

1300 88 5000

National TreeDay®

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get growing!

Your guide to
getting on-board

National Tree Day is organised by Planet Ark in partnership with Toyota Prius



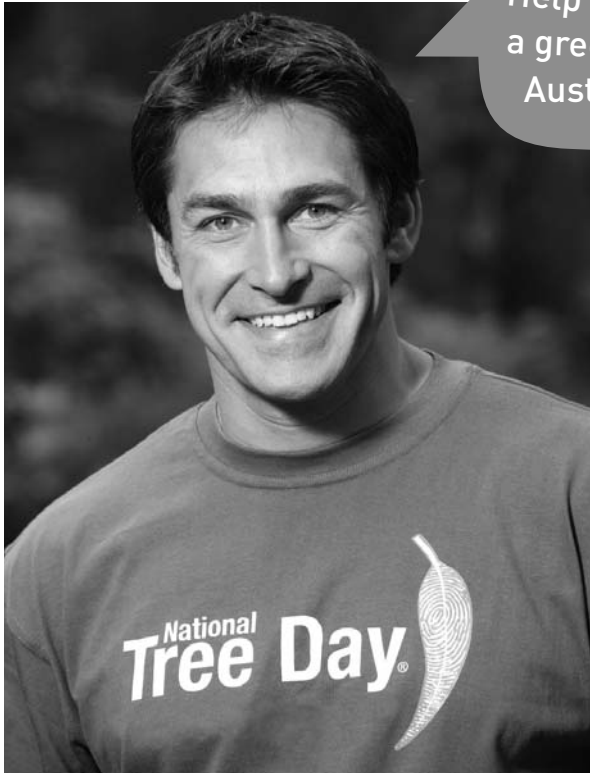
Proud sponsor



Schools Tree Day
Friday 31 July 09

National Tree Day
Sunday 2 August 09

Help grow
a greener
Australia



GET GROWING FOR NATIONAL TREE DAY!

Each year Planet Ark encourages Australians to get growing for National Tree Day.

Planet Ark created National Tree Day to help address important environmental issues such as habitat for native wildlife, biodiversity, local provenance, salinity, erosion and long term carbon offsetting. Trees also provide much needed shade and beauty! You can organise a tree-planting site in your local park or school, at a nearby creek, roadside or bushland area, even in your own backyard!

A MESSAGE FROM JAMIE DURIE

Growing a tree is rewarding in so many ways.

Planting native trees and shrubs on National Tree Day can help combat climate change, provide food and shelter for our wildlife and brings people from all walks of life together to achieve something valuable for their community... And importantly, growing trees helps children learn the value of caring for our environment.

So help grow a cleaner and greener Australia as well as a sense of community spirit by organising a tree-planting site with family and friends. It's such a simple and fun thing to do and your efforts will remain for generations to come!

Jamie Durie
National Tree Day Ambassador

ALTERNATIVE DAYS TO 'GET GROWING'

We are aware that climate conditions do not always allow for major plantings to occur on the same day around Australia. Planet Ark has therefore arranged volunteer insurance coverage on 12 alternative dates as well as National Tree Day and Schools Tree Day to enable planting at a time that suits your environment and community.

These additional insured dates can also be used for volunteers to undertake ongoing care activities at their site, to help ensure that the seedlings planted continue to grow and have the best chance of survival.

Schools are welcome to get growing on any day that is suitable. Please visit our website for more information on school insurance requirements treeday.planetark.org/coords/schoolinsurance

Please call the **National Tree Day Hotline** on **1300 88 5000** or visit treeday.planetark.org for further information on these additional tree-planting days.

WHO IS PLANET ARK?

Planet Ark is a wholly Australian organisation that works to help people reduce their day-to-day impact on the environment – at home, at work and within the community.

Planet Ark was set up 17 years ago as a not-for-profit foundation. Our strength lies in the councils, companies, schools, media outlets and individuals who support our push to bring about real and positive environmental change. In addition to National Tree Day, Planet Ark runs a variety of campaigns including 'National Recycling Week' and 'Cartridges 4 Planet Ark', as well as the **RecyclingNearYou.com.au** website and **Hotline (1300 733 712)**. Further information on any of our projects can be found at **planetark.org**

THE NATIONAL TREE DAY ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

As well as our sponsors and supporters, Planet Ark works with a number of organisations to make National Tree Day an environmental success. Representatives from key partners form the Environmental Advisory Committee to provide technical and specialist advice to enhance the environmental and social outcomes of the event. National Tree Day could not take place without the support of these groups, including:

Australian Association of Bush Regenerators
Australian Local Government Association
Education for Sustainability
Greening Australia
Landcare Australia
Trees For Life



LIONS ROLL THEIR SLEEVES UP!

