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Belk Recognized for Outstanding Commitment to Environmental Health

- Award presented by EarthShare NC as part of its Corporate Earth Day Breakfast
- Other North Carolina businesses also recognized

DURHAM, N.C., USA, FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – EarthShare NC recognized Belk for its outstanding commitment to sustainability and environmental health.

That sign on your local Belk store powered by LEDs (light emitting diodes) was just the start when the company began embracing environmental initiatives five years ago. Now Belk’s sustainability programs reach all levels, from internal operations to suppliers. In keeping with the long-standing ethic of community involvement, the North Carolina-based company also extended the initiatives to include employees and customers.

“The Belk sustainability initiatives are far-reaching, and exemplify corporate responsibility and stewardship,” says EarthShare NC Executive Director Heather Beard. “Beyond ‘greening’ its own operations, Belk seeks to engage its community of associates and customers in solutions. EarthShare NC is delighted to help make that happen.”

Belk supports the work of 30 nonprofit organizations in the EarthShare NC network, as well as other EarthShare non-profit partners across all the other states where Belk operates. Todd Huston, vice president of private brands at Belk, serves on the EarthShare NC board of directors.

The award was announced at the Corporate Earth Day Breakfast on Wednesday, where EarthShare NC also presented the awards to TheeDesign, SAS and Triangle Community Foundation for their work in the Corporate Challenge. The Corporate Challenge is an event designed to connect nonprofits and businesses across the Triangle. A total of 100 employees from 11 businesses were matched with

nonprofits to complete volunteer projects across the Triangle. Volunteers planted 600 trees to re-establish prairie habitat, built fences to expand habitat for tigers, removed 650 pounds of trash and recycling from our waterways and more.

The breakfast, which drew close to 100 people, also included a business panel discussion about the connection between economic and environmental health in North Carolina.

Panelist Sepideh Saidi of Sepi Engineering and Construction emphasized the importance of company engagement in green solutions when recruiting top talent to companies – “Millennials are not just looking for a job, they are looking for a bigger purpose from potential employers.”

About EarthShare NC

[EarthShare NC](#) was founded in 1991 to strengthen conservation work that protects our water, air, land and wildlife in North Carolina. In support of more than 70 non-profits, EarthShare NC has partnered with employers to connect more people and resources with conservation work, through workplace giving and employee engagement programs. During the last 24 years, thousands of employees have learned about and taken part in programs to preserve our natural heritage. EarthShare NC is an affiliate member of [EarthShare](#).

About Belk

[Belk](#) operates in 15 states with close to 25,000 employees. Their environmental sustainability commitment includes a company-wide recycling program, increased energy efficiency, more sustainable store construction and reduced use of product packaging materials.

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