



**MEDIA RELEASE
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**RECYCLE ANN ARBOR CEO MELINDA UERLING ELECTED BOARD CHAIR
OF NATIONAL RECYCLING COALITION**

Ann Arbor, MI – Recycle Ann Arbor CEO Melinda Uerling has been elected chair of the board of directors of the National Recycling Coalition (NRC), at its Annual Congress and Expo held in Denver (CO). She will serve in the position through 2010. Uerling had previously served as a director on the board from 2004 until present.

Founded in 1978, the National Recycling Coalition's objective is to eliminate waste and promote sustainable economies through advancing sound management practices for raw materials in North America. The NRC is a national non-profit advocacy group with more than 3,800 members spanning all aspects of waste reduction, reuse and recycling in North America, including local recycling coordinators, state and federal regulators, corporate environmental managers, environmental educators and advocates, consumers and waste management professionals.

"It's an honor to serve in a leadership position for the organization that is the national advocate for recycling, reuse and waste reduction," said Uerling. "The Ann Arbor community has a very high recycling participation rate, and my goal is to promote our local success as a model for other communities across the nation."

Uerling has held the position of CEO for Recycle Ann Arbor since 2000. Recycle Ann Arbor is widely regarded as a national leader in recycling and waste programs, and boasts a 94 percent curbside recycling participation rate in the City of Ann Arbor (2007 National Citizen Survey). In 2005, Recycle Ann Arbor won the NRC's prestigious Tim McClure Award, recognizing outstanding environmental and community leadership in recycling.

Prior to joining Recycle Ann Arbor, Uerling served as assistant director of the Lucas County (OH) Solid Waste Management District. She was previously the executive director of the University of Toledo Engineering Technology Outreach Program, and also a project manager for Ann Arbor-based Resource Recycling Systems, Inc. (RRSI).

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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 recycling drop-off center, the ReUse Center, the Environmental House green building resource center, the Ann Arbor curbside recycling program, and Calvert's Roll-Off Containers for construction debris recycling and disposal.

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

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