Lions Clubs are official supporters of National Tree Day. Many clubs support the event by organising tree-planting sites and volunteers and by providing barbeque lunches for helpers and schools. "We look forward to helping communities to green up their local area," says Bryan Pirie, Lions Tree Day Coordinator. **To locate your nearest Lions Club, email lions@planetark.org or call Lions Head Office on 02 4940 8033.**

HOW TO ORGANISE YOUR TREE PLANTING SITE AND GET GROWING

The success of National Tree Day in your area will depend on good organisation and communication. Here are some easy steps to make your site a success!

BEFORE THE DAY

- Who's organising your site? Nominate a site coordinator and deputy to oversee preparation for the day, including a qualified first-aider. Also think about how volunteers will be able to identify these people (e.g. wear a badge or hat).
- Choose a tree-planting site – ensure you have permission to plant from the landholder.
- Register your site! To register your National Tree Day site, please visit our website – treeday.planetark.org – or call the **National Tree Day Hotline on 1300 88 5000**.
- Get advice on what kind of plants are native to your area, which ones would be suitable for your site and where to get them. Local native nurseries, councils or environment groups may help you with advice on sourcing native seedlings and running the site. Think about the environmental outcomes of your planting, and organise your seedlings early! Call our **National Tree Day Hotline on 1300 88 5000** for information on contacting your council, sourcing native plants and support. For more information on bush regeneration and the species to grow in your area, visit treeday.planetark.org/howto/what-to-plant.cfm
- Network within your local community to see who else can help you on the day or with donations towards plants, equipment and refreshments. Local businesses, schools, community, sports and religious groups may lend a hand at your site e.g. Lions Clubs, Rotary, Apex, Guides, Scouts, religious and sporting groups. You might like to invite the mayor or a local celebrity to attend.
- Lions Clubs are key supporters of National Tree Day and may be able to provide a sausage sizzle. Call **02 4940 8033** to get in touch with your nearest Lions Club, or contact the Lions National Tree Day Coordinator via email on lions@planetark.org (please note that any requests for Lions BBQs need to be made by mid-June for National Tree Day plantings).
- Talk to your local Toyota dealership to see if they can help at your site. Note that while Toyota is a major sponsor of National Tree Day, dealerships are run as individual franchises so are not obliged to help at local sites – but many of them do.



- Think about what your site needs. How many native species and seedlings will you plant and where do you plan to grow them? What about getting seedlings to the site? Does the site need preparation such as weeding? How long will this take? Do you have access to a water source and hoses or buckets for watering? Do you have plenty of mulch available? Do you have a site monitoring and maintenance schedule to foster long-term growth and survival? Remember, young plants will need watering until their roots get established (at least 8–12 weeks, or longer if it doesn't rain). You can register your site on additional National Tree Day insured dates for follow-up activities and ask volunteers if they can come back to help.
- Think about your volunteers – how many will you need and for how long? Make sure you let them know what they need to bring, what is provided and whether you require them to RSVP (this can help avoid having too many volunteers turn up to your site). Prepare signage to help volunteers find your National Tree Day site and contact your local media to publicise your activities. For site resources and posters visit the National Tree Day website at treeday.planetark.org/coords
- Publicise your site! Two weeks before you plant, take "before" photographs and send these to the local media – see the "Publicise Your Site!" section on the back page for more ideas.

ON THE DAY

- You will need a site registration desk with pens and enough 'Volunteer Registration Forms'. Also ensure you have read the 'Volunteer Insurance' information for National Tree Day participants. Both are available by calling **1300 88 5000** or by visiting treeday.planetark.org/coords
- Please ensure you have a first aid kit and designated (preferably qualified) first-aider at the event. In case of an accident on the day, act responsibly. Please call an ambulance or doctor for serious accidents. Report any incident to the **National Tree Day Hotline on 1300 88 5000**. You must also fill out an 'Accident/Incident Report Form' also available for download from treeday.planetark.org/coords
- Finalise preparations at your site. Find someone to position the seedlings. Do this early to ensure that plants go in the ground where you want them to!
- Allocate someone to demonstrate how to plant and to oversee the planting and Occupational Health and Safety on the site. Perhaps your local council or environment group can help with this.
- Take plenty of photos! You can upload these on the coordinator page of the National Tree Day web site – please make sure you have permission from people you photograph – you can download a 'photo-release form' from the coordinators web page.
- More tips and information for running your National Tree Day site can be found on the National Tree Day website.
- Be sure to visit your seedlings to weed and water them from time to time. It's a great opportunity to watch them grow!



