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**NEWS ADVISORY
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
To: Environmental News Editors
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Date: April 18, 2013

**THE LONGEST RUNNING EARTH DAY CELEBRATION IN THE NATION CONTINUES...
AT A NEW LOCATION, THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**

Cleveland, OH- Join Earth Day Coalition for EarthFest 2013 at this year's new location, the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, on Sunday, April 21 from 10am-5pm. In partnership with Mayor Frank Jackson's Sustainable Cleveland 2019 initiative, the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, Cuyahoga Arts & Culture and the Ohio Development Services Agency Office of Energy, this year's EarthFest will celebrate Advanced and Renewable Energy with a new exhibit area under the Fairground's dramatic on site wind turbine and Energy Education Center. Presented and organized by Earth Day Coalition since 1990, EarthFest, now in its 24th year, is Ohio's largest environmental education event and the longest running Earth Day celebration in the nation.

EarthFest will feature 250 exhibits in 8 sustainability areas including: Advanced & Renewable Energy, Local & Sustainable Food, Clean Transportation (with Ride & Drive), Health & Fitness, Community Works, Family Fun, Zero Waste, and Green Home & Garden. Families will enjoy all day entertainment with eco-activities, Ohio's first ever biodiesel powered amusement park rides, music on 5 stages, urban farm animals, healthy food from local food trucks, the NASA "Village," Lake Erie Nature & Science Center's mobile planetarium and wildlife rehab exhibits, Jungle Bob with his animal friends, Valley Exotic Petting Zoo, pony rides and much more...

NEW THIS YEAR:

- EarthFest will have Ohio's first ever biodiesel powered amusement park rides. Learn about the environmental and clean-air benefits of biodiesel in this exciting new display! Earth Day Coalition and McGINNIS Amusements are teaming up to use biodiesel to run four rides throughout the day.
- Earth Day Coalition's NatureHood© program, The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District and Kurtz., Bros. have partnered to plant a permanent 250 square foot rain garden at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds. The excavation of the rain garden area began on Wednesday, April 17th and will be completed with the planting of native Ohio plants at EarthFest by a local Boy Scout troop at 2pm.
- The new Advanced and Renewable Energy exhibit area will allow attendees to learn first hand about exciting initiatives in our region as well as home products and conservation methods that utilize cleaner energy, minimize emissions and maximize efficiency. The NASA Glenn Research Center Village will have nearly 5,000 square feet of exhibit space which focuses on energy research, including the Journey to Tomorrow Truck, an inflatable shuttle, an algae bio-lab exhibit and more. Visit our website to read a series of stories on some of the energy projects that will be on display at EarthFest.
- As part of the marque energy exhibit area, a 72' x 20' hoop house will be constructed near the Energy Education Center by Tunnel Vision Hoops with the help of City Year volunteers and students from Cuyahoga Community College. The hoop house, funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture High Tunnel Hoop House grant and a Cuyahoga County Arts and Culture grant, will be deconstructed after EarthFest. The hoop house will be reconstructed at Earth Day Coalition's native plant nursery, which serves as a source of native plants for their NatureHood© vacant lot gardening program.
- Guests will enjoy local microbrews from Great Lakes Brewing Company & wine from South River Vineyard in Geneva, Pure Water Technology hydration stations and a huge selection of healthy and delicious local food from twelve of your favorite food trucks, including: Fired Up Taco Truck, Jibaro, Motormouth, Sal Caruso, Seti Polish Boys, StrEat Mobile Bistro, Sweet! The Mobile Cupcake, Donut Lab, The Nosh Box, The Rolling Pig, Umami Moto and Zydeco Bistro.

