Minister Westra van Holthe said.

“We’re encouraging residents to think ahead by removing any flammable objects from areas where fireworks will be used and ensure working hoses and sprinklers are nearby if needed.

“Volunteers make a vital contribution to the Northern Territory with more than 1,000 of them assisting 22 brigades across the NT.

“I would like to see as many of these volunteers as possible enjoy Territory Day celebrations, instead of attending preventable accidents and fires,” Minister Westra van Holthe said.

Bushfires NT is also urging employers of volunteers to be lenient on their workers who’ve been called in to assist in keeping communities safe on Territory Day.

“These volunteers do a huge community service so everyone else can go about their business and have a good time,” Minister Westra van Holthe said.

“I acknowledge and thank the important contribution employers of volunteers make to public safety by making their staff available in times of need.

“I’d also encourage them to be understanding if Bushfires NT volunteers arrive late to work on 2 July after putting out wildfires caused by Territory Day celebrations.”

Media Contact:

Casie Scott, 0432 453 225