



## International Erosion Control Association

### Media Release

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### For Immediate Release

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### **North Carolina Inventor Honored for Excellence in Controlling Sediment at Construction Sites**

Steamboat Springs, Colorado, USA. – J. Warren Faircloth, Hillsborough, N.C., has won the 2008 Environmental Achievement Award from the International Erosion Control Association for developing a device that improves the effectiveness of sediment basins.

The annual award is given to an outstanding program or project which demonstrates excellence in natural resource conservation and environmental protection through the use of effective erosion and sediment control policies, practices and/or public education.

The award will be presented to Faircloth during formal ceremonies at the annual IECA conference, Environmental Connection, in Orlando, Fla., Feb. 19, 2008.

Faircloth is president of J.W. Faircloth & Son, Inc., which makes the device. Called the Faircloth Skimmer, he developed and refined it over the past 13 years based on his experience as a former erosion control supervisor for Orange County. The device offers a more effective, more economical and easier-to-use alternative to conventional practices for removing sediment from stormwater runoff that collects in sediment basins.

A sediment basin is a temporary structure designed to minimize the amount of sediment that leaves a construction site. It is designed to create a standing pool of stormwater runoff, which allows sediment to settle to the bottom by gravity. The water then drains off into nearby streams.

The Faircloth Skimmer, made of PVC pipe and other components, floats on the surface of the water. By regulating the rate at which the water drains from the basin better than other methods, the device increases the amount of sediment that collects in the basin.

In university trials, the Faircloth Skimmer improved the ability of a basin to capture sediment from 80 percent of the fine particles, which is typical of other devices, to 90 percent, over a 24-hour period. This efficiency increased to about 93 percent over seven days.

### **About IECA**

The International Erosion Control Association (IECA) is the world's oldest and largest association devoted entirely to helping members solve the problems caused by erosion and its byproduct – sediment. Founded in 1972, IECA is a non-profit organization that serves as the premier global resource for the prevention and control of erosion.

This is the 17<sup>th</sup> year of the annual IECA *Awards of Environmental Excellence* program. The Environmental Achievement Award is given to an outstanding program or project that demonstrates excellence in natural resource conservation and environmental protection through the use of effective erosion and sediment control policies, practices or public education.

For more information about state-of-the-art educational events and materials, please visit our web site at [www.ieca.org](http://www.ieca.org).