



Houston Earth Day 2002

3015 Richmond Suite 270 • Houston, TX 77098
713-524-4232 • www.HoustonEarthDay.org

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News Release

For Immediate Release: April 22, 2002 **Contact:** Alesha Herrera, 713.524.4232

Houston Earth Day 2002 Offers Environmental Education, Action and Entertainment

An estimated 2,500 people came out to enjoy the first annual Houston Earth Day at Rice University on April 13. Organized by the Citizens' Environmental Coalition and Rice University Environmental Club and sponsored by Waste Management, Houston Earth Day was a day of education, celebration, and action, which brought Houstonians together to focus on local and global environmental issues.

Students and professionals, parents and children came to Rice to be educated and entertained. Attendees visited more than 60 booths provided by local non-profit groups, green businesses, and event sponsors, as well as enjoying exhibits of electric vehicles, alternative energy generators, hands-on electronics recycling, arts and crafts and a farmer's market. They snacked on refreshing smoothies from Extreme Blendz, tasty Thai snacks provided by Thai Spice, and delicious vegan fare from Giriraja's Snacks.

Visitors were entertained throughout the day by dance, music, and comedy performances on two stages. A solar generator from Conservation Services, supplemented by wind energy provided by Green Mountain powered the KTRU Solar Stage. The KPFT Biodiesel Stage ran off a diesel generator burning biodiesel - a cleaner, renewable fuel made from vegetable and other organic oils and provided by GreenFuels.

The Houston Earth Day 2002 organizing committee worked hard to make this event the greenest in the city. "The many positive comments I received from the over 2,500 people that attended the event have made me feel certain that our move was for the best." said event chair Alesha Herrera, "The environmental attributes of our celebration, as well as the variety of entertainment was well received. We've set up a great foundation for years to come."

A post-event report as well as photos from Houston Earth Day 2002 can be found on the website at www.HoustonEarthDay.org.

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