

# Wheelabrator Baltimore, Mayor Rawlings-Blake celebrate Garbageman Appreciation Day

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Wheelabrator Technologies Inc.

**Media**

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**BALTIMORE, Md. — November 1, 2011—** Day after day, a group of unsung heroes work tirelessly - and sometimes thanklessly - to remove household and workplace waste from the city's streets. Tuesday was their day to be recognized for their efforts.

Wheelabrator Baltimore and Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake paid tribute to the 700 private and municipal solid waste collection workers from Baltimore City and Baltimore County who haul more than 300 truckloads and 2,000 tons of post-recycled waste to the waste-to-energy facility every day. Those in attendance were presented with gifts of appreciation and treated to lunch from John's Deli.

"You deliver a vital service for the citizens of Baltimore," Rawlings-Blake said. "In the heat, the cold and the rain, you still do the job. I'm proud of what you do."

Wheelabrator Mid-Atlantic Regional Manager Jeff Primavera said the company values its partnership with its "front-line colleagues in waste collection and disposal who provide an invaluable service to the community. Wheelabrator is proud of the partnership we have had with the City of Baltimore and Baltimore County for three decades and we look forward to another three."

In addition to the mayor and Primavera, others who were on hand to show their appreciation for the waste haulers included City Council President Bernard —Jack|| Young, DPW Director Alfred Foxx, Catherine Coble of the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority, Wheelabrator Baltimore Plant Manager David Jones, Lisa Kardell of Waste Management and Wheelabrator Director of Community Relations Linda Sapienza.

Wheelabrator also recognized Lou Demely, an 84-year-old Westport resident who has been giving tours of the plant since 1985. Demely recently gave a tour to his 30,000th visitor.

"You are a great ambassador for Wheelabrator and for the City of Baltimore," Rawlings-Blake said in presenting an award of appreciation to Demely on behalf of Wheelabrator.

Wheelabrator Baltimore earlier this year signed a new 10-year waste disposal contract with the City of Baltimore. The contract is a renewal of the original deal that was signed when the plant began operations in 1985. Under the contract, the City will send up to 200,000 tons of post-recycled waste per year to the plant, and have the right to purchase directly from Wheelabrator 10 megawatts of electric energy per hour - enough to power more than 10,000 homes. This option is consistent with the City's stated desire to become more sustainable, and for Wheelabrator marks the first project in which a customer is buying back power that is generated from their waste.

Garbageman Appreciation Day also provides Wheelabrator with the opportunity to thank the crews for their contributions to the company's safety record, which has earned Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Star certification from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) - the agency's highest recognition.

## About Wheelabrator Technologies

A wholly owned subsidiary of Waste Management of Houston, Texas, Wheelabrator Technologies Inc. is a world leader in the safe and environmentally sound conversion of municipal solid waste 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. To learn more, visit [www.wheelabratortechnologies.com](http://www.wheelabratortechnologies.com).

### **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, visit [www.wm.com](http://www.wm.com) or [www.thinkgreen.com](http://www.thinkgreen.com).

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