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

**<Community> residents will connect in nature this National Tree Day**

**<Insert MP Name>** and Planet Ark invite **<Electorate>** residents to connect in nature and contribute to their natural environment this National Tree Day.

National Tree Day is taking place in **<area>** at **<site address and directions>** on Sunday 29 July from **<time>**.

“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 **<MP Title and Name>.**

Last year over 250,000 Australians 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.

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.

Rebecca Gilling, Planet Ark's Deputy CEO, hopes that Australians take the opportunity to not only connect in nature but with each other, enriching their communities and environments alike.

“We love hearing from Australians from all backgrounds about how they spend National Tree Day, whether it's planting a couple of saplings and having a barbecue or restoring an entire nature corridor it's a great opportunity to showcase our passion for our communities.”

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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