

WASTE MANAGEMENT'S AUSTIN COMMUNITY LANDFILL HELPS COMPANY SURPASS ITS SUSTAINABILITY GOAL

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Company supports wildlife with more than 100 certified programs and 25,000 protected acres far in advance of 2020

(AUSTIN) – Nov. 12, 2010 – Waste Management's Austin Community Landfill has earned and maintained its certification from the Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) since 2006 for its wildlife program based on the quality and impact of its efforts to protect habitats and educate others on the environment. The Austin Community Landfill, one of 73 Waste Management locations that had previously earned certification, was joined by many more newly certified facilities at WHC's 22nd Annual Symposium in Baltimore yesterday.

At its 22nd annual symposium, WHC awarded 30 new *Wildlife at Work*SM certifications, three new *Corporate Lands for Learning*SM (CLL) certifications, 22 *Wildlife at Work* recertifications, and seven *CLL* recertifications to programs at Waste Management facilities. With the new certifications, Waste Management has surpassed its goal of 100 certified programs and 25,000 protected acres, 10 years ahead of plan, reaching 103 certified programs and 25,045 acres.

One or more Waste Management locations were also candidates for virtually every category of additional awards presented at the symposium, including Rookie of the Year, *Corporate Lands for Learning* of the Year, the Wild Turkey Management Award and others.

WHC's *Wildlife at Work* program provides a structure for corporate-driven cooperative efforts between management, employees and community members to create, conserve and restore wildlife habitats on corporate lands. The CLL program promotes the use of certified company lands for hands-on environmental education by school and community groups.

The Austin Community Landfill resides principally on abandoned agricultural property on 360 acres outside of Austin, Texas. Its wildlife team carefully developed a management plan to work toward an increase in biodiversity; the plan includes one-, three- and five-year goals. The team focused on restoration of the property from post-agriculture to prairie ecosystems and the restoration of existing cattle tank ponds and a tributary of the Little Walnut River.

Since 2005, working with neighbors, youth and community groups and environmental organizations, Waste Management has constructed a 2.1-mile nature trail, built butterfly and bee pollinator gardens, removed invasive species, planted native species including wildflowers in the wildlife habitat, and added Chimney Swift houses and nest boxes to attract purple martins, eastern bluebirds and wood ducks.

"We see many business opportunities in the area of environmental sustainability, including recycling, renewable energy and helping customers with zero waste goals," said David P. Steiner, chief executive officer of Waste Management. "And nowhere have our people embraced these opportunities with more enthusiasm and success than in making sure that our locations are compatible with a healthy local ecosystem. Our team's efforts at the Austin Community Landfill are a credit to our company, and this work was instrumental in helping us reach our sustainability goal to enhance wildlife habitat at our facilities. We're planning to continue growing our number of certifications and expanding the acreage we manage for wildlife protection."

To read more about each program, please visit <http://www.wm.com/wm/community/whc/index.asp>

ABOUT WILDLIFE HABITAT COUNCIL

The Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) is a nonprofit, non-lobbying organization dedicated to increasing the quality and amount of wildlife habitat on corporate, private and public lands. WHC devotes its resources to building partnerships with corporations and conservation groups to create solutions that balance the demands of economic growth with the requirements of a healthy, biodiverse and sustainable environment. WHC-assisted



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wildlife habitat and conservation education programs are found in 43 states, the District of Columbia and nine other countries. To learn more, visit www.wildlifehc.org.

ABOUT WASTE MANAGEMENT

Waste Management, based in Houston, Texas, is the leading provider of comprehensive waste management services in North America. Through its subsidiaries, the company provides collection, transfer, recycling and resource recovery, and disposal services. It is also a leading developer, operator and owner of waste-to-energy and landfill gas-to-energy facilities in the United States. The company's customers include residential, commercial, industrial, and municipal customers throughout North America. To learn more information about Waste Management visit www.wm.com or www.thinkgreen.com.

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