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## CITIZENS ENVIRONMENT

ALLIANCE

of southwestern Ontario

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## SMOGFEST MARKS ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY

Windsor, Ontario – Beginning August 2, 2011 the Citizens Environment Alliance (CEA) hosts its annual Smogfest. This year marks the tenth consecutive Smogfest hosted by the CEA. The CEA created SmogFest as a means of educating and empowering citizens regarding our region's poor air quality and its effect on our health and environment.

In 2002, Environment Canada bestowed the title of smog capital of Canada on Windsor based upon the average number of smog advisories per year. In Ontario, the total number of smog days reached a record in 2005, at 53. Last year Ontario had 12 smog days. To date, this year, Windsor-Essex-Chatham-Kent have had 6 smog advisory days.

"Our region's air quality has been slowly improving and that is partly due to grassroots efforts to improve pollution prevention and air quality standards on both sides of the border. Yet there are many challenges to continued progress, including climate change which has not been a priority for our elected leaders," stated Derek Coronado. Coordinator of the CEA.

This year, Smogfest includes an environmental art show and silent auction through August 27<sup>th</sup>. The show is at the Pop Hair Gallery, 973 Erie St. East in Windsor. There will be an opening reception at Pop on Saturday, August 6 from 7pm-10pm.

For more information, contact: Citizens Environment Alliance (519) 973-1116