



MEDIA RELEASE

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Investa celebrates National Tree Day with creek rehabilitation milestone

Chancellor State College and Investa Property Group will today team up to celebrate Schools National Tree Day by completing the landmark rehabilitation of one of the Coast's most important natural waterways, Sippy Creek.

10 students from the College will help Investa plant the final trees in the \$4 million project, which will return the creek to its original pristine condition.

Investa's commitment to the rehabilitation has seen the complete regeneration of the creek by creating a riparian and wildlife corridor, with the reintroduced native fauna already attracting wildlife back to the area.

More than 400,000 seedlings from 130 different native species were planted over 21 hectares of former degraded grazing land.

Investa's Michael Hopkins said planting the final trees to complete the rehabilitation was the perfect celebration of National Tree Day.

"This has been a huge collaborative effort between Investa and Council over the past four years, and the result is a clean and natural waterway to be enjoyed by the whole community," he said.

"We thought it fitting to include students of Chancellor State College in the final planting effort, as they represent the future of our community and will be the ones making use of it well into the future."

"While the occasion marks the completion of extensive planting work, our work will continue with maintaining and monitoring the rehabilitation site to ensure it thrives into the future."

Sippy Creek serves the purpose of draining the Ilkey Ridges and an area of the Mooloolah Plains into the Mooloolah River, but has suffered the ill effects of cattle grazing over several decades.

Co-ordinated by Planet Ark, National Tree Day, (August 2) and Schools Tree Day (July 31) make up Australia's biggest community tree-planting event.

Each year, around 200,000 Australian school students participate in Schools Tree Day – a National Tree Day event designed just for children, providing an opportunity for children to make a contribution to Australia's natural environment.

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