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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MICHAEL S. MICHELS RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Middletown, NY – April 27, 2009 – Cornerstone Environmental Group, LLC announced that Michael S. Michels, PE, has been awarded the 2009 Distinguished Individual Achievement Award by the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA).

Mr. Michels is a vice president at Cornerstone, focusing on landfill and landfill gas design and operations. He is also responsible for Cornerstone’s corporate quality control program, and has played a key role in building the firm’s design and field services groups.

The Distinguished Individual Achievement Award is presented to a SWANA Landfill Gas Technical Division Member who has displayed utmost dedication and advancement to SWANA, the Landfill Gas Management Technical Division, his/her employer and the landfill gas management field. Mr. Michels has served as director of SWANA’s LFG Technical Division, and has been a member of SWANA national landfill gas committees on a variety of issues. He has also been treasurer of the Wisconsin Chapter, and served on the chapter’s Board of Directors.

Richard A. Peluso, President of Cornerstone, said, “Mike Michels is the consummate professional; he is disciplined, thorough, and smart. Over the years, he has been responsible for many innovations in the LFG industry, which are in use today. I am proud to have Mr. Michels as a partner and was honored to help present him with this well deserved award.”

Mr. Michels has been an engineering consultant since 1981, and has designed hundreds of landfills and landfill gas collection systems in the United States, Mexico, Canada, South America, and China. In accepting the award, Mr. Michels said, “I am honored to join a list of very distinguished past recipients of this award and appreciative of my industry mentors

for helping me throughout my career. I look forward to many more contributions to the industry and to helping clients address their challenges.”

### **About Cornerstone Environmental Group, LLC**

Cornerstone Environmental Group, LLC is an engineering and environmental consulting firm dedicated to providing services to the solid waste industry and commercial and industrial clients. The company is headquartered in Middletown, NY, with offices across the United States, including Bolingbrook, IL, Farmington Hills, MI and Dublin, CA. Cornerstone employs approximately 100 people. Cornerstone was named to the 2008 Business Journal/CE News list of “Best Environmental Service Firms to Work For.” Additional information on Cornerstone is available at [www.cornerstoneeg.com](http://www.cornerstoneeg.com) or by contacting Cathie Swyka at 845-695-0207 or via email at [Cathie.swyka@cornerstoneeg.com](mailto:Cathie.swyka@cornerstoneeg.com).