

17th October 2003

Media Release

The former ADI site at St Marys is looking for conservation volunteers!

The former ADI site in St Marys has been selected as a priority area to receive practical care from the Conservation Volunteers Australia, Better Earth program and supported by Delfin Lend Lease and ComLand. The former ADI site has environmental significance because the area contains one of the largest areas of Cumberland Plain Woodland in single ownership in the Sydney basin. The 900 hectare Regional Park will preserve the site's Cumberland Plain Woodland, and will provide a natural habitat for wildlife and native plants.

Conservation Volunteers Australia is Australia's largest practical conservation organisation, completing more than 1500 conservation projects across Australia every year.

Conservation Volunteers community participation resulted in more than 1.2 million trees planted in 2002 and more than 10 million trees planted over the past decade.

Last year community involvement totalled 100,000 project days contributing more than \$16 million of practical assistance to the preservation of the Australian environment.

From 27th October to the 7th November and ongoing over the next 6 months you can help build a Better Earth by becoming a conservation volunteer and undertaking habitat restoration, flora surveys, planting, seed collection, exotic weed monitoring and removal. This project is part of an ongoing commitment from Delfin Lend Lease and ComLand to rehabilitate the regional park in consultation with its future owners, the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Volunteering with Conservation Volunteers Australia is a great way to enjoy the outdoors, meet new people and learn new skills – while making a difference to the environment.

Conservation Volunteers Australia welcomes everyone who shares our love of the outdoors and our commitment to the Australian environment.

To organise footage or a photo opportunity or for more information about the Conservation Volunteers Australia project at the former ADI site at St Marys contact Sally Whitelaw Regional Manager Conservation Volunteers Australia on 02 9564 1244.

For more information on the Conservation Volunteers Australia Better Earth program contact Madeline Townsend on 03 5333 1483 or visit www.conservationvolunteers.com.au

Conservation Volunteers Australia Fact Sheet

- Conservation Volunteers Australia is Australia's largest practical conservation organisation.
- Founded in 1982 in Ballarat, Victoria as the Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers the organisation has grown into Australia's largest practical conservation organisation with offices in every capital city and regional centres across Australia.
- Conservation Volunteers Australia completes more than 1500 week long conservation projects across Australia each year, resulting in positive environmental outcomes, increased community participation, conservation skills and awareness.
- Conservation Volunteers Australia involves the community in conservation projects in urban, regional and remote Australia ranging from tree planting; seed collection; endangered species protection; weed control; flora and fauna surveys; walking trail construction; fencing and environmental monitoring.
- Conservation Volunteers Australia community participation resulted in more than 1.2 million trees planted in 2002 and more than 10 million trees planted over the past decade.
- Last year community involvement totalled 100,000 project days contributing more than \$16 million of practical assistance to the preservation of the Australian environment.
- Conservation Volunteers Australia expertise in managing volunteer involvement in conservation projects is widely recognised and Conservation Volunteers manages community participation in a number of major conservation events including Clean Up Australia Day (Victoria) and National Tree Day.
- Conservation Volunteers Australia has a highly successful volunteer recruitment strategy that includes international travel agents, schools, youth and environmental networks and volunteer centres.
- The Conservation Volunteers Australia website is a major volunteer recruitment tool and is currently the second most popular community website in Australia.
- Conservation Volunteers Australia manages the Commonwealth Government program Green Reserve. Green Reserve involves more than 1000 Australians aged between 35 and 65 years old in local conservation projects.
- On World Environment Day 2000, Conservation Volunteers Australia received the United Nations' highest environmental award - the Global 500 Honour Roll for Environmental Achievement.

**For more information visit
www.conservationvolunteers.com.au or
Freecall 1800 032 501**