



WHITEMAN PARK
RECREATION & CONSERVATION RESERVE

MEDIA RELEASE

January 6, 2011

PREMIER CONSERVATION FACILITY OFFERS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE ENDANGERED NOCTURNAL WILDLIFE

The conservation focal point of Whiteman Park Woodland Reserve will begin offering nocturnal tours starting this February.

Park Manager, Steve Lowe, said tours of the reserve offer the public a rare opportunity to see some of the State's endangered fauna in a natural habitat, close to Perth.

"On our tours visitors will see the Park at its most active, when the nocturnal creatures are out foraging and exploring their surrounds," Mr Lowe said.

The Nocturnal Woylie Walks will be offered on Friday nights in February and March, allowing visitors to experience the reserve on a balmy summer evening and learn from experienced guides about its inhabitants.

One of the highlights of the nocturnal tours is the chance to see the critically endangered woylie (*Bettongia penicillata* or brush-tailed bettong) within their breeding enclosure.

Environment and Natural Areas Manager, Dr Christine Rafferty, said the woylies were breeding well within the reserve.

"Our ongoing monitoring has revealed a number of young woylies out of the pouch, which will be an absolute privilege for visitors to see on the evening tours," Dr Rafferty said.

"Nowhere else can people experience such a conservation effort in the heart of the metropolitan area."

Woodland Reserve is a specially-designed 50 hectare electrified predator-proof facility, constructed to provide a world-class breeding ground for Western Australia's rare and endangered fauna.

Nocturnal Woylie Walks are offered every Friday night in February and March, from 7.00pm to 8.30pm. Bookings are essential on 9209 6000 or visit www.whitemanpark.com for more information.

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