SCHOOLS TREE DAY – HOW TO GET GROWING!

Visit treeday.planetark.org/schools for more information

Here are seven easy steps to get your students involved on Schools Tree Day. Schools Tree Day creates opportunities for hands-on learning to help students achieve outcomes in the Key Learning Areas of Studies of Society and Environment (HSIE in NSW) and Science. Schools Tree Day may also be a suitable activity to include in your Sustainable Schools Program.

- 1** Nominate a teacher or parent who is willing to oversee preparation for the day. This could be a K-6 teacher or a Year 7-12 teacher of Science, Geography, Personal Development Health and Physical Education or Design & Technology. Could this be you?
- 2** Pick an activity! Planet Ark strongly encourages the nurturing and long-term care of native plants and shrubs. You could celebrate Schools Tree Day by planting a bush tucker garden, a butterfly garden, a desert garden, going on an interpretive walk, bush regeneration, or weeding and caring for what you already have. Students can also plant a tree to honour a beloved friend or relative, a retired teacher or former pupil – or even celebrate the birth of a new family member.
- 3** Pick a spot for students to get growing. This could be at the school or somewhere in the local community.
- 4** Pick a day. Your school may want to hold a tree-planting event on a day other than Schools Tree Day. Maybe your school will register sites for a number of planting days? Call the **National Tree Day Hotline on 1300 88 5000** for further information on insurance coverage.
- 5** Register your site so it counts towards the national total – by calling the **National Tree Day Hotline 1300 88 5000**, or registering online at treeday.planetark.org
- 6** Structure the experience around a simple lesson on trees:
By growing certain native trees and shrubs, students could help provide food and shelter for local endangered wildlife.
Students can find out if they can help to solve particular environmental problems in their local area by growing certain trees or shrubs.
Lesson plans and fun activities can be found at treeday.planetark.org/schools
- 7** Ask your community nursery, Council, National Parks and Wildlife Service, local Greening Australia office or Landcare group if they can help by supplying native seedlings or seeds. Perhaps they can also provide buckets and shovels on the day and a demonstration of how to plant? Call the **National Tree Day Hotline on 1300 88 5000** for local council and other contact details.



WHAT YOU NEED TO GET GROWING ON NATIONAL TREE DAY

GET YOUR GEAR ON

Remind your volunteers to slip slop slap, bring water and to wear sturdy footwear, long pants and gloves. Make sure people know that they can just turn up on the day and that planting will proceed, rain, hail or shine!

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

You will need – a basic first aid kit, hand trowels, spades, stakes, mallets, tree guards, mulch and buckets for watering seedlings before and after planting. Used milk cartons make great tree guards and break down as the trees grow.

YOUR AUTOGRAPH, PLEASE

Have your registration desk clearly marked and ensure you have enough 'Volunteer Registration Forms' and that every participant signs in. Forms are available at treeday.planetark.org/forms or by calling 1300 88 5000.

GRAB YOURSELF A SEEDLING

Ensure volunteers know where you want the seedlings planted and why – e.g. are you planting to help local wildlife or to combat salinity? Ensure you select the right kind of native grasses, shrubs and tree seedlings for your local area and get growing!

DEMONSTRATE

Allocate someone to conduct planting demonstrations for volunteers. Show your volunteers how to plant trees, shrubs or grasses and make sure they are comfortable with this before you leave them to plant on their own. It is vital that you do this to help the plants survive.

LUNCH FOR HARD WORKERS

Perhaps your local Lions or Rotary Club will help organise a sausage or veggie burger sizzle at your site!

RESULTS

Planet Ark counts the number of trees planted and how many volunteers helped at your site. Please register your results online at treeday.planetark.org/coords/ or send your 'Results Registration Form' to Planet Ark. Remember that Planet Ark strongly encourages the long-term care of the trees that you plant on National Tree Day. Be sure to schedule visits for aftercare and maintenance of your plantings.

CASE STUDY: BALDIVIS CHILDREN'S FOREST, WA

Baldivis Children's Forest is located in the semi rural town of Baldivis approximately 60 kilometres south of Perth. A site that spans 20 hectares, it encompasses what remains of the Tuart Woodlands and a portion of the heritage listed Outridge Swamp.

