***Media Release <Insert date>***

**Connect in nature with <Insert Organisation Name> this National Tree Day**

**<Insert Organisation Name>** and Planet Ark are encouraging **<Area>** residents to plant trees, maintain their green spaces and connect in nature for Planet Ark’s National Tree Day.

“National Tree Day is one of the best ways to connect in nature and with our communities, do our bit for our local environment and experience the many benefits of spending time outdoors,” said **<Insert School Spokesperson>.**

**<Insert organisation name>**’s National Tree Day event is taking place in **<area>** at **<site address and directions>** on Sunday 29 July from **<time>**.

Last year over 250,000 people participated in National Tree Day, planting more than 920,000 plants at around 3,200 sites. This brings the initiative’s overall tally of trees planted to almost 24.5 million over 22 years.

Rebecca Gilling, Planet Ark's CEO, hopes that Australians will beat last year’s planting count and plant at least a million trees, grasses and shrubs.

“The number of trees planted is great to see but what matters most to us is seeing people connecting with each other in nature, using tools as simple as shovels and as complicated as smartphones to better understand and care for our natural environment.”

The theme for 2018 – *Connect In Nature* – looks at the myriad ways in which technology can enhance time outdoors and enrich our appreciation for the natural world using apps and other digital resources.

National Tree Day is organised by Planet Ark in partnership with Toyota Australia and its Dealer Network which provides on-the-ground support at tree planting sites across Australia.

To find out more visit **treeday.planetark.org**, call the **National Tree Day Hotline on 1300 88 5000** or contact your local participating Toyota Australia Dealership.

**-ENDS-**

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

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