



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONGRESSMAN JIM MORAN JOINS ARLINGTON COUNTY 4-H
YOUTH TO PROMOTE IMPORTANCE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION**

*Rep. Moran and Local 4-H Members to Conduct National Science
Experiment during Teen Afterschool Program*

Arlington, Va. (October 30, 2008) – **4-H** and **Rep. Jim Moran** (D-VA) will promote the importance of science education today by conducting the **National Science Experiment** alongside local 4-H youth and Arlington County Board and School Board members at Lubber Run Community Center in Arlington, Va. During this special celebration, the premier youth organization will acknowledge Rep. Moran for his continued support of science, technology and environmental programs both on a local and national level.

The hour-long event concludes 4-H's month-long nationwide celebration of the first annual **4-H National Youth Science Day**. Throughout October, 4-H youth members plus parents, teachers, students, and youth organizations nationwide participated in the **National Science Experiment (NSE)** – a brand new initiative that encourages youth of all ages to engage in hands-on science activities. This year, the National Science Experiment focuses on the environment and uses scientific principles to teach youth nationwide about the importance of water conservation.

Throughout Virginia, the Virginia Cooperative Extension system's 4-H program utilizes its direct connection to the cutting-edge research and resources of two land-grant universities at Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, providing youth with skills in the fields of science, engineering and technology.

"America's ability to maintain global competitiveness largely depends on our country's ability to provide interactive, science-oriented after-school programs," said Rep. Jim Moran. "Youth organizations like 4-H are leading the charge to foster our next generation of great thinkers by encouraging kids of all ages to explore and to discover the wonders of science, engineering and technology and by providing impactful yet easy-to-administer hands-on activities like the National Science Experiment."

"4-H extends a heartfelt thank you to Congressman Moran and his longstanding efforts to raise the visibility of scientific and environmental study," said Donald T. Floyd, president and CEO of National 4-H Council. "Receiving Congressional support is a wonderful validation of our ongoing efforts to provide quality science programs. Additionally, such support further raises awareness of the need to encourage youth to pursue careers in science, engineering, and technology that will in turn help our country remain globally competitive."

4-H National Youth Science Day was announced in June alongside a new public service campaign "One Million New Scientists. One Million New Ideas™." The campaign supports the organization's long-term goal of attracting one million new youth to 4-H science,

engineering, and technology programs by the year 2013. 4-H's existing science curriculum combined with these new initiatives will arm youth with the technical skills needed to help America maintain its competitive edge in the global marketplace. For more information on 4-H National Youth Science Day, go to www.4-H.org.

About 4-H

4-H is a community of six million young people across America learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. National 4-H Council is the national, private sector, non-profit partner of the 4-H Youth Development Program and its parent, the Cooperative Extension System of the United States Department of Agriculture. Learn more about 4-H at www.4-H.org.

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