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“Year of the Environment” Continues with Broward Water Matters Day 2005

Broward County Mayor Kristin Jacobs declared 2005 the “Year of the Environment.” On Saturday, March 19, Broward County will continue its focus on environmental issues with the third annual Broward Water Matters Day, taking place from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Tree Tops Park, 3900 Southwest 100th Avenue, Davie. Mayor Jacobs will kick off the day with opening comments and will teach a class on the principles of NatureScape Broward at the Satin Leaf Pavilion.

The event is a part of the overall campaign: *Water for Everyone. People. Plants. Animals.* The program encourages homeowners to understand the role they play in managing water resources in their homes, yards and communities. Admission to the event is \$1 per person and free for children 5 and under.

One of the main goals of Water Matters Day is to help educate children about personal stewardship in environmental protection. Children will be invited to build a birdhouse with help from the experts at Home Depot. Environmental folk singer Grant Livingston will return this year and with guitar in hand he’ll encourage everyone to sing along! There will be face painting, too!

Broward Water Matters Day will feature giveaways and a series of mini workshops to help residents learn how to maintain beautiful yet environmentally friendly yards. Workshops and how-to sessions include: “Designing a NatureScape,” “Broward County’s Water History,” “The Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Program,” and “Subterranean Termite Control through Integrated Pest Management.”

Event participants who visit at least 10 of the educational exhibits on display will be eligible to receive FREE trees, plants, and mulch, a rain gauge, and bottled water. At noon, one lucky winner will be chosen to receive a FREE irrigation system from Rain Bird. The value of the system is nearly \$3000. Installation is not included. The winner will be selected by random drawing and must be present to win.

Sponsors of Water Matters Day 2005 include the Broward County Board of County Commissioners, the City of Fort Lauderdale, Town of Davie, the City of Cooper City, the South Florida Water Management District, Central Broward Water Control District, the City of Coconut Creek, Florida Power and Light and Rain Bird.

For more information, please visit www.broward.org/watermatters or call 954-519-1270.

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