Revegetation activities have been taking place at the Baldivis Children's Forest for eight years. It was originally chosen as a Schools Tree Day site because concerned school children wanted to preserve some of the local environment that was being cleared for housing.

The project has since grown to a year round project with corporate funding for two part time staff. In 2007, 900 children from 12 schools joined dozens of teachers and a host of community volunteers to plant more than 2,800 seedlings over ten days.

With help from local Government and community groups such as Landcare and the Baldivis Bush Fire Brigade, students and teachers undertake year round site maintenance including watering and weed control.

The Forest provides food and shelter to many animals including the western grey kangaroo, southern brown bandicoot and 25 different species of reptiles. In 2005 a capital works program commenced and has seen walking tracks, fencing, toilets, a BBQ, outdoor classroom and amphitheatre constructed allowing the community to enjoy the environment they have worked so hard to sustain. Year round Nyoongar cultural workshops and school activity days focus on environmental conservation, science, the Arts and Aboriginal culture.

Tranby College Students get growing with Tree Day



National Tree Day activities, which are hosted annually by the City of Yarra, help to beautify surrounding areas.



CASE STUDY: MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT

Beginning near Heathcote Junction, a small rural town about an hour's drive north of Melbourne, Merri Creek extends south for approximately 70 kilometres before it joins the Yarra River in Clifton Hill.

Some of Australia's most threatened ecosystems are found along Merri Creek and its surroundings. Local Government, environmental groups, school students and community members work collaboratively year-round to manage the endangered ecological communities that stretch along its banks.

The Merri Creek Management Committee, an environmental management agency comprising local community groups and the six municipalities that share the catchment, aims to ensure the preservation of the natural and cultural heritage and the ecologically sensitive restoration of the corridors of the Merri Creek and tributaries.

At a local level, National Tree Day activities, which are hosted annually by the City of Yarra, help to beautify surrounding areas. Regionally, National Tree Day activities contribute to the ongoing revegetation scheme that aims to create a wildlife corridor stretching from the Yarra River along Merri Creek to the base of the Dandenong Ranges. National Tree Day activities are also assisting a Parks Victoria plan that aims to link existing parks around Melbourne City, creating a 'green web' of natural spaces for the community to enjoy.

Clifton Hill locals dig in deep for Tree Day



PUBLICISE YOUR SITE!

Follow our tips to get the word out about your site
– it's easy, here's how:

- Ask your friends and family to help you spread the word.
- Make your own flyers. Do a letterbox drop to households close to your site. Download marketing material and media releases from the National Tree Day website at treeday.planetark.org/promotion
- Update the National Tree Day adaptable Media Release and send it to your local newspaper or radio station.
- Call and ask them to promote your site before the day! Maybe you can visit them in person?
- Remember to register your site so that we can direct volunteers and local media to your planting event.
- Why not write to your local Member of Parliament, Mayor or Councillors and invite them to your site? It's a great photo opportunity for your local newspaper, and these people can really lift the profile of your site.
- Need support materials? For additional posters call **1300 88 5000**. For celebrity photographs go to treeday.planetark.org. Send the pictures to your local newspaper or use them in your club or council newsletter.
- Take plenty of pictures before, during and after your event. Make sure you have permission from anyone you photograph (you can use National Tree Day Photo-Release Forms for this). After the day upload your best pictures to the National Tree Day website!
- If the site is supported by a local council, environment or community group you may be able to promote your event on their website, in their newsletter or at a local council or group meeting. Perhaps you can put up posters at the council's customer service centre, municipal community centres, libraries or community notice boards.

Remember to register your site so that we can direct volunteers and local media to your event.



Toyota Australia is celebrating its 10th Anniversary as a major sponsor of Planet Ark's National Tree Day.

Its continued support is part of Toyota's commitment to keep 'working for the environment', and is reflected through its environmentally responsible manufacturing methods, technologies, product, and company practice.

In July 2009 Toyota will launch the third generation Prius – a hybrid vehicle with superior fuel economy and ultra-low emissions that are already enjoyed by more than 1.2 million users worldwide, including more than 12,000 Australians.

In 2010 Toyota will launch Australia's first locally manufactured hybrid vehicle, the Hybrid Camry. www.toyotahybrid.com.au

Both the Prius and Hybrid Camry are powered by Toyota's unique Hybrid Synergy Drive (HSD) system – an environmentally responsible technology which is intended for use across the entire Toyota range in years to come.

For further information, please visit www.toyota.com.au.com.au/treeday

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