

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:
Alyson Dutch
alyson@bdpr.com

Earth Friendly Products® Earns U.S. EPA's Prestigious WasteWise Award
EPA Recognizes Company's Achievements in Reducing Waste and Protecting the Environment

Cypress, CA (January 5, 2018) – For the second year in a row, Earth Friendly Products®, the maker of ECOS™ environmentally friendly cleaners, has been recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency with its prestigious 2017 WasteWise award. The honor was given to Earth Friendly Products, one of sixteen winners nationwide, for its outstanding success in reducing waste, environmental stewardship, and sustainable materials management.

WasteWise, the nation's first voluntary solid waste reduction program, helps businesses, non-profit organizations, and local governments find practical solutions to reduce costly waste and protect the environment. Earth Friendly Products and the other WasteWise award winners collectively prevented and recycled over 355,801 tons of waste, saving \$17.7 million in landfill costs.

"This is yet another excellent example of the EPA partnering with communities and organizations to achieve environmental and economic benefits through waste prevention and management. The WasteWise award winners have exemplified tremendous environmental stewardship and fiscal responsibility, and we commend their efforts," said EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt.

"We're thrilled to be recognized by the EPA again for our waste reduction efforts," says Kelly Vlahakis-Hanks, president and CEO of Earth Friendly Products. "For 50 years we've made sustainability a key part of our mission, and this award is a wonderful acknowledgement of our comprehensive approach to waste reduction. The WasteWise program is a very important part of our long-term commitment to protecting our planet."

Earth Friendly Products is a nationally recognized leader in sustainable manufacturing, earning many awards for its innovations in green science and environmental stewardship, including the EPA's Safer Choice Partner of the Year. The company has been praised for being the first to achieve the sustainability "trifecta" of carbon neutrality, water neutrality, and Platinum-level Zero Waste certification.

Earth Friendly Products has achieved a remarkable 95% reduction in waste through its innovative training programs and vendor relationships that minimize waste creation and extend the reuse of waste materials.

**ABOUT** EARTH FRIENDLY PRODUCTS® Family owned and operated since 1967, Earth Friendly Products® is the maker of ECOS™ Laundry Detergent and over 200 other environmentally friendly products that are safer for people, pets and the planet. Made with

plant-powered ingredients, ECOS<sup>™</sup> cleaners are thoughtfully sourced, pH balanced, readily biodegradable, easily recyclable, and never tested on animals. Over 100 ECOS<sup>™</sup> products have received the coveted U.S. EPA Safer Choice certification, which means that every ingredient is the safest in its class and that the product has proven superior performance. ECOS<sup>™</sup>, Baby ECOS<sup>™</sup>, ECOS<sup>™</sup> for Pets! and ECOS<sup>™</sup> Pro cleaners are available at selected major retailers throughout the U.S., in over 60 countries and online. For more information on Earth Friendly Products, visit www.ecos.com.

**ABOUT THE EPA'S WASTEWISE AWARD** For 23 years, EPA's WasteWise has helped organizations and businesses apply sustainable materials management practices to prevent and reduce municipal and select industrial wastes, saving them resources and money. WasteWise partners reported preventing and diverting 8.5 million tons of waste that would otherwise have been disposed in landfills or incinerators. These actions, which include waste prevention, recycling, composting and donation, saved participants over \$400 million in avoided landfill fees. WasteWise partners who report the best overall improvement in waste prevention and recycling activities, when compared to the previous year, receive awards in various categories.

###