

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

# NOT TOO LATE FOR CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY!

## Aussies urged to take action and sign up for the March 5 event

Registrations are still open for Clean Up Australia Day 2023, with the national event taking place on Sunday 5 March. Chair of Clean Up Australia, Pip Kiernan encourages Aussies who are concerned about the environment to register.

"It means you're covered by public liability insurance but more importantly it means that we can count you as a participant - we want to make 2023 the biggest Clean Up Australia Day yet. It'll be a really clear message that Australians are concerned about the environment but determined to do some good – to roll up our sleeves, get out there and make a difference!

"It's such a good way to take positive action," she said. "Joining in on Clean Up Australia Day is a really practical step people of all ages can take to maintain and protect our environment. Concerningly, our recently released <u>National Rubbish Report</u> showed that plastics accounted for almost 2/3 of the rubbish our volunteers removed from the environment last year, a 17% increase from 2021".

Kiernan said it was unlikely at this stage that participants would receive the free kits containing gloves and bags that the charity sends community members (businesses are asked to pay a small fee to cover costs) in time for Sunday 5 March, but urged Australians to sign up to be counted.

"You'll need to grab a garbage bag and a pair of gardening gloves to get out there on Sunday but we'll still send you a free kit because we know that cleaning up Australia is something that communities want to do 365 days a year, and it means you'll have materials that you can throw in the boot of your car and take out when you're picnicking in a park or walking the dog or watching sport at the local oval."

Kiernan said there are many everyday changes that Australians can make outside of volunteering our time to Clean Up Australia Day. "We can opt for reusable shopping bags and coffee cups, avoid single use plastics, make purchases with longevity in mind, and actively seek out reusable and recycled packaging. These are small steps we can take where we successfully reduce, reuse and refuse as often as we can," Pip continues.

# Clean Up Australia Day takes place on Sunday 5 March, 2023, to sign up or make a donation visit <u>cleanup.org.au</u>

### ENDS

Clean Up Australia's 2022 National Rubbish Report can be found HERE

#### Imagery is available HERE

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#### Tags and information:

Tag: @cleanupaustralia Hashtags: #CleanUpAustralia URL: cleanup.org.au

#### About Clean Up Australia

Founded by lan Kiernan, AO, Clean Up Australia is one of the country's most recognised and trusted environmental organisations, inspiring and empowering communities to clean up, fix up and conserve our environment. Clean Up Australia Day is the nation's largest community-based environmental event and more than 20 million Australians have participated since its inception.

Clean Up Australia now works with community, governments and businesses to provide practical solutions to help all Australians live more sustainably every day of the year. Today the organisation's focus is as much on preventing rubbish entering our environment as it is removing what has already accumulated.



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