

News from Waste Management's Austin Community Landfill

Waste Management Honors Two Youth Winners of the Texas Environmental Excellence Awards

Waste Management, for the fourth year in a row, is honored to recognize the Youth award winners of the Texas Environmental Excellence Awards (TEEAs).

Waste Management will make a \$2,000 donation to the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Capital Area Council in honor of Eagle Scouts Connor Crowe and Archer Hadley, both of whom are the Youth winners of the 2014 TEEAs. Each Austin-area Scout will receive a \$1,000 grant from the BSA Capital Area Council for his future education.

Connor organized efforts to restore the habitat of the Georgetown Salamander in the Twin Springs Natural Preserve that was

damaged during a 500-year flood event in September 2010. Specifically, his project required placing large stones in the spring for the salamander's habitat, clearing brush and debris from the flood, and educating the public about the conservation project. Now that the Georgetown Salamander's habitat is restored, their numbers have increased back to about what they were before the damaging flood.

Archer organized the collection of Texas Ash in Central Texas for the National Ash Genetic Conservation Project, in response to the loss of tens of millions of native ash trees following the accidental introduction of a non-native pest, the emerald ash borer. There are several environmental benefits from his project

including using the seeds to reintroduce Texas ash to natural areas, sharing his conservation seed collection with other groups, and conserving the floristic diversity of Texas.

Presented by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the TEEA program honors the state's most outstanding waste reduction and pollution prevention projects by citizens, communities, businesses and non-profit organizations.



Waste Management's Don Smith (third from left) presented a check to the Boy Scouts of America in honor of TEEA Youth Award Winners and Eagle Scouts Archer Hadley, sitting, and Connor Crowe. Joining the celebration (l-r) were TCEQ Commissioner Toby Baker, TCEQ Chairman Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., Smith, the Hadley and Crowe families, and TCEQ Commissioner Zak Covar.

Austin Community Landfill

9900 Giles Road
Austin, TX 78754

Our Door is Open

Waste Management is committed to the community and maintains an open-door policy. We can arrange for a tour of the landfill for you or any interested organization. And we're always eager to answer your questions.

Just give us a call - 512-272-9387.

'Cover Your Load' to Prevent Windblown Litter, Accidents

Summer signals moving season and home improvement projects and that means lots of extra debris to transport to the landfill.

Waste Management reminds everyone to "cover your load" when transporting debris in trucks and trailers to area landfills. Here are some helpful tips:

- Use a tarp big enough to completely cover your trailer or truck bed — a minimum of four inches should overlap the sides, front and back of your load.
- Tightly secure the tarp with ropes, bungee cords, netting or straps.
- Put lighter items at the bottom of the load.
- When transporting large items, make sure they are tied down and secured to the truck or trailer so they don't move.
- A tarp is not required if the debris is completely enclosed by a load-carrying compartment.
- Make sure your truck or trailer bed does not have a hole, crack or other opening where debris can escape.
- Don't overload — keep material level with the truck bed or trailer.
- Before leaving the landfill, remove any loose material that may remain in the trailer or truck bed.



Remember – it's the law! The Texas Transportation Code requires vehicles be properly equipped to prevent loose material from escaping by blowing or spilling. And Waste Management assesses a fee of \$25 to customers without properly tarped trucks and trailers.

Wildlife Habitat Park Spring Cleaning

Our Wildlife Habitat volunteers have been busy taking care of the front entrance gardens to encourage bee and butterfly populations. From mulching the gardens and planting trees (pecan, peach and fig) and vegetables (lettuce, cucumbers and squash) to building bird houses and bird seed feeders, our volunteers – which also have included Keep Austin Beautiful Green Teens – are keeping the gardens in great shape.

Waste Management is applying to recertify the Wildlife Habitat Gardens at the Austin Community Landfill, which is among more than 115 sites with Wildlife Habitat Council certification. The company has preserved some 28,000 acres as part of its sustainability programs.



(L-R) Keep Austin Beautiful Green Teens Nathan Zarak, Kedreonia Freeman, Al Medina and Tristan Smetana helped build bird boxes for the Wildlife Habitat Park.



Al Medina