



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 1, 2010

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Highlands Ranch Metro District Receives Award from State Health Department

The Highlands Ranch Metro District was recently recognized by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment as a Bronze Achiever of its Colorado Environmental Leadership Program (ELP). The Metro District is the first special district to become part of the state-wide program that recognizes businesses, municipalities and others in the state that make significant achievements in improving the environment in Colorado.

“We are excited to be part of a program that recognizes and supports Colorado’s environmental leaders,” said Terry Nolan, general manager of the Highlands Ranch Metro District. “The award speaks to how much our community cares about the environment and to our professional staff who proactively seek out business practices that are environmentally smart not only for Highlands Ranch but also for Colorado.”

“The Colorado Environmental Leadership Program recognizes organizations that demonstrate superior environmental performance and the Highlands Ranch Metro District is clearly doing the right things to help the environment of Colorado,” said Lynette Myers, ELP program administrator. “As the first special district in the program the Highlands Ranch Metro District is paving the way for other special districts in the state to take notice and step up to the challenge to be an environmental leader.”

The Metro District’s environmental achievements are two-fold: the organization offers a variety of community events and programming to support earth-friendly practices; and the Metro District implements green policies and practices that go beyond mere environmental compliance.

The Metro District offers annual recycling events for residents including tree and limb recycling, Christmas tree recycling and household hazardous materials collection. The Metro District shares earth-friendly tips and information through two key ongoing public relations efforts: a Green Page featured on the organization’s website and also in the *Messenger* magazine.

In addition, the Metro District offers community programs that promote environmental stewardship including Trash for Treasures and Renew the Ranch, which help keep parks and natural open space areas clean. Park rangers and staff lead environmental education classes and nature camps throughout the year for kids and adults that emphasize preservation of our outdoor resources.

The Metro District will receive their award during an event on Wednesday, Oct. 6 at the Seawell Grand Ballroom at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts. Governor Bill Ritter is the keynote speaker of the event and Alan Gionet from CBS4 is the master of ceremonies.

The Environmental Leadership Program is open to all Colorado businesses, industries, offices, educational institutions, municipalities, government agencies, community, not-for-profit and other organizations. There are 113 members of the program.

To learn more about the Metro District's green practices, visit the Metro District's Green Page online at www.highlandsranch.org.

Founded in 1981 as the local government in Highlands Ranch, Colo., the Metro District provides a variety of municipal services to this planned community of 93,000 people. Learn more about the Metro District at www.highlandsranch.org.

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