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OFFICEWORKS LAUNCHES AUSTRALIAN-FIRST 2-FOR-1 TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE WITH GREENING AUSTRALIA

Australians can feel better about their office supplies purchases from today, with Officeworks launching [Restoring Australia](#) – an initiative which sees the leading retailer plant two trees for every one used by customers, based on the weight of the paper and wood in its office supplies products.

Officeworks has partnered with respected environment non-for-profit, *Greening Australia*, to deliver the Australian-first initiative, which will see at least 200,000 native plants established each year across the country in key locations.

Officeworks Managing Director Mark Ward said, "Given about 8000 products in our office supplies range are paper and wood based, we saw a huge opportunity to empower our customers to shop more sustainably and improve the quality of Australia's landscapes."

In the second half of 2017, more than 100,000 seeds and seedlings will be planted across the Tasmanian Midlands, New South Wales Highlands and the Victorian Volcanic Plains, where more than 85% of the natural habitat has been lost.

The impact of Restoring Australia will be felt immediately, with more than 20 species local to the areas being planted, increasing water quality and revegetating bushland so that local endangered wildlife such as the Eastern barred bandicoot, Eastern quoll and Eastern Bettong can flourish.

With over 35 years of experience conserving and restoring Australia's landscapes, Greening Australia brings unparalleled expertise to the initiative. The organisation's team of restoration experts, scientists and researchers have been working with Officeworks to identify priority landscapes and have begun planting.

Greening Australia Acting CEO, Pauline Rawling said, "We are delighted to be a part of Restoring Australia. Our vision is to create healthy and productive landscapes where people and nature thrive – this sits at the heart of this initiative with Officeworks.

"It's refreshing to see an iconic Australian business such as Officeworks take a real leadership role in the environmental space and have a measurable impact on Australia's native flora and fauna," she said.

Ward concluded, "We are so proud of Restoring Australia, because it'll be doing just that, restoring and conserving landscapes across the country. Officeworks has a duty to operate our business responsibly and this initiative is our long-term commitment to making a positive difference to the communities where we live and work."

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For more information, imagery or interview opportunities please contact:

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Notes:

Restoring Australia is an extension of the [work](#) Officeworks is already doing in this space:

- Officeworks has not supplied single-use plastic bags since 2008. While 90% of customers currently choose to go bag-free, Officeworks offers the option to purchase a 5 or 10 cent kraft bag, with all proceeds donated to Planet Ark.
- Customers can also recycle their old technology through programs available in-store such as Bring IT Back, Cartridges 4 Planet Ark and Mobile Muster. In the last 12 months, with the help of its customers, Officeworks has collected:
 - More than 400,000 kilograms of computers and accessories and the equivalent weight of over 45,000 mobile phones. The 400,000 kilograms of computers and accessories translates to the separation and reuse of over 345,000 kilograms of metal, 44,000 kilograms of plastics, 20,000 kilograms of circuit boards and 6,000 kilograms of glass in new products.
 - More than one million printer cartridges for recycling through the Cartridges 4 Planet Ark program.
 - In total, Officeworks has collected more than one million kilograms of computer equipment for recycling, and since 2005, we have collected over 7 million cartridges for recycling, making us the largest retail partner of Cartridges 4 Planet Ark.
- Officeworks has taken a leadership position to promote and support the sourcing of 100% recycled or FSC-certified wood fibre products. At June 30 2017, 70% of all Officeworks' paper and wood-based products were derived from 100 per cent recycled content or having Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification.

About Officeworks:

Established in Richmond in 1994, Officeworks is Australia's leading retailer and supplier of office supplies, tech and furniture solutions for home, business and education needs. With three easy ways to shop - in store, online or by phone, customers be sure to find exactly what you need with our widest range, when you need, and all at the lowest prices. Plus, you'll enjoy friendly expert advice and helpful services. Officeworks offers customers more than 30,000 products on its [website](#), operates a national customer service centre and has a growing team of expert business specialists to cater for micro, small and medium business customers. As part of the Wesfarmers' group, Officeworks has an extensive national footprint operating 165 retail stores and employing more than 7,000 team members. Join Officeworks' online communities on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#) as well as at its small business content hub [Work Wise](#).

About Greening Australia:

Greening Australia is a national non-profit organisation that thinks bigger than the environment. The organisation has been working for over 35 years to deliver practical solutions to Australia's biggest environmental challenges. From restoring Tasmania as an island ark for Australia's most threatened mammals, to improving the health of the Reef, Greening Australia returns life to landscapes and restores balance to the natural environment in ways that work for communities, economies and nature.