



## MEDIA RELEASE

### ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

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EPA and Myponga community plant trees to protect water quality

21 June 2007

A team of EPA staff and members of the Myponga community will plant one thousand native gum trees, wattles, sedges and rushes at Myponga on 22 June 2007.

The tree planting is part of the EPA Myponga Watercourse Restoration Project, a project that works with landholders to revegetate watercourses using local native plants.

EPA Chief Executive Dr Paul Vogel said EPA Officers will travel to Myponga to help support local landholders in their efforts to improve and protect the quality of water in the Mount Lofty Ranges Watershed.

Dr Vogel said planting local native species will help create a habitat for local wildlife as well as protect water quality.

“The project encourages landholders to fence their watercourses to exclude unwelcome livestock, construct stock crossings and establish off-stream watering points,” Dr Vogel said.

“Trees and other plants help to protect water quality by slowing the flow of water from surrounding paddocks and acting as a filter to clean the water.”

“Protecting water quality in the region is vital as Adelaide’s principal water supply is sourced from the Mount Lofty Ranges Watershed.”

“The EPA works in partnership with many other Government organisations, industry and the community to help protect our environment, and this tree planting project is an opportunity for us to work side-by-side with local landholders on a project that will have a direct benefit for the local community.”

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**For more information contact: Briony Spragg (08) 8204 1984 or 0434 609 394**