

American Nurses Association  
8515 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3492  
Tel (301) 628-5000  
Fax (301) 628-5001  
www.NursingWorld.org

**NEWS RELEASE**



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**CONTACT:** Mary McNamara, 301-628-5198  
[mary.mcnamara@ana.org](mailto:mary.mcnamara@ana.org)  
Adam Sachs, 301-628-5038  
[adam.sachs@ana.org](mailto:adam.sachs@ana.org)  
[www.nursingworld.org](http://www.nursingworld.org)

## **EARTH DAY MESSAGE FROM ANA PRESIDENT REBECCA M. PATTON**

**SILVER SPRING, MD** – In honor of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day, the American Nurses Association (ANA), the largest nursing organization in the United States, invites nurses to examine their individual environmental footprint and increase their advocacy for environmental health.

President Obama has issued a call to action and challenge to take action to improve the environment. Please visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/earthday> to learn more about the President's Earth Day challenge and different ways to actively "celebrate" this commitment all year long.

As America moves forward with chemical policy reform, cleaner energy policies, increased sustainability efforts and an emphasis on green jobs and green chemistry, now is the time for nurses to focus their efforts on reducing health care's environmental impact. Learn more about environmental health opportunities, ANA's environmental health policy and access resources including ANA's *Environmental Health Principles for Nursing Practice with Implementation Strategies* and other environmental health information by visiting ANA's website at: <http://www.nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/OccupationalandEnvironmental/environmentalhealth.aspx> .

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*The ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 3.1 million registered nurses through its constituent member nurses associations, its organizational affiliates, and its workforce advocacy affiliate, the Center for American Nurses. The ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the rights of nurses in the workplace, projecting a positive and realistic view of nursing, and by lobbying the Congress and regulatory agencies on health care issues affecting nurses and the public.*