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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Earth Day Celebration Moves to Franklin Park for 2010

Columbus, Ohio – January 6, 2010 – After three years at Goodale Park, the citywide Earth Day celebration is moving to Franklin Park. The 2010 event, named ‘ The Update’ , consists of two parts – a large-scale coordinated volunteer effort, and a festival celebrating our accomplishments. The dates for the event are Saturday and Sunday, April 17th and 18th for volunteer worksites, and Thursday, April 22nd for the celebration in Franklin Park. The goal for 2010 is to get 10,000 volunteers engaged in environmentally related activities, which will make Columbus and central Ohio the largest celebration of its kind.

Both Green Columbus, the organization behind Earth Day in central Ohio, and Franklin Park Conservatory are excited about collaborating for the 40th anniversary observance of Earth Day in central Ohio. The celebration, which falls on the calendar Earth Day – April 22, will cap the three day event that also includes volunteer opportunities throughout central Ohio. The celebration will feature speakers, including Mayor Michael B. Coleman, live music, local and organic food, informational booths, kids’ activities and much more. Tentatively, the celebration will run from 3:00 PM to 10:00 PM.

Plans for the celebration incorporate the new Scotts-Miracle Gro Community Garden campus at Franklin Park Conservatory. This 7-acre, state-of-the-art “ living classroom” , which opened in September of 2009, provides a platform for horticulture and environmental education, as well as community gardening best practices.

Earth Day 2010: The Update is a follow-up to *Earth Day 2009: Picture This*. In 2009, Columbus had the largest volunteer turnout for Earth Day of any city in the U.S.; over 2,600 central Ohioans donated their time and labor at 70 area worksites. The goal for *Earth Day 2010: The Update* is to increase participation to 10,000 volunteers.

Information about the planned central Ohio Earth Day event, sponsorship opportunities, hosting a worksite, and other ways to get involved can be found at www.Update2010.org.

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GREENCOLUMBUS

About Green Columbus

Green Columbus exists to promote sustainable living in Central Ohio and globally by 1) providing forums for environmental groups, citizens and others to interact. 2) raising awareness about environmental issues and what can be done to address them, and 3) encouraging participation in action oriented green events. More information is available at www.greenbus.org

About Franklin Park Conservatory

Franklin Park Conservatory offers unique botanical collections, art exhibitions, plant shows, and educational programs for all ages. The Conservatory features a historic Victorian Palm House built in 1895 and 83,000 square feet of glasshouses, classrooms, and meeting and event spaces, situated in an 88-acre urban park minutes from downtown. Franklin Park Conservatory is located at 1777 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio, 43203. For more information, visit the Conservatory's website at www.fpconservatory.org.