**MEDIA RELEASE <INSERT DATE>**

**Connect with nature and your community with [Council Name] this National Tree Day**

**<Insert council name>** and Planet Ark are encouraging **<Insert council name>** residents to foster greater connection with nature and their community as part of National Tree Day 2022.

“National Tree Day is such a great opportunity for residents to connect with both nature and the **<Insert council name>** community, do something for your local environment and experience the many benefits of spending time outdoors,” said **<Mayor/Council Spokesperson>.**

“Over 26 million trees have been planted by Australian volunteers since 1996 as part of the program and we are excited to support the goal of getting another million in the ground this year.”

**<Insert council name>**’s National Tree Day event is taking place in **<area>** at **<site address and directions>** on **<date>** from **<time>**. Residents can register to volunteer at the event via the National Tree Day website.

“Australians understand they can make a personal difference through positive environmental action and National Tree Day provides a fantastic opportunity for them to do just that,” said Planet Ark co-CEO Rebecca Gilling.

“There are clear benefits to spending time in nature and by planting a tree you can help cool the climate, provide homes for native wildlife, and make your community a better place to live.”

Schools Tree Day (July 29) and National Tree Day (July 31) are Australia’s largest annual tree-planting and nature care events, with plantings taking place across the country on the last weekend of July.

National Tree Day is an initiative organised by Planet Ark in partnership with major sponsor Toyota Australia and its Dealer Network. For more information and to find events in your local area, please visit [**treeday.planetark.org**](https://treeday.planetark.org/).

**-ENDS-**

**For interviews, images, or information about National Tree Day sites in your area, contact:**

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| **<Insert name of council contact>** | Liam Taylor |
| **<Insert contact’s title>** | Head of Communications, Planet Ark |
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**About Planet Ark**

Planet Ark Environmental Foundation is an Australian not-for-profit organisation with a vision of a world where people live in balance with nature. Established in 1992, it is one of Australia’s leading environmental behaviour change organisations with a focus on working collaboratively and positively. Planet Ark promotes and creates simple, positive environmental actions – for everyone.