



## N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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### DENR INITIATIVES HIGHLIGHT STATE GOVERNMENT ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

RALEIGH — The N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will co-sponsor the N.C. Clean & Green 2000 Celebration for Environmental Sustainability in Government on Friday, April 28. DENR is working with 13 other state agencies and 16 state universities to showcase state government's progress in environmental stewardship efforts.

The department is sponsoring 17 exhibits, including a sample restored wetland, state cars that run on natural gas and electricity available for state employees to test drive, a garden landscaped to limit the need for water and maintenance, and an office of the future containing environmentally-friendly equipment and supplies.

Five DENR divisions, four employees and one honorary winner will receive awards presented by Bill Holman, secretary of the department, at 10:30. The awards were hand crafted by local potters from the Pocosin Arts Center in Columbia, North Carolina. They are illustrated by an artist and imprinted with native plant species.

At 2:00, DENR officials will present the Governor's Award for Excellence in Waste Reduction, which recognizes North Carolina businesses and government agencies and institutions for their commitment to protect the environment. The award recognizes those who have looked at their daily business operations and the negative effects their operations have on the environment and have decided to do something about them. This year's award recognizes winners for collectively reducing 2,502 tons of hazardous waste; 20,713.5 tons of solid waste; 49,250,000 gallons of water; and \$5.6 million. This program is coordinated by the department's Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance.

Other events include a keynote address by Ray Anderson, chairman and CEO of Interface, Inc. in Atlanta and a world leader in sustainable industry, traditional music by staff from the department's Museum of Natural Sciences, and a concert by the NC Army National Guard Minutemen band.

The event will be from 10:00 in the morning until 3:00 in the afternoon on the Halifax Mall (between the Archdale and Legislative buildings) in downtown Raleigh.

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