



**For Immediate Release
March 22, 2005**

Contact: Michael Toole, 202-414-0772
Jennifer Devlin, 202-414-0786

LOCAL, NATIONAL SPONSORS “TEAM UP TO CLEAN UP” WITH 2005 CAPITAL RIVER RELIEF

Founding Sponsor Koch Industries Leads Coalition to Clean up Potomac, Anacostia Rivers

Washington, D.C.—National and local businesses are lining up in support of the 2005 Capital River Relief “Team Up To Clean Up” project, which in 2004 was able to remove nearly 50 tons of trash from the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers.

Founding sponsor, Koch Industries, has again taken the lead role in organizing this year’s Capital River Relief, reuniting a coalition of national and D.C.-based environmental groups, sponsors and volunteers for a cleanup of the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers that runs from March 31 through Earth Day, April 22.

“Helping organize Capital River Relief these past two years has shown us the amazing breadth of entities committed to environmental stewardship here,” said Koch Industries’ Mary Beth Jarvis. “Many coalition members work year-round to care for these and other vital waterways, and this project adds to their dedicated efforts. Our fellow sponsors and the local volunteers get involved not only to help remove tons of trash from the rivers but also to raise awareness about the importance of restoring rivers nationwide.”

Many other national and local businesses are supporting the cleanup effort: the American Waterways Operators, Arnold & Porter, LLP; Catoctin Power, LLC; Environ Consulting; Hunton & Williams, LLP; The Kimpton Group; Mimi’s American Bistro; National Geographic; Pepco; Ritz Camera; Rosenthal Automotive; Washington Historic Tours; Tom’s of Maine; and Whole Foods, Inc. In addition to donating cash and in-kind materials, many of the sponsor organizations will also have volunteers helping collect, remove and recycle trash from the rivers.

“Capital River Relief is such a powerful project because it illuminates how an individual or small group of people can in fact make a difference in their local community,” said Whole Foods’ Mid Atlantic Region marketing director, Sarah Kenney, about joining the Capital River Relief coalition. Whole Foods sponsorship provides food and refreshments for volunteers throughout the cleanup. The company also helps promote Capital River Relief around the region via in-store marketing efforts.

Capital River Relief 2005 will be anchored by the Alice Ferguson Foundation's April 2 Potomac River Watershed Cleanup and the Anacostia Watershed Society's April 16 Earth Day Cleanup and Celebration. Throughout Capital River Relief, an Illinois-based conservation organization, Living Lands & Waters, will lead the project’s boat- and barge-based cleanup activities.

National Geographic and other sponsors, along with White House and Congressional staff, area universities, and civic groups, will dedicate a full day for employees or students to volunteer. Capital River Relief also provides an opportunity for area businesses to take part in National Volunteer Week (April 17-23) and Earth Day (April 22) activities.



ABOUT CAPITAL RIVER RELIEF (www.CapitalRiverRelief.org)

Capital River Relief 2005 will sponsor thirteen days of cleanups of the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers: March 31, April 1, 2 (with the Alice Ferguson Foundation), 5 (with Pepco & Whole Foods), 6 (with the Washington Capitals organization), 7, 9, 10, 11 (Congressional Staff Day), 13, 14 (White House Staff Day and National Geographic), 16 (with the Anacostia Watershed Society) and 19. Cleanups will run from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1 to 5 p.m.

ABOUT KOCH INDUSTRIES, INC. (www.kochind.com)

Koch Industries, Inc. owns a diverse group of companies with more than 30,000 employees engaged in trading, investment and operations worldwide. Koch Industries and its companies are involved in petroleum, resins and fibers, chemicals, natural gas liquids, chemical technology products, asphalt, minerals, fertilizers, ranching, pipelines, and securities and finance.

ABOUT LIVING LANDS & WATERS (www.livinglandsandwaters.org)

Living Lands & Waters, established by Chad Pregracke in 1998, is headquartered in East Moline, Illinois. Living Lands & Waters programs include Community Cleanups, Big River Educational Workshops, Riverbottom Forest Restoration and Adopt-a-Mississippi Mile.

###

MEDIA NOTES: To arrange an interview with Mary Beth Jarvis or Chad Pregracke, please contact Michael Toole at 202-414-0772, Michael@capitalriverrelief.org. B-roll footage and photographs from the 2004 cleanup are available.

There will be an advance media tour of the cleanup sites on the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers on March 31 and/or April 22nd at 10:00 am. Media should call now to RSVP for the tours. Space on the press boat is limited and will be available on a first come/first served basis.