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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Goodwill Makes a Positive Impact on the Environment by Recycling Donated Goods

Goodwill makes a positive impact on the environment by being proponents and practitioners of re-using. Every year, local Goodwill agencies demonstrate social and environmental leadership by implementing strategies that decrease our collective carbon footprint, create jobs for people who need them most, and provide environmentally responsible solutions for businesses and government.

In 2008, Goodwill Northern Illinois sold over 2 million pounds of used clothing and other items to area customers and diverted an additional 2 million pounds of material from area landfills. We accept donations of many gently used items that can be reused as intended or in new, creative ways. Earth Day is a reason to clean out closets, clear out the dust bunnies and get rid of things you don't need or want any longer. Donate the clean, saleable items to Goodwill, and our stores will sell the merchandise to eco-friendly shoppers who are also passionate about reusing items and diverting them from landfills. By shopping and donating to Goodwill all year long, you are helping to contribute to the environment. Used items also don't have expensive packaging, which takes energy to produce and leads to more waste in landfills.

More than 84 percent of the retail revenue from Goodwill stores goes directly into employment and training programs for people with disabilities, those who lack education or work experience and other job seekers.

About Goodwill

Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois is a community-based not-for-profit organization that provides education, employment and job placement for persons in need. Goodwill stores in northern Illinois (Rockford, Machesney Park, Freeport, Sterling) and Beloit, Wisconsin employ more than 170 people. Visit our website at www.goodwillni.org.

For more information on Goodwill Northern Illinois contact Sam Schmitz (815) 965-3795.

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