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## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release  
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### **Pine Ridge Middle School Recognized by State Recycling Association**

Pine Ridge Middle School received the "School Recycling Program of the Year" award from the Carolina Recycling Association (CRA) at the May 27 meeting of Lexington County Council.

The "School Recycling Program of the Year" is a new award that honors an outstanding school program that promotes waste reduction, reuse and recycling. Selection criteria include a strong education component and the inclusion of waste reduction and buying recycled.

"Pine Ridge Middle school implemented a comprehensive recycling program six years ago, and their success led to a district wide school recycling initiative in Lexington School District Two," says Lexington County recycling coordinator Mary Pat Baldauf, who nominated Pine Ridge Middle School for the award. "This well-deserved award confirms that Pine Ridge Middle School is a leader in environmental stewardship not only Lexington County, but throughout the Carolinas."

In addition to their successful school recycling program, Pine Ridge Middle School boasts a number of student-driven environmental programs, including Adopt-A-Highway, campus composting, gardens used as outdoor classrooms and "Locker Loot Clean Out" days.

The Carolina Recycling Association is one of the largest state-based recycling associations in the United States, serving North and South Carolina since 1989. Each year, they honor the best programs, projects and individuals in North and South Carolina for outstanding achievement and commitment to conserving resources by advancing waste reduction and recycling throughout the Carolinas.

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