

# WASTE MANAGEMENT'S EAGLE VALLEY RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL FACILITY 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*

(ORION, MICHIGAN) – Nov. 12, 2010 – Waste Management's Eagle Valley Recycling and Disposal Facility received certification 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 Eagle Valley Recycling and Disposal Facility's recognition was one of 30 new *Wildlife at Work*<sup>SM</sup> certifications, three new *Corporate Lands for Learning*<sup>SM</sup> (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.

The Eagle Valley Recycling and Disposal Facility in suburban southeast Michigan includes about 45 acres of land available for wildlife habitat. The facility has become a popular tour destination for learning about modern waste management practices and sustainability. To help students learn about the importance of connecting with nature, the wildlife team planted and maintains a pollinator garden in collaboration with a variety of community members; daily monitoring of the pollinator garden is performed by site staff during the spring and summer months.

Community outreach and public education are continuous priorities for the wildlife team. The local chapter of the Audubon Society utilizes the facility to conduct an annual Christmas Bird Count, and staff at Eagle Valley are happy to boast about the turkey vulture they rescued in 2008. Named "Eva Orion," the bird now helps educate community members in Muskegon, Michigan.

"From recycling to zero waste to green energy production, 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 Eagle Valley Recycling and Disposal Facility 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>

## ABOUT WILDLIFE HABITAT COUNCIL

The Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) is a nonprofit, non-lobbying organization dedicated to increasing the quality

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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 information about Waste Management visit [www.wm.com](http://www.wm.com) or [www.thinkgreen.com](http://www.thinkgreen.com).

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