



Media Release

Friday, July 30th, 2010

NRM North and Girl Guides join forces for National Tree Planting Day

NRM North has praised Girl Guides in Tasmania for getting involved in National Tree Planting Day.

NRM North staff will join local Girl Guides in being knee high in dirt for National Tree Planting Day this Sunday.

The event is organised by Planet Ark in an effort to encourage all Australians to plant more native trees and shrubs in their local communities.

In support of the initiative, Guides in Tasmania will aim to plant 7,000 trees at various locations around the State.

Local Guide Unit Leader, Larissa Williams, said in a recent national survey of Guides, the environment was listed as one of the most critical issues at a local level.

"With this in mind, Guides from throughout the State are keen to get behind National Tree Planting Day to play their part in making a difference to our local environment."

In the same survey, Guides also listed pollution and deforestation as key issues facing not only their local communities, but the world.

"If each of us plants just one tree, we can make a small difference to the world we live in and go some way in combating these issues." Mrs Williams said.

To assist Girl Guides Australia in making the most of this year's National Tree Planting Day, the Australian Government has provided funding through its Women's Leadership and Development Program.

The funding, which was provided to Girl Guides Australia in support of its 2010 Centenary celebrations, will be used by around 100 local Guide Units to purchase native trees, seedlings and planting equipment.

Girl Guides Australia's Chief Commissioner, Lynne Price, said the funding had resulted in an extra 7,000 trees and native seedlings being planted around Australia.

"National Tree Planting Day has become an important event in the Guiding calendar, however our work on the environmental front extends beyond this." Mrs Price said.

"As an organisation, our values are aligned to the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals. Guide around Australia have been learning about these Goals – what they are and the steps they can make on a local level to assist in achieving these goals.

"Goal number 7 is related to the environment and as a result, it's something that Guides have been particularly passionate about. Guides are saying 'together we can save our planet' as they work towards achieving this goal and National Tree Planting day is just one way we can take a positive step in this direction."

NRM North's Chief Executive Officer, James McKee, said the natural resource management organisation was pleased to be able to support local Girl Guides on Sunday.

"It is fantastic that Tasmania has so many Girl Guides who are passionate about doing something positive for the environment.

"Events like this can make a big difference and NRM North staff are eager to put their tree planting skills to work and get their hands dirty with the Girl Guides this Sunday." Mr McKee said.

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For more information contact:

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Photo / Interview opportunity:

NRM North's Community Engagement Manager, Melissa Lewarn, and Local Guide Unit Leader Larissa Williams, will be planting trees with girl guides at Jetty Road, Legana, from 11am to 2pm on Sunday.

Planting sites in Tasmania this Sunday are:

1. Corra Lynn – Scout property named Scout Island
2. Ulverstone – Scout property named Paton Park
3. Launceston - H.C. Abbott Guide hall – Paterson St, Launceston
4. Jetty Rd, Legana – open space reserve
5. Deviot - Guide property named Ninethana
6. Grubb St Reserve , Grubb St, Beaconsfield
7. Georgetown - foreshore (old sewerage station to North St)
8. Bridport Foreshore / beach parkland
9. Whitemore – farm property
10. Roches Beach – Guide property named Orana
11. Huon - Brightside Farm & Sanctuary in Cradoc

***** PLEASE NOTE:** NRM North should not be referred to as 'Natural Resource Management North.' While NRM does stand for Natural Resource Management, 'NRM North' is the official trading name of the organisation.