



27 October 2010

*Media Release*

## **Household electronics tops National Recycling Week hit list**

Planet Ark is targeting household batteries, printer cartridges and mobile phones this National Recycling Week (November 8 -14) after receiving a surge in the number of enquiries from people who don't know what to do with the compact electronic items.

The environmental organisation receives more than 800 recycling enquiries a day related to household batteries, printer cartridges and mobile phones.

"Most people know to put their empty aluminium cans in the kerbside recycling bin, but when it comes to electronic waste we're less likely to get it right," says Planet Ark's Manager of Recycling Programs, Janet Sparrow. "With collection points at Australia Post and Officeworks outlets, '**Cartridges 4 Planet Ark**' and MobileMuster make it easy to recycle used printer cartridges and mobile phones."

"Battery recycling options are different for each council area so it's best to check Planet Ark's RecyclingNearYou.com.au for information on local recycling options," says Sparrow.

With only one in ten sheets of office paper currently recycled, workplaces are also high on Planet Ark's target list this National Recycling Week.

The **Friday File Fling** is a paper recycling initiative where participating companies provide their employees with time to sort through filing cabinets and desk drawers and recycle redundant paperwork and old documents.

"The Friday File Fling is a great opportunity to de-clutter your cabinets of files that you no longer need," says Sparrow. "Recycling or reusing single-sided office paper to make a notepad is a great way to recover a resource, just make sure confidential files are recycled in a secure way"

Also on the agenda this year is the **Big Aussie Swap** – an event that allows people to exchange their unwanted goods for free.

"For every item a participant brings to a Big Aussie Swap party they receive a token that can be used to purchase items which have been brought to the party by other people, says Planet Ark's Manger of Recycling Programs, Janet Sparrow. "Swap parties encourage reuse so are great for the environment. And because no money changes hands they're also a fun way to get new things for free which is good for the hip pocket."

For further information about recycling or any of Planet Ark's National Recycling Week initiatives, visit **RecyclingWeek.PlanetArk.org** or call the **National Recycling Hotline on 1300 733 712. National Recycling Week is happening from November 8 – 14.**

National Recycling Week is kindly supported by **Orange Power**, '**Cartridges 4 Planet Ark**', **Varta Rechargeable Batteries** and **The Aluminium Can Group**.

##ENDS##

To arrange an interview or for further information, interviews or images please contact:

Michelle Cook  
Planet Ark  
02 8484 7209  
[michelle@planetark.org](mailto:michelle@planetark.org)

Emma Franklin  
Planet Ark  
02 8484 7200  
[emma@planetark.org](mailto:emma@planetark.org)