



**For Further Information:**

Media: Randy Harris 613.388.1057

rharris@wm.com

**WASTE MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCES  
BEECHWOOD ROAD ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE**

*Environmental Centre represents new approach to waste management  
in Napanee and surrounding region*

**NAPANEE**, March 3, 2010 – Waste Management today announced a proposal to develop the Beechwood Road Environmental Centre, a new, multi purpose waste management facility to serve the Town of Greater Napanee and the surrounding region.

“The Beechwood Road Environmental Centre (BREC) represents an entirely new way to address waste management in our region,” said Randy Harris, Waste Management’s manager for the new BREC. “Our facility will have new or expanded industrial, commercial and residential diversion and recycling operations to divert as much waste as possible away from disposal. The BREC will create up to 75 green jobs and provide economic benefits in excess of \$1 million per year and additional lands will be set aside for community recreational purposes and wildlife habitat. The facility will also have a new, state-of-the-art, environmentally engineered landfill for disposal of residual waste, and a state-of-the-art landfill gas to energy facility that will convert landfill gas into clean, renewable energy and which will eventually power greenhouses that will be built on the site.”

The BREC will also be aligned with the Town of Greater Napanee’s long term waste management goals and the province’s environmental values and policy statements relating to areas such as zero waste, climate change, and green energy creation. It represents a large step forward in positioning the Town of Greater Napanee as a leader in Ontario in responsible waste management.

**Increased Waste Diversion**

Harris said the primary focus of the Beechwood Road Environmental Centre is waste diversion. “Today, our region diverts less than 30 percent of waste away from disposal. We believe the Beechwood Road Environmental Centre will help to significantly increase the percentage of materials that are diverted for reuse and recycling. “

This facility represents an entirely new approach to managing waste in our region. The facility will include a number of industrial, commercial and residential waste diversion operations that will maximize the value of the resources we receive. These include a materials recycling facility, a construction and demolition material facility, an organics processing facility, a residential diversion facility and an expanded drop-off facility for Habitat for Humanity to collect used building and renovation materials.

### **Community Development**

The Beechwood Road Environmental Centre will create up to 75 green jobs in waste diversion, disposal and green energy facilities. Economic benefits will also extend to the larger community through community host agreements and other projects which could generate potentially more than \$1 million in direct benefits annually for the Town of Greater Napanee.

During the construction of the new operation, local suppliers and contractors will also benefit. There will be millions of dollars invested in the construction phase and our preference is to use local suppliers and contractors wherever possible.

Waste Management's current site has extensive non-operational lands. Harris stated, "Some space will be required to support the facility's operation, but other lands will be dedicated for community uses that could include sports fields, biking and hiking trails and a leash-free dog park."

The existing seven-acre wildlife preserve provides a habitat for numerous species of birds and other wildlife, and our on-site learning centre is used by the general public, community groups, as well as primary schools and post-secondary institutions. There are a number of wildlife and habitat initiatives occurring at the site, including nesting boxes, our Learning Centre with interactive displays and a variety of programs available to the public. "We plan to expand these through collaborations with Ducks Unlimited and the Napanee Rod and Gun Club. We also plan to expand our outdoor educational programs with local schools and service organizations," said Harris.

### **A New, Environmentally Engineered Landfill**

The Beech Road Environmental Centre will include a new, state-of-the-art, environmentally engineered landfill that will receive materials that cannot be diverted towards re-use, recovery or recycling.

The new landfill will be constructed on a new area on the current site, using the latest technology and processes to ensure the highest available standards of safety and efficacy. This will include a liner system, leachate collection and monitoring system to continuously protect ground and surface water. A gas collection system to capture the landfill gas will also be included. The new landfill will accept up to 400,000 tonnes of waste per year for 20 years.

The facility will also include a state-of-the-art landfill gas to energy facility that will collect landfill gas and convert it into green, renewable energy. The facility will be able to generate six megawatts of electricity, enough energy to power 6,000 homes for a year. Further, this same technology will be used at the old, closed landfill site to create enough energy to power a greenhouse that will be constructed for community use.

When the Beechwood Road Environmental Centre begins operations, the existing landfill will be closed, capped with natural grasses and monitored. The community will be consulted on possible future uses for the closed facility. “We are no longer considering an expansion of the existing landfill. When the Beechwood Road Environmental Centre begins operation, the existing landfill will be capped, closed and monitored,” said Harris.

### **Community Consultation**

“The views and opinions of our neighbours and the surrounding communities will be an important part of the development of the proposed project,” said Harris. “We developed this new approach after listening to the feedback of community members, and we want to continue this dialogue.”

The first step of the consultation process will be to develop a Terms of Reference. The Terms of Reference is essentially the work plan for what will be studied and how the company will consult with the community during the Environmental Assessment. Once approved by the Minister of Environment, the Terms of Reference provides the framework for conducting and evaluating the Environmental Assessment. The first round of public consultations being initiated relate to the Terms of Reference.

### **About Waste Management**

Waste Management is the leading provider of comprehensive waste management and recycling services in North America. The company provides collection, transfer, recycling and resource recovery, and disposal services. We are also the largest residential recycler and a leading developer, operator and owner of waste-to-energy and landfill gas-to-energy facilities in North America. Our customers include residential, commercial, industrial, and municipal customers throughout North America. To learn more visit [www.wm.com](http://www.wm.com) or [www.thinkgreen.com](http://www.thinkgreen.com).

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