There will be all day chef demonstrations from local restaurants including:

- 10:30 - 11:00 Root Café
- 11:15 - 11:45 The Charmed Kitchen
- 11:55 - 12:25 Treehuggers
- 1:15-1:45 Toast
- 1:55 -2:20 Fat Cats
- 2:25 - 2:55 Felice Urban
- 3:05 - 3:35 Amp 150
- 3:45 - 4:15 Amp 150

• Listen to all-day music and the best of Northeast Ohio singer-songwriters, musicians and bands on 5 "Party with the Planet©" entertainment stages organized by students enrolled in Cuyahoga Community College's entertainment booking class. Students were assigned a stage to book musical performances and manage stage logistics. Current bands include: Alex Wedmedyk, Baba Jubal Harris, Billy Coakley, Bit Shifterz, Bob Sammon, Broccoli Samauri, C-Level, Day Method, Diana Chitester, Earth Rhythm, Eric Wilson, Gypsy Days, Hoop, James Isom, Jason Meyers, Jordan Kirk, Joshua & Maria, Joshua Jesty, Lashon Jay, Low Dirty, No Loot, Noon, Quadrophonic Desperation, Primal Rhythm, Rick Roman, Robbie Johnston, The Classic Duo, Wally Gunn, Who We Are and Young Mrs. Dunn. For band bios, photos and updates on the 24th annual "Party with the Planet©" entertainment at EarthFest, visit <http://partywiththeplanet.us/>

• Meet Dick Goddard and adopt an animal in need. Cleveland's well-known meteorologist and animals rights supporter will be at EarthFest from 1pm-4pm signing his book "6 Inches of Partly Cloudy" and selling books and calendars. All proceeds from the sales will be donated to local animal shelters. For the first time ever, there will also be adoptable animal rescues on site from Greyhound Adoption of Ohio, Lighthouse Boxer Rescue, the Animals' Disaster Team and the Berea Animal Rescue Friends.

• This year's EarthFest has a goal of being a zero waste event and has partnered with Kimble Recycling and Disposal, Rosby Recycling Resources and ZeroWaste NEO to provide recycling and composting stations. Ohio City Bicycle Co-Op will run "Zero Emissions for Zero Waste" rickshaws to unload recycling and composting stations throughout the day. ZeroWaste NEO volunteers will be stationed at each composting/recycling area to provide educational instruction on proper composting and recycling practices.

• There will be several fun recycling opportunities at EarthFest, including: The Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District Mercury Thermometer Exchange, which will accept mercury thermometers from event attendees and provide them with a new digital one. The exchange table will be just inside the main entrance off of Bagley Road at Gate 5 from 10am-1pm. They have appropriate hazmat training and will be ready to answer any questions. Planet Aid will be taking old shoe and clothing donations for those in need. Ballet in Cleveland will be offering electronics recycling for desktop computers, laptop computers, servers, monitors, printers, routers, cell phones, external drives, wires, cables phone systems, fax and copy machines, batteries, battery chargers, digital cameras, flat screen TV's, DVD players and scrap metal.

• Take walking tours of Baldwin Wallace University's solar, wind, composting and green building installations led by students from the university.

10:30-11AM Jungle Bob with his animal friends (Pavilion #15)

11AM WELCOMING CEREMONIES (PAVILION)

Schedule of Speakers and Activities:

Scott Sanders, *Executive Director, Earth Day Coalition*

Allan Dreyer, *President, Earth Day Coalition*

Tim Fowler, *President, Cuyahoga County Fair board*

Mardele Cohen, *Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District*

Hon. Cyril Kleem, *Mayor, City of Berea*

Hon. Garry Starr, *Mayor, City of Middleburg Heights*

Jenita McGowan, *Chief of Sustainability, City of Cleveland*

Hon. Frank Jackson, *Mayor, City of Cleveland*

Hon. Sunny Simon, *Councilwoman, Cuyahoga County Council*

Hon. Marcy Kaptur, *U.S Representative 9th District*

Hoop "Earth Day Song" with Stella

Hope and Stanley Adelstein Art, Poetry and Essay Contest Awards (35 Recipients)

WALK FOR THE EARTH PASSPORT TOUR

EarthFest exhibits are organized into 8 sustainability practice areas that cluster exhibitors around specific sustainability topics. Visitors can take the Walk for the Earth Passport Tour and visit 7 areas to redeem a free energy saving compact fluorescent light bulb courtesy of Technical Consumer Products. Sustainability practice areas and stops on the Walk for the Earth Passport Tour will include:

1) Advanced & Renewable Energy Area (Hoop House): Visit the "NASA Village" & learn first hand about exciting clean energy initiatives in our region. Ride Ohio's 1st ever biodiesel powered amusement park rides!

