

MEDIA RELEASE

WASTE MANAGEMENT MARKS ENERGY AWARENESS MONTH

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Dawn McCormick
Waste Management
(954) 226-9894
dmccormick@wm.com

Waste Management powers more than 110,000 Broward homes each day through waste-to-energy

POMPANO BEACH, FL - November 9, 2011 - In honor of Energy Awareness Month, Waste Management hosted a "Powering Broward" open house in October at Monarch Hill Renewable Energy Park for four local Chambers of Commerce - Coconut Creek, Deerfield Beach, Lighthouse Point and Pompano Beach.

Local business leaders toured Monarch Hill Landfill gas-to-energy facility and the Wheelabrator North Broward waste-to-energy facility. Located in unincorporated Broward County and bounded by Sample, Powerline and Wiles roads and the Florida Turnpinke, the 500-acre site powers more than 110,000 Broward homes with renewable energy created from waste.

The Monarch Hill landfill facility is one of more than 129 Waste Management landfill-gas-to-energy facilities in North America that is helping Waste Management to produce enough waste-based, renewable energy to power half a million homes using landfill gas.

Landfill-gas-to-energy facilities are set up to capture methane gas that is a byproduct of decomposed waste. Wells placed all over the landfill collect this gas and then transport it to the on-site renewable energy facility, where it is used to fuel generators.

When compared to fossil fuels, as well as other renewable sources of energy, including wind and solar, landfill gas has several benefits:

- It's endorsed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- It's not dependent on other environmental factors, like wind or sunlight
- It's reliable during peak energy hours
- It's an economical alternative to other fuel sources, like natural gas.

"As the nation's leader in landfill gas-to-energy, Waste Management has the ability and expertise to turn Broward County's waste stream into a valuable source of energy," said Dawn McCormick, Community Affairs Manager for Waste Management. "Landfill gas-to-energy is one of a number of ways Waste Management is working to extract energy from waste."

On a tour of the company's Wheelabrator North Broward waste-to-energy facility, chamber members watched as trash moved on grates from a hopper into a furnace where combustion temperatures exceed 2500 degrees Fahrenheit. Unlike an incinerator, organic compounds are destroyed in the furnace and the plant is equipped with air pollution control systems that capture the particulate. A waterwall boiler above the grate area produces superheated steam used to drive a turbine-generator that produces electricity for Florida Power & Light.

"Waste Management is committed to extracting value from the waste stream whenever possible even when material can't be recycled," said Jim Epsilantis, Plant Manager for Wheelabrator. "Here at Wheelabrator North Broward, we can process up to 2,250 tons per day and reduce waste volume of what would have gone into the landfill by 90 percent."

Wheelabrator Technologies Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Waste Management, operates 17 waste-to-energy facilities that provide safe municipal solid waste disposal for hundreds of towns and cities across the United States, generating electricity by converting waste in specially designed boilers to ensure complete combustion and employ modern pollution equipment to reduce emissions. Nationwide, Wheelabrator's plants offset the need for 7 million barrels of oil and generate approximately 4 million megawatt hours of clean, renewable energy per year, enough to supply some 650,000 homes.

Nationwide, Waste Management produces more than 9 million megawatts hours of electricity, or enough for more than 1.2 million homes, generating more power than the entire solar energy industry. By 2020, WM expects to power more than 2 million homes with waste-based energy.

"Demand for renewable energy is increasing, and we are as focused as ever on creating renewable energy sources from everyday waste," added McCormick. "As evidenced by the Department of Energy's actions and focus this Energy Awareness Month, it is critical to consider a variety of renewable energy sources to secure Florida's and America's future. That's why we're looking at every possible way to extract energy from the waste stream."

ABOUT WASTE MANAGEMENT

Waste Management, Inc., 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 one of the largest residential recyclers and 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 or www.thinkgreen.com.

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. To learn more, visit www.wheelabratortechnologies.com.

ABOUT ENERGY AWARENESS MONTH

October is Energy Awareness Month in the United States, a designation created in 1991 by the Department of Energy. In commemoration of Energy Awareness Month, the Department of Energy, Obama Administration and others will sponsor numerous clean energy events and activities across the country. For more information on Energy Awareness Month visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/national-energy-awareness-month> or http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/services/energy_aware.html.