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MEDIA RELEASE

Turn over a new green leaf this new year

The Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) is delighted to be chosen as the official charity partner of the City Of Sydney's 2009 Sydney New Year's Eve celebrations and is urging everyone to **turn over a new green leaf** in 2010.

ACF is asking Sydneysiders to visit www.newgreenleaf.com where they can select one simple but significant lifestyle change to make which will reduce their impact on the environment.

"From starting a veggie patch to putting a no junk mail sticker on your letterbox, the simple changes individuals and families can make all add up to big savings for our environment," says ACF executive director Don Henry.

"If every driver in NSW reduced their road travel by just one kilometre per day, 345,000 tonnes of greenhouse pollution would be saved each year. In addition to health benefits and petrol savings, this a great reason to take short trips on foot or by bike" says Mr Henry.

ACF is inviting people to think up their own creative **new green leaf** ideas. The best idea will **win** a family pass to the VIP harbour viewing area and party on New Year's Eve.

ACF is thrilled to build on our existing partnership with the City of Sydney through our GreenHome sustainable living program and help work towards a Sustainable Sydney 2030.

"ACF's involvement in this Sydney New Year's Eve is particularly fitting given the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Copenhagen is just weeks away," Lord Mayor Clover Moore MP said.

"I'll be attending the associated Copenhagen Climate Summit for Mayors explaining the action Australian cities are taking to reduce emissions and how national governments can commit to bold targets by replicating these actions country wide.

"New Year's Eve is a time for everyone to think about our future, take action to fight climate change and make simple lifestyle changes to reduce their environmental footprint.

"Since last year, the City of Sydney is Australia's first carbon neutral government, and our purchase of green power for all our electricity needs and carbon offsets for all our other emissions includes the New Year's Eve celebrations."

"The fact that this 2009 Sydney New Year's event is designed to be carbon neutral is a terrific opportunity to demonstrate that you can have fun and be environmentally responsible," says Mr Henry.

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www.newgreenleaf.com

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Turn Over a New Green Leaf

The following are some suggestions of ways to **turn over a new green leaf**. ACF encourages people to choose something that suits their lifestyle or create their own idea.

- Ride to work one day per week
- Start a herb or vegetable garden
- Take a free City of Sydney cycling confidence course
- Stop printing out emails
- Plant a fruit tree in the garden
- Start a worm farm
- Carry your own water bottle and stop buying plastic-bottled water
- Use bio-degradable doggy bags
- Wash clothes in cold water
- Switch to using organic cosmetics
- Have one meat-free day per week
- Eat seasonal vegetables & check your food miles
- Use environmentally friendly cleaning products
- Set your printer and photocopier to double-sided printing
- Put a no junk mail sticker on your letterbox

www.newgreenleaf.com

ACF is committed to inspiring people to achieve a healthy environment for all Australians. For 43 years we have been a strong voice for the environment, promoting solutions through research, consultation, education and partnerships. We work with the community, business and government to protect, restore and sustain our environment.

www.acfonline.org.au