

Waste Management's Wheelabrator Bear Creek Wildlife Sanctuary Helps Company Surpass its Sustainability Goal

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

BALTIMORE — Nov. 11, 2010 — Waste Management's Wheelabrator Bear Creek Wildlife Sanctuary received recertification of its wildlife program today from the Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) at the organization's 22nd Annual Symposium in Baltimore. The facility is part of a national Waste Management program that protects animal and plant species on 25,045 acres at 103 sites around the country.

The Wheelabrator Bear Creek Wildlife Sanctuary's recognition was one of 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 that WHC awarded Waste Management programs this year. With these certifications, Waste Management surpassed its goal to have 100 certified programs and 25,000 protected acres—ten years ahead of plan.

One or more WM 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 *Corporate Lands for Learning* program promotes the use of certified company lands for hands-on environmental education by school and community groups.

Waste Management's Wheelabrator Saugus facility has transformed what began in the 1990s as a mitigation measure into the 200-acre Bear Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, complete with an on-site meeting and teaching center. The Sanctuary is situated in the Rumney Marshes Area of Critical Environmental Concern as designated by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs. The site developed and maintains numerous specific native habitats, including coastal shrubland, early successional forest, native grasslands and wet meadows in order to attract targeted wildlife species.

The site's location along the North Atlantic Flyway was the basis for its habitat and wildlife goals due to the high percentage of birds that migrate northward through Massachusetts. To increase biodiversity on the site and provide quality food sources, cover and space for migratory birds, the site has been controlling the non-native invasive species *phragmites australis*.

The site's Corporate Lands for Learning program takes advantage of the many learning opportunities provided by the surrounding Rumney Marshes.

"From zero waste to green energy production to recycling, we see all of our fundamental business opportunities as being related to sustainability," said David P. Steiner, chief executive officer of Waste Management. "And nowhere have our employees 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 Wheelabrator Saugus and the Bear Creek Wildlife Sanctuary 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."

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

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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 wildlife habitat and conservation education programs are found in 43 states, the District of Columbia, and nine other countries.

About Wheelabrator Technologies Inc.

A wholly owned subsidiary of Waste Management, Wheelabrator Technologies Inc. is a leader in the safe and environmentally sound conversion of MSW and other renewable waste fuels into clean energy. Wheelabrator's 17 waste-to-energy facilities provide safe waste disposal for towns and cities across the U.S. Wheelabrator also operates five independent power plants designed to generate electricity using an assortment of fuels, including waste wood, tires, waste coal, and natural gas. In addition to producing electricity, some of these facilities also produce steam sold to nearby government and commercial establishments. Wheelabrator's 22 facilities have a combined electric generating capacity of 896 megawatts, enough energy to power more than 985,000 homes.

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.

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