



**MEDIA RELEASE
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**RECYCLE ANN ARBOR ANNOUNCES FOURTH ANNUAL
EARTH DAY ESSAY CONTEST**

Topic: "How I practice the three Rs: Reduce, reuse and recycle"

**First-Prize Winner to Receive \$500 U.S. Savings Bond
Winner's Classroom to Receive Free Recycling Workshop**

Ann Arbor, MI – Recycle Ann Arbor, a national leader in recycling and waste programs, announces its fourth annual essay contest in celebration of Earth Day (April 22). The contest is open to students in 5th and 6th grades, ages 10-12, who attend school in Washtenaw County. The topic is, "How I practice the three Rs: Reduce, reuse and recycle."

The first-prize winner of the essay contest will receive a \$500 U.S. savings bond, and the winning essay will be posted on Recycle Ann Arbor's Web site. The first-prize winner's school classroom will also receive a free recycling workshop. Five honorable mention awards will also be given. Each honorable mention winner will receive a \$50 gift certificate to a local book store.

Essays should be from 500-750 words in length, and must be received by March 31, 2010. The winner will be announced on April 21. Complete contest information and the contest entry form are available at: www.recycleannarbor.org.

"The celebration of Earth Day provides a great opportunity to encourage students to think about the future of the planet, and about how conserving resources plays a critical role in saving the environment," said Recycle Ann Arbor CEO Melinda Uerling. "We are excited to offer students this forum to share their creative ideas."

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Founded in 1977, Recycle Ann Arbor is a leader in the recycling industry, offering easy and convenient recycling for the home and workplace. As a private nonprofit organization, Recycle Ann Arbor is dedicated to providing education and innovative services in the collection, processing and distribution of recyclable materials.

Recycle Ann Arbor started Michigan's first curbside recycling program in 1978, and currently operates the state's largest community drop-off center, The ReUse Center, the Environmental House green building resource center, the Ann Arbor curbside recycling program, Calvert's Rolloff Containers, and Energy Works Michigan. The Ecology Center (www.ecocenter.org) is Recycle Ann Arbor's sister organization.

For more information about the Earth Day Essay Contest or Recycle Ann Arbor, please call (734) 662-6288, or visit Recycle Ann Arbor on the Web at: www.recycleannarbor.org.

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