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Resolve to Be a Better Recycler in 2008 With Waste Management

ORANGE COUNTY, CA– With a new year ahead of us and a new set of resolutions to eat better, lose weight, exercise more or ease up on our caffeine habit, Waste Management would like to remind its customers – and all Orange County residents - that recycling is an important component of protecting the environment and helping the local community.

“New Year's resolutions give us a chance to express something we've always wanted to do. In this case, a resolution to be a better recycler not only helps the person making the resolution, it also helps the planet and the environment,” said David Ross, Senior District Manager, Waste Management of Orange County.

Recycling helps conserve resources and energy and supports a healthy environment. Consider the following:

- A mature tree will produce just 14 newspapers.
- The energy saved by recycling one aluminum container runs a television for three hours.
- Recycling one glass bottle saves enough energy to light a 100-watt bulb for four hours.

What's Recyclable?

It can be hard to keep up with what's recyclable and what's not. In most cities in Orange County, the following materials should be put in the recycling bin:

Mixed Papers: Newspaper and inserts, junk mail, white and colored office paper, wrapping, art and craft paper, telephone books, magazines, paper bags, catalogs, envelopes (including those with windows), shredded paper (in a closed paper bag or box), note cards, Post-it notes.

Cardboard Boxes: Cereal boxes (liners removed), frozen food boxes, shoe and detergent boxes, paper and toilet rolls, and corrugated boxes (flattened).

Aluminum, Tin, Metal and Bi-Metal Cans (rinsed if possible): Soda, juice, soup, vegetable, and pet food cans, pie tins and wire hangers.

Glass Bottles and Jars (rinsed if possible): Soda bottles, wine bottles, beer bottles and food jars.

Plastic Bottles and Containers (CRV #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7): Soda, juice, detergent, bleach, shampoo, lotion, mouthwash, dishwashing containers, milk jugs, tubs for margarine and yogurt, plastic planters.

What About E-Waste?

For customers looking to safely recycle old cell phones, computers, televisions and other electronics, Waste Management accepts these and other “e-waste” items at its Orange County recycling centers in Irvine and Orange:

Sunset Environmental Transfer Station
16122 Construction Circle West
Irvine, CA 92606

Orange Transfer Station
2050 N. Glassell St.
Orange, CA 92865

For hours of operation and other service details, visit www.wmorangecounty.com/services/transfer.asp.

What's Not Recyclable?

These materials should be thrown away in your regular trash container.

Contaminated paper: Juice boxes, coated milk cartons, pizza boxes, all soiled papers or bags with oil and food waste, paper cups, paper towels, wax paper and unclean food boxes.

Broken glass: Window glass, mirrors, auto glass, light bulbs, fluorescent lights and ceramics, drinking glasses and mugs.

Other plastic materials: Laundry baskets, garden hoses, plastic wrap and packaging materials.

Miscellaneous materials: cloth, carpet and padding, computer parts, diapers, dryer lint, food waste, packaging materials, lawn furniture, pens and pencils, clocks and hazardous materials.

Household Hazardous Waste

These materials should NEVER be thrown in the trash or recycling bin. Please take these materials to a household hazardous waste facility (see websites, below, for how to located these facilities.)

Hazardous materials, including batteries, syringes, electronic items, all partially filled aerosol cans and containers for cleaning fluids, automotive fluids, pesticides, paint, garden chemicals, and pool cleaners.

Websites for more information

For information on recycling, reuse and how and where to dispose of household hazardous waste (HHW) properly, see the following Web sites:

<http://earth911.org/>

Earth 911 delivers actionable local information on the environment that empowers people to act locally, live responsibly and contribute to sustainability.

<http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/HHW/>

The State of California's Integrated Waste Management Board has information on the changing regulations regarding HHW and e-waste.

www.freecycle.org

Waste Management is the founding Corporate Sponsor for The Freecycle Network™, which is made up of 4,218 groups with more than 4 million members across the globe. It's a grassroots and nonprofit movement of people who are giving (and getting) stuff for free in their own towns. A local volunteer moderates each group. Membership is free.

Waste Management, based in Houston, Texas, is the leading provider of comprehensive waste management services in North America. Our subsidiaries provide collection, transfer, recycling and resource recovery, and disposal services. We are also a leading developer, operator and owner of waste-to-energy and landfill gas-to-energy facilities in the United States. Our customers include residential, commercial, industrial, and municipal customers throughout North America.

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