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Waste Management Teams Up with Goodwill to Expand Recycling/Reuse Capacity

(MISSION VIEJO) March 15, 2010 -- Waste Management of Orange County and Goodwill of Orange County today announced a partnership that will ensure that reusable goods will be diverted from landfills and delivered to the Goodwill donation center in Mission Viejo.

Drivers for Waste Management' Bulky Item Pick Up program serving Mission Viejo will identify usable items such as furniture and electronics to go to Goodwill, so that the used goods may be processed and distributed through Goodwill's 20 retail stores, including *shop*goodwill.com, the organization's online shopping site.

"Each of these retail venues is a vital source of revenue for programs and an invaluable resource for the individuals Goodwill serves -- by providing thousands of people with disabilities and other barriers the opportunity to achieve their highest levels of personal and economic independence through competitive employment," said Doug Wooley, Community Development Manager Goodwill of Orange County.

In addition to providing service to local customers for more than 40 years, Waste Management also dedicates time and resources to communities and organizations within Orange County.

"By saving items from the landfill and delivering them to Goodwill, we are able to help a great cause, support our community and reduce Orange County's carbon footprint," said David Ross, Director of Municipal Services and Community Relations. "Our partnership with Goodwill would not be possible without each of our staff members who work to create sustainable solutions every day."

Last year Goodwill of Orange County received more than six million pounds of electronics alone through its donation stream. Other goods that are sought-after for retail stores include clothing, furniture, household goods, books and sporting equipment. The flow of merchandise directly impacts Goodwill's ability to provide job training and career services throughout the county.

"Residents and businesses donate hundreds of thousands of items to Goodwill, but often many thousands of usable items may be discarded as waste," continued Wooley. "With Waste Management we hope to bring even greater awareness of the importance of recycling and reuse

so that together, we can make Orange County a greener place to live while helping to serve even more individuals."

Goodwill has over 30 donation centers conveniently located throughout Orange County including the drop-off centers at its stores. Additionally Goodwill of Orange County is a State Certified e-waste collector. Goodwill regularly holds collection events with cities, churches, schools and businesses throughout Orange County.

To schedule a Bulky Item Pick Up, Waste Management customers in Mission Viejo can call 1-866-WM RECYCLE.

About Waste Management of Orange County

As North America's largest provider of waste and environmental services, Waste Management is on a quest for environmental performance, to maximize resource value and minimize environmental impact. Waste is a valuable resource. WM takes innovative steps to maximize and recover the resource that is in waste. To learn more visit www.wmorangecounty.com and www.thinkgreen.com.

About Goodwill of Orange County

Now in its 86th year, Goodwill of Orange County has provided thousands of people with disabilities and other barriers the opportunity to achieve their highest levels of personal and economic independence through competitive employment. Goodwill of Orange County has consistently received a four-star rating, based on organizational efficiency and organizational capacity from Charity Navigator, America's premier independent charity evaluator. For more information on Goodwill of Orange County visit www.ocgoodwill.org.

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