



Youth Prepare for World Enviro Day with Phone Calls, Laptops

This World Environment Day, young people concerned about climate change won't be out planting trees.

Instead, they'll be on their mobile phones - doing a national call-around of other thousands of youth around the country to talk to them about one simple thing they can do to help solve climate change – come to Power Shift 2009.

The Australian Youth Climate Coalition is preparing for **Australia's first national youth climate summit, Power Shift 2009**, to be held in the marginal seat of Parramatta in six weeks time (July 11th - 13th).

Equipped with mobile phones, laptops, and Twitter accounts, a climate army of young people is building a movement they hope will rattle the Government and the Opposition.

Their aim: to turn the youth demographic into a political constituency who will act – and vote – on climate change.

"Power Shift 2009 is a show of force for the youth movement that's rapidly rising in this country on climate change. We're bringing together thousands of young people to Western Sydney, and this is just the beginning," stated Australian Youth Climate Coalition Co-Director Anna Rose.

"Young Australians are passionate about climate change, and increasingly frustrated with the Federal Government's delayed action and inadequate carbon pollution reduction targets. This is our future, and our leaders are failing to protect it. The fact that hundreds of young people are giving up their weekend to call other youth about climate change shows the level of commitment in this movement".

The group behind the Summit is the **Australian Youth Climate Coalition, a partnership between major Australian youth organisations** including the National Union of Students, the National Indigenous Youth Movement of Australia, the Oaktree Foundation, United Nations Youth Association, the Student Organised Network for Architecture, and Vision Generation.

On World Environment Day, the AYCC will mobilise hundreds of high school, University and TAFE volunteers. Volunteers will make thousands of phone calls to the group's database of supporters who signed up at summer music festivals, University O-weeks, and concerts of bands supporting the event including the Cat Empire, Regurgitator & Blue King Brown.

Photo opportunities: Large groups of youth phone banking from AYCC offices in Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra & Brisbane. Date: Any afternoon the week of World Environment Day, but particularly Friday & Saturday.

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