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CONTACT: Sarah Williams, (850) 245-2112

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY CONTEST ENCOURAGES STUDENTS TO RECYCLE

--Pledge card contest fosters environmental stewardship--

TALLAHASSEE - In recognition of America Recycles Day on November 15th, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Creative Recycling Systems, Inc., are announcing the start of the third annual Florida K-12 Schools Recycling Pledge Card Contest. The contest will reward one class statewide at the elementary, middle and high school levels which submit the greatest number of recycling pledge cards to encourage environmental stewardship among students and their families.

“Recycling helps reduce waste, which is vital to preserving Florida’s natural resources and protecting our environment,” said Mike Sole, DEP Deputy Secretary for Regulatory Programs and Energy. “This contest encourages Florida’s youth to take personal responsibility to manage waste and demonstrate environmental citizenship at school and at home.”

By taking the recycling pledge, the students and their families promise to protect the environment by implementing recycling efforts. The class at each level with the most number of pledges will receive prizes for their efforts, including a gently-used desktop computer and monitor courtesy of Creative Recycling Systems, Inc. In addition, each individual that completes a pledge card will be entered into state and national drawings for prizes. Adults will have a chance to win an all-expense paid seven night Alaskan cruise for two, and children will be eligible to win one of five Trek bicycles. Each person will also have a chance to win a number of state prizes such as gift cards.

In 2005, more than 6,200 pledge cards were entered through the Florida schools contest. Overall, more than 10,000 pledges were received statewide from Floridians who took the America Recycles Day pledge to recycle and buy more recycled products in 2005.

For more information on how to enter the 2006 contest, prizes and official rules, visit:

<http://www.floridadep.com/waste/categories/recycling/AR/2006/ar06.htm>.

For more information on Creative Recycling’s other Earth Day projects please visit:

<http://www.crserecycling.com/stewardship/community004/community0041.html>

or: <http://www.crserecycling.com/stewardship/community005/community0051.html>