



STATE OF NEW YORK

GEORGE E. PATAKI
GOVERNOR

April 1, 2006

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to all gathered on this auspicious occasion, as the State of New York is named the "Go Green State of the Year."

New York State is deeply committed to preserving that which every American must hold dear – our precious environment. Blessed with an abundance of natural resources and breathtaking landscapes, we remain resolved upon preserving the integrity of our pristine lands and coastal waters. As someone who places a high priority on environmental issues, I am especially grateful to those organizations and individuals who possess a conscientious concern for our inherited natural wealth, for our air, water and soil.

So, too, we are committed to the creation and maintenance of wholesome and environmentally-sensitive school buildings and facilities. It makes sense that students, teachers and staff will achieve more, with increased productivity, higher efficiency and better attendance in a healthier and safer atmosphere. As well, it is imperative that we teach our youth, from the earliest age, the vitally important concepts of environmental conservation and present them with viable programs for reducing and reusing, so that recycling becomes a second nature to them.

This is the mission of the Go Green Initiative – to provide training and resources to schools across the nation as they seek to create viable environmental stewardship action plans. On behalf of all New Yorkers, I extend congratulations to the New York State PTA and New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse and Recycling on this much-deserved recognition. The Empire State is proud of all their "green" efforts on behalf of future generations.

Best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable event.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. E. Pataki".

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER STATE CAPITOL ALBANY 12224
<http://www.state.ny.us>

