



**ACT**  
Government

Territory and Municipal Services

# MEDIA *Release*

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## **PARTIAL CLOSURE OF MOUNT AINSLIE NATURE RESERVE EXTENDED**

A section of Mount Ainslie Nature Reserve between Mount Ainslie Drive and Campbell Park Offices off Northcott Drive will remain closed until at least Friday 24 February 2012, Territory and Municipal Services announced today.

The closure was put in place on Thursday 17 November 2011 while a detailed survey of the area was undertaken for unexploded ordnance (military ammunition which has been fired, but failed to explode). This was done following the revelation the area had previously been used as a Defence training ground and firing range in the 1940s and 1950s.

The survey undertaken by a contractor engaged by the National Unexploded Ordnance Office uncovered the waste remnants of six mortars. No further unexploded ordnance was found.

“Defence, however, recommended that a small area of the park be further surveyed for items which may be buried. This survey has so far found four pieces of unexploded ordnance buried under the ground which have been safely detonated by the Department of Defence,” said Stephen Hughes, Manager, National Parks, Reserves and Rural Land.

“The contractor will continue their survey work before making a recommendation to the ACT Government about when the reserve can be reopened.

“Clear warning signage has been erected at relevant access points to the reserve, as well as along fencing, advising about the extension of the closure.

“I would like to thank the public for their continued patience while the survey process is undertaken.”

Statement ends

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