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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANN ARBOR AREA EARTH DAY FESTIVAL 2010 at WASHTENAW COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Ann Arbor, Mich. March 1, 2010—Celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day at the **Annual Ann Arbor Area Earth Day Festival Sunday, April 25 from noon to 4 p.m. in The Morris Lawrence building of Washtenaw Community College, 4800 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor.**

The Ann Arbor Area Earth Day Festival is coordinated by the Environmental Education Network of Washtenaw (EE-NOW), a coalition of over fifteen local environmental nonprofits and agencies. This annual celebration has been held at several locations over the years. This year, WCC hosts the event on its 285-acre campus centrally located between Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti.

This free, family-friendly event features live music, entertainment, hand-on activities, and live animal demonstrations. Displays from over 60 local environmental, non-profit and governmental organizations will focus on alternative energy, green building, conservation, sustainable agriculture and more.

Program details are available online at www.a2earthday.org. Participants may also pick up a program at the event for a list of exhibitors, a map and a schedule of the day's events.

Highlights of this year's events include the annual All Species Parade in which participants young and old bring costumes to wear representing their favorite plants and animals; The parade begins at 2:30 p.m. and winds through the event area.

Also enjoy free face painting provided by Ann Arbor Cohousing, and musical instrument crafts sponsored by The Scrap Box. Stop in to see the Bubble Man and be sure to make time for the Leslie Science and Nature Center's Birds of Prey exhibit and Brian Cressman's reptile exhibit.

This year's entertainment includes musicians Joe Reilly and Sacred Song with Jeanne Mackey and Dale Petty, storyteller Darryl Mickens and others.

Food will be on sale from Silvio's Organic Pizza, Pilar's Traditional Salvadorian and Latin Cuisine and other vendors.

This year, for the first time, Earth Day will be a zero waste event coordinated by Recycle Ann Arbor. With the assistance of exhibitors and food vendors, all waste will be composted or recycled and nothing will go into the landfill. Marked containers for compostable and recyclable material will be available throughout the festival.

Earth Day is a free event thanks to generous sponsorship from Whole Foods Market, The City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw Community College, and Ann Arbor's 107one fm radio. The 2010 Earth Day event was planned by the following organizations: The Clean Energy Coalition, The Ecology Center, The Environmental Education Network of Washtenaw (EE-Now), The Leslie Science and Nature Center, National Wildlife Federation, Recycle Ann Arbor, The Scrap Box, The University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum, and Washtenaw Community College.

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