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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Connecticut Science Center Honors Military Personnel with Free Admission and a Jam Packed Weekend of Activities

Be the first to experience the NEW exhibit *Nature Unleashed: Inside Natural Disasters*

Hartford, CT (May 24, 2010) – The Connecticut Science Center is offering FREE general admission during Memorial Day Weekend to honor those who have served or are currently serving in our military armed forces, as well as fire, police and EMS/EMT. Immediate family members who accompany these service personnel or have a family member currently deployed overseas will enjoy half off general admission to the Hartford-based learning destination.

In addition to the Science Center's 150 plus exhibits, The Hartford Fire Department will be onsite all three days from 10 AM – 5 PM with the **Hazard House**, an innovative and riveting teaching aid that allows the audience to participate in transforming the house from hazardous to safe. The Special Services Unit utilizes the Hazard House to educate kids and adults how to convert their homes into safe homes through the use of 3D parts, flips, tokens and stick-on illustrations.

On Saturday & Sunday **Fidelco Guide Dogs** and their trainers will be onsite to showcase how these service dogs assist police officers and giving new life to soldiers returning from the war in the Middle East with life changing injuries.

Highlighting the weekend's activities at the Connecticut Science Center is a first look at the highly anticipated new exhibit, **Nature Unleashed: Inside Natural Disasters, an innovative, interactive exhibit that uncovers the causes of natural disasters and shares stories of how people cope and adapt in the aftermath.** The exhibit is expected to be of particular interest to those who serve, as they are typically first responders when disasters strike. Visitors at the Connecticut Science Center will explore natural disasters through stunning displays, state-of-the-art animations, poignant, large scale images, and cultural artifacts that reveal the dynamic relationship we have with the Earth.

The exhibit runs through September 5 and is free with admission. **Nature Unleashed** is sponsored locally by the Northeast Utilities Foundation and Connecticut Light & Power, and is the latest in a series of traveling exhibits to the Science Center's Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center Gallery. For more information on the Science Center and the exhibits, visit www.CTScienceCenter.org.

To take advantage of the "Honoring those who Serve" ticket, participants must present proof of service at the Connecticut Science Center ticket window from Saturday May 28 through Monday, May 30.

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About the Connecticut Science Center The LEED-Gold certified Connecticut Science Center, located in downtown Hartford, sparks creative imagination and an appreciation for science by immersing visitors in fun and educational hands-on, minds-on interactive experiences while maintaining an environmentally conscious presence. Visitors experience over 150 exhibits in ten galleries and a range of topics, including space and earth sciences, physical sciences, biology, the Connecticut River watershed, alternative energy sources, Connecticut inventors and innovations, a children's gallery, and much more. Other features include four educational labs, a 200-seat 3D digital theater, function room, gift store and café, and ongoing events and lectures for all ages. The Science Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing science education throughout the state of Connecticut and New England, providing learning opportunities for students and adults of all ages, and engaging the community in scientific exploration. More information: www.CTScienceCenter.org or 860.SCIENCE.