



## THE JAMES AND ANNE ROBINSON FOUNDATION

7761 Waterloo Road • Jessup, MD 20794-9793 • v 443.733.1203 • f 443.733.1219 • [www.robinsonfoundation.org](http://www.robinsonfoundation.org)

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Contact: Marianne Pettis, Interim Director, 443-733-1203

### James and Anne Robinson Foundation Green Footprint Leadership Awards Go to Conscious Corner and Karen Learnmouth, HCPSS

The James and Anne Robinson Foundation is pleased to announce the first recipients of the Green Footprint Leadership Awards. The Green Footprint Community Leadership Award goes to Conscious Corner, co-owned businesses including Roots Market, Nest, Bark, and Great Sage in Clarksville, Maryland. The Green Footprint Educational Leadership Award goes to Karen Learnmouth, Coordinator of Elementary Science for the Howard County Public School System. The Foundation's Board of Trustees selected both award recipients in honor of their outstanding leadership in Howard County.

According to Foundation Interim Director Marianne Pettis, "Jeff and Holly Kaufman and Jody Cutler of Conscious Corner exemplify ideals of sustainable business practices. Conscious Corner's thriving businesses are examples for others in Howard County and beyond."

Of the Educational Leadership Award recipient, Ms. Pettis says, "For the past ten years, Karen Learnmouth has been the local epicenter of environmental education, incorporating nature appreciation and ecological concepts throughout the elementary science curriculum, while forming essential partnerships with County environmental organizations."

The two Green Footprint Awards will be presented at Howard County GreenFest. A family event celebrating Earth Month, GreenFest features displays from green vendors and community groups, organic food choices, a tree planting, and other activities. The event will be held April 17, from 10 am to 4 pm at Howard Community College, and the Award will be presented as part of the Howard County Environmental Sustainability Board Environmental Summit from noon to 1:30 pm in the Montebaro Recital Hall. Jeff Agnor, Acting Chair of the Robinson Foundation Advisory Board, will present the awards.

Before her death in 2005, long-time Howard County resident Anne Robinson took steps to ensure that her 18.4 acre property, immediately adjacent to the Middle Patuxent Environmental Area, would become a nature center. Anne Robinson wanted the nature center "... to serve as a source of inspiration, education and beauty for the general public." Today, the primary mission of the Foundation is to support the Robinson Nature Center, which is scheduled to open in spring, 2011. In addition, the Foundation sponsors environmental awards and events and supports initiatives of other environmental, educational and community groups that share a commitment to connecting people with the outdoors. More information about the Robinson Foundation is available on the website, <http://www.robinsonfoundation.org/>.