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Waste Management Offers Simple Ways To Make A Difference As Earth Day Approaches

Orange County, CA – From neighborhood cleanups to recycling efforts to sponsoring special events, Waste Management employees across the Orange County are partnering with the communities they serve to offer some simple actions you can do to show you care about the future of the planet.

"It's a great opportunity for Waste Management to partner with its customers while promoting Earth Day and helping the community," said David Ross, Sr. District Manager, Waste Management of Orange County. "After all, supporting communities - making them cleaner, safer and stronger - is what our company is all about."

If you ever wondered what you could do to help the environment, there's an easy answer -- remember to practice the three "R's" of waste management: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.

Reduce: The most helpful thing we can all do is to reduce the amount of waste we create in the first place.

- Buy only what you can use. Pass along leftover materials to someone who can put them to good use.
- Avoid the purchase of single-serve food containers. Buy in bulk and repack into single serving portions using your own reusable, washable containers.
- Use concentrated products that you dilute at home rather than purchasing diluted products at the store.
- Avoid the use of disposable items whenever possible, such as razors and paper plates.

Reuse: Rather than throwing it away, see if you can reuse a product or material, or pass it along to someone who can. Here are some suggestions for possible reuse:

- When traveling, use washable cups or travel mugs instead of the disposables provided by fast food restaurants and service stations. Wash and reuse disposable utensils and plastic plates as well.
- See if you can donate old appliances to a local charity rather than throwing it out.
- For holidays or birthdays, wrap presents in reusable gift bags rather than single-use paper.
- Instead of purchasing single-use batteries, opt for the rechargeable ones.

Recycle: Recycling involves taking materials to places where they can be remade into the same product or new products. You may be surprised to learn just how many products and materials can actually be recycled today. Recycled plastics are now used to produce many common household items, including carpet.

Waste Management is the leading provider of comprehensive waste and environmental services in North America. For more information about recycling, log onto www.wmorangecounty.com

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From Everyday Collection to Environmental Protection, Think Green, Think Waste Management