



Media Release

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National Recycling Week highlights batteries and e-waste

With toxic and valuable resources either polluting the environment or going to waste, National Recycling Week (November 7-13) is a timely reminder that Australians could be doing better.

This year Planet Ark is targeting car batteries, other electronic waste and office paper in particular, as many householders and businesses are unsure of how to dispose of these materials.

“We are good recyclers of newspapers, aluminium cans and milk and juice cartons, however what to do with e-waste is still the biggest problem facing Australian households and businesses,” says Planet Ark’s Manager of Recycling Programs, Janet Sparrow. “Our two recycling information services receive hundreds of thousands of enquiries a year with the largest group being about e-waste.”

Printer cartridges, mobile phones and batteries are three of the most common forms of electronic waste and there are effective programs to deal with them. The ‘Cartridges 4 Planet Ark’ and MobileMuster programs both run through all Officeworks stores and participating Australia Post outlets. Cartridges and mobiles are recycled to high environmental standards.

More than 345 million batteries are purchased in Australia each year including 5.8 million car batteries. Until recently there wasn’t much that Australians could do with them. There are now well-established, nationwide networks for the responsible collection and recycling of used batteries thanks to Battery World and Century Yuasa.

“Recycling Week is a great opportunity to test your recycling knowledge by doing the Recycle Right Quiz,” says Sparrow. “What’s the most common recycling mistake? How many times can an aluminium can be recycled? Take the Quiz, find out the answers, and go into the running to win one of 10 Planet Ark Green Prize Packs. And why not challenge your friends, family or colleagues too.”

Visit RecyclingWeek.PlanetArk.org/Quiz to do the Quiz.

Planet Ark founded National Recycling Week as a community education campaign in 1996, with the aim of bringing a national focus to recycling and minimising waste at home, at work and in the community.

For further information about any of Planet Ark’s National Recycling Week initiatives or to get involved in events in your area, visit **RecyclingWeek.PlanetArk.org** or call the **National Recycling Hotline on 1300 733 712**.

National Recycling Week is kindly supported by Major Sponsor **Tetra Pak** and Supporting Sponsors **The Aluminium Can Group, Battery World, Century Yuasa**, and **‘Cartridges 4 Planet Ark’**.

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

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