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ASTROS THINK GREEN WITH WASTE MANAGEMENT

WASTE MANAGEMENT TO DISTRIBUTE 125 RECYCLING CONTAINERS AT MINUTE MAID PARK

HOUSTON - The Houston Astros are teaming up with Waste Management to take the initial steps to promote recycling in the City of Houston. Waste Management is working with ARAMARK Facility Services and together will place 125 recycling containers throughout Minute Maid Park following the All-Star Break. Fans of all ages are encouraged to do their part to "pitch in" by recycling their cardboard, plastic, aluminum bottles and other trash before they leave each Astros game at the ballpark.

"This is a great opportunity for Astros fans to enjoy the game of baseball and be environmentally conscious at the same time," said Astros Vice President of Sponsorship Sales John Sorrentino. "The Astros are excited to be a part of Waste Management's 'Think Green' campaign as we work together to improve the City of Houston's environment."

Houston Astros infielder Mark Loretta will join Astros front office staff executives in a "Think Green" marketing campaign beginning Thursday, July 5, with Waste Management Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing Dave Aardsma.

"We are very excited to join our hometown Houston Astros in informing and encouraging Houstonians to become an active part of the 'Think Green' environmental sustainability movement," said Aardsma. "Our Team Waste Management volunteers will be at Minute Maid Park to assist the Astros fans in placing cans and bottles into these conveniently located Waste Management recycling containers."

According to Waste Management, recycling has grown drastically over the past two decades -- 50 percent of all paper, 34 percent of all plastic soft drink bottles, 45 percent of all aluminum beer and soft drink cans, 63 percent of all steel packaging and 67 percent of all major appliances are now recycled. Waste Management is the nation's largest recycler in addition to the largest waste hauler.