

# Wildlife Habitat Council awards Waste Management's Wheelabrator Gloucester re-certification

FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Wheelabrator Technologies  
Media**  
Melissa Lohnes  
(603) 929-3193  
mlohnes@wm.com

**Waste Management  
Corporate Media**  
Debbie Figueras-Cano  
(832) 457-5113  
dfigueras@wm.com

**Wildlife Habitat Council  
Media**  
Patricia Leidemer  
(240) 247-0933  
pleidemer@wildlifehc.org

**WESTVILLE, N.J. - November 16, 2011-** At its 23rd Annual Symposium, *People, Partnerships and Pathways*, the [Wildlife Habitat Council](#) (WHC) presented [Waste Management's](#) Wheelabrator Gloucester with its Wildlife at Work<sup>SM</sup> re-certification. This re-certification is one of Waste Management's 128 WHC certified programs at 110 sites company-wide.

"WHC believes that collaboration among all stakeholder groups is critical to addressing the complex issues facing the sustainability of the planet," said Robert Johnson, WHC president. "WHC members take a leading role in connecting community stakeholders through wildlife habitat enhancement, community outreach and conservation education. Congratulations to Waste Management for their commitment to a healthy natural world and connected communities."

The primary goal of Wheelabrator Gloucester's wildlife team is to restore native grassland and wetland habitat on-site. The team partners with a number of organizations, including the New Jersey Quail Project (NJQP), Gloucester County Nature Club, South Jersey Quail Unlimited, and South Jersey Land & Water Trust, for assistance in implementing its goals. Another priority for the team is to establish a thriving population of bobwhite quail in the restoration area, since the quail is a species of regional concern in New Jersey, and the NJQP views the Wheelabrator site as a key area for the expansion of the fragmented bobwhite quail population.

"There's a saying 'it takes a village to raise a child.' Well, that notion certainly applies here. Without the active engagement of our volunteer groups earning this prestigious certification may not have been possible," said Mike Kissel, Wheelabrator Gloucester plant manager. "To see WM employees working side by side with our neighbors and customers to improve the environment brings back a real sense of community for everyone. I can truly say I am proud of what we all have accomplished here."

This year's certifications also helped Waste Management meet and exceed two of its company-wide sustainability goals well before the target year of 2020. In 2007, Waste Management pledged to preserve and restore 25,000 acres of wildlife habitat across North America. The company achieved this goal in 2010 and now has 26,000 acres. Waste Management also committed to have WHC certified programs at 100 or more of its facilities with WHC certifications. With the addition of this year's certifications, the company has surpassed this goal.

"At Waste Management our conservation goals are aggressive but achievable. Look at what we've accomplished in just four years," said President and CEO David Steiner. "The success of our WHC programs has driven us to work harder on developing long-term sustainability and conservation programs that provide a role of everyone in the community to pursue a common goal - making the planet a better place for future generations to enjoy."

Waste Management has been working closely with WHC since 2000. In 2008, the company was the first recipient of the organization's William W. Howard CEO Award recognizing the company's efforts in conservation, education and outreach efforts.

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

## About Wildlife Habitat Council Certifications

Since 1990, WHC has certified 657 Wildlife at Work<sup>SM</sup> programs, which help to preserve land as wildlife habitat by ensuring the availability of food, water, cover and space suitable to animals' needs. It has also certified 138 Corporate Lands for Learning<sup>SM</sup> (CLL) programs, which promote the use of certified company lands for hands-on environmental education by school and community



**Think Green.**<sup>®</sup>

groups. The certification process recognizes outstanding wildlife habitat management and conservation education efforts at corporate sites, and offers third-party validation of the benefits of such programs. Certification requirements are strict and require that sites apply for periodic renewal.

### **About Wildlife Habitat Council Certifications**

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. To learn more, visit [www.wildlifehc.org](http://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, visit [www.wm.com](http://www.wm.com) or [www.thinkgreen.com](http://www.thinkgreen.com).

###

