

# Your Community Connection

Vol. 1, 2012

## News from Waste Management's Eagle Valley Landfill

### Meet Kelly Spokaeski

Kelly's official title at Waste Management is "Office Administrator" for the Eagle Valley Recycling and Disposal Facility, but for those of you who utilize Eagle Valley for recycling and/or disposal, you may know her better as the friendly face in the window of our scale house. We also often refer to our scale house personnel as our "gatekeepers" because they serve the important role of educating the public about the "prohibited waste" (i.e., liquid waste, car batteries, whole tires, yardwaste, etc.) that are not allowed to be disposed of in the landfill.



Kelly Spokaeski

Kelly has worked for Eagle Valley for 24 years. She grew up in the community of Oxford and is now a nearby Eagle Valley resident living on Walden Road with her husband John Spokaeski, Jr. Some

of you may be familiar with both John Spokaeski Jr. and John Spokaeski, Sr., Kelly's father-in-law, both also have an extensive history of working at Eagle Valley.

Kelly has three children and seven grandchildren and when not busy with them, her hobbies include gardening and following NASCAR. Kelly assists with maintaining the wildlife journal at Eagle Valley, as a part of our Wildlife Habitat Program. She also planted flowers at the scalehouse and was provided with a hummingbird feeder so scale house staff can enjoy bird watching when not busy with our customers.



### Teaching Teachers & Environmental Education

In October of 2011, Waste Management again participated in the Annual Conference of the Michigan Alliance of Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE). Waste Management is one of several sponsors and helps provide funding (stipends) for teachers needing financial assistance in order to attend the conference.



Also, in October, Eagle Valley was pleased to provide its first teaching experience to Oakland University teaching students.



Professor Dawn Pickard's teaching students spent a Saturday at Eagle Valley learning about how solid waste is managed. This program will enable these future teachers to better educate their students about the importance of reducing, re-using and recycling. The participants also spent time outdoors doing a species inventory

in the natural areas at Eagle Valley. Learning to do species identification helps teach students how to focus and how to identify species through the process of elimination. This exercise helps to further the development of critical thinking skills.

Teacher Dan Hunter's students from Walden Middle school furthered their environmental education this year when Mr. Hunter had his students construct wildlife habitats for Eagle Valley's Wildlife Habitat Program. Students provided a bat house and an owl house, in addition to the wood duck houses previously provided to Eagle Valley.



Additional bat houses were provided for Eagle Valley by Julie Fracasso's 2nd grade Cub Scout pack from Rochester Hills.

### Eagle Valley Recycling and Disposal Facility

600 W. Silver Bell Road  
Orion, MI 48359

**Telephone**  
248-391-0990  
**Fax**  
248-391-1219

**Please call for current hours of operation as hours may change seasonally.**

Monday – Friday – 6:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturdays – 8 a.m. – Noon

**Recycling Hours**

Recycling drop-off available during normal landfill hours.

[wm.com](http://wm.com)

[ThinkGreen.com](http://ThinkGreen.com)



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## Celebrating Partnerships



Eagle Valley Renewable Energy hosted its official ribbon-cutting ceremony in late September of 2011. Orion Township and Oakland County elected officials, DTE, General Motors and other local business and com-

munity members participated in the ceremony which was followed by lunch and an educational tour of the Eagle Valley facilities. We wish to thank our good neighbor Power's Distributing for the generous use of their parking lot which allowed Eagle Valley to provide parking and shuttle service for over 75 guests.



Waste Management's Renewable Energy Plant



General Motors was recently honored by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for its environmental stewardship. General Motors invited Orion Scripps Middle School Teacher, Carol Binggeser, Waste Management, and the Clinton River Watershed Council to celebrate as partners in the effort to provide environmental education to the community.



Waste Management also helped the Lake Orion High School Business Professionals support the Salvation Army in the Fall of 2011 by providing boxes for a Clothing Drive. The students strategically located the recycling boxes throughout the community to collect the goods. Waste Management wishes to thank the many service organizations who helped those in need in 2011.



In October of 2011, Waste Management was also happy to help facilitate the re-instatement of Keep Michigan Beautiful (KMB) into the Keep America Beautiful (KAB) national organization. Waste Management is a longtime partner

of KAB and sponsored Keep Michigan Beautiful to rejoin the organization. This will allow KMB to benefit from the resources that KAB can provide, furthering environmental education and beautification of our communities in Michigan.

## Odor Hotline

This October, Waste Management provided Eagle Valley RDF with a hotline number for residents and neighbors who live near Eagle Valley. The hotline phone number provides residents with direct access to our Corporate Security offices which operate 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. The hotline provides round the clock access to Waste Management for residents who may want to report prolonged odors.

The landfill gas system at Eagle Valley automatically alerts Waste Management should the system shut down but we offer

residents the additional opportunity to report odor concerns directly to the Odor Complaint Hotline. All calls are documented and forwarded to staff at Eagle Valley so that we may address them within 24 hours and contact the resident. This will improve communication between Eagle Valley and our neighbors as well as provide Waste Management Corporate with a record of concerns. Residents are also welcome to contact Eagle Valley directly at (248) 391-0990.



**ODOR COMPLAINT HOTLINE**  
1-877-360-8582  
Please keep this number handy to use.



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