



Dr Anne Fraser is helping to relocate the amphibians.

Getting the jump on a new pond

A SMALL population of frogs that made a Ringwood nursery their home will be moved to a new breeding ground.

The frogs are a popular feature of the Kurunga Native Plant Nursery, which will soon be replaced by a two-storey, state-of-the-art car dealership centre.

The nursery has been at the site for 22 years and is expected to move to its new premises at Mt Evelyn this month.

Unfortunately, nursery staff are unable to move the frogs because of the risk of them transmitting disease.

Concerned residents and sections of the science community have rallied behind the frogs and called on Maroondah Council to find them a new breeding ground close to home.

Council director city development Trevor Welsh told the *Leader* last week that the council had held discussions with a number of parties, including a local frog expert and the owner of the land, to find the frogs a new home.

"The change to the use of the site and loss of the breeding pond will not unduly disturb the frogs as they will move themselves along the creek," Mr Welsh said.

"The prime concern is to establish an alternate breeding pond as close as possible to the site before the next breeding season in winter 2006."

The council hopes to establish a breeding ground on Crown land next to the existing site.

To aid frogs, visit www.frogs.org.au.