



Pledge an ACT of GREEN

## Earth Day Network collects 500 million 'Acts of Green'

*With so many Australian library and information services setting sustainability goals, it's timely to check in with one of the great international environmental awareness campaigns of our time. Earth Day is celebrated around the world on April 22, and this year one of their special projects, A Billion Acts of Green, will also be celebrating having passed the halfway mark with over 600 million environmental actions from all over the world now registered.*

The Earth Day Network will use Earth Day as a springboard to reach its goal of one billion environmental actions by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro this June, and they are calling upon people everywhere to help make this important milestone a reality.

The Billion Acts of Green campaign began in the months preceding Earth Day 2010, the 40th anniversary of the first Earth Day. It has already been dubbed a global referendum on the environment and it's all part of the theme of Earth Day 2012, *Mobilise the Earth™*.

In the face of national and international inaction to solve pressing environmental problems such as climate change, organisers of Earth Day events around the world are galvanising the environmental movement and making world leaders take notice.

"This campaign is so moving because it highlights what people, governments and organisations can do every day to protect the environment; it gives people a chance to stand up and be counted, and all those little actions add up to something big," says Kathleen Rogers, President of the Earth Day Network. "It's hard to ignore a billion actions."

Earth Day activities for this year once again span the globe and extend long beyond the day itself. This year, Morocco pledged to plant one million trees. In China, ten universities participated

in month-long efforts to reduce the carbon footprint of their communities. Two hundred Catholic congregations contributed 100,000 acts of green through local service projects. More than 40 government and village leaders in Afghanistan worked to implement recycling programs and educational programs about environmental sustainability. And of course on the day itself, Australia will again proudly participate in the initiative that was born in Sydney and inspired by the World Wildlife Fund – Earth Hour. This year it is expected this event will

again connect millions of people in over 5000 cities and 135 countries who participate each year.

Pledging an Act of Green is easy and the act itself doesn't have to be huge, it just has to be real. Individuals, businesses, governments, and faith-based and civic organisations are all welcome to join in by pledging your Act of Green at [act.earthday.org](http://act.earthday.org).

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