2) Community Works & Environmental Science Areas (Building 20): Exhibits and educational displays from environmental & community organizations, government, parks and schools.

3) Local & Sustainable Food Area (Building 20): Exhibits that include organizations, businesses and restaurants that contribute to NEO's growing local food economy. All day celebrity chef demos.

4) Family Fun Area (Building 27): Kids receive environmental education while participating in hands-on eco-activities, crafts and games. Valley Exotic Petting Zoo, Lake Erie Nature & Science Center animal outreach program, Jungle Bob with his animal friends and Pony Rides.

5) Health & Fitness Area (Building 27): Learn about a healthy planet, healthy you and connect to nature.

6) Party with the Planet, Beverage & Zero Waste Areas (Pavilion 15): 10:30-11am Jungle Bob, 11am Welcoming Ceremonies and Art, Poetry & Essay Contest Awards ceremony. All-day music, soft drinks, water, local microbrews & wine, recycling, composting & zero waste education.

7) Green Home & Garden Area (Bee Barn 30): Learn about environmentally beneficial products and practices for the home. Meet mowgoats, chicken, bees, bunnies and urban farm animals.

8) Clean Transportation Area (with Ride-&-Drive) (West Midway): Learn how clean fuels, practices and technologies reduce petroleum consumption and improve air quality.

General Admission:

\$3 ages 2-11

\$5 ages 12+

FREE Admission:

- Under age 2
- Ride & park your bicycle (Bagley Road entrance)
- Ride RTA's Redline (regular fare) to Brookpark Rapid Station & take the free EarthFest shuttle to Fairgrounds
- Current Earth Day Coalition members (\$35 Individual level or \$50 family level minimum). *You can renew or become a member online or at the entrance to EarthFest.
- Teachers and their immediate family (must present current school ID)

For information call (216) 281-6468 or visit www.earthdaycoalition.org.

THERE WILL BE A MEDIA PREVIEW OF EARTHFEST DURING SET-UP AND PREPARATIONS AT 3PM FRIDAY APRIL 19 AND 11AM ON SATURDAY APRIL 20. TAKE A RIDE ON THE BIODIESEL POWERED AMUSEMENT PARK RIDES, BE THE FIRST TO SEE THE FAIRGROUNDS' JUST COMPLETED ENERGY CENTER EXHIBITS, VIEW THE ON-SITE 500-KW WIND TURBINE, WATCH CITY YEAR AND CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE VOLUNTEERS CONSTRUCT THE 70' HOOP HOUSE (SATURDAY ONLY), SEE THE EXCAVATIONS FOR THE NATUREHOOD NATIVE PLANT GARDEN AND WITNESS EARTHFEST VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION. RSVP'S A MUST. SPECIAL TIME ARRANGEMENT MAY BE POSSIBLE. CONTACT SCOTT SANDERS CELL: 440-725-6251.

Established in 1990, Earth Day Coalition's mission is to provide education, inspire leadership and encourage action for a healthy environment. Earth Day Coalition's year-round programs include: Student Environmental Leadership, Clean Transportation, Neighborhood Action, and EarthFest. EarthFest is Ohio's largest environmental education event and the longest running Earth Day celebration in the nation. EarthFest 2013 will be held on Sunday, April 21 from 10am-5pm at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds and will celebrate "Advanced and Renewable Energy."