



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Village of Orland Park Receives \$5,000 Grant for Village Green Initiatives

***Keep American Beautiful – Waste Management program
promotes community environmentalism***

Orland Park, IL, April 19, 2010 – The Village of Orland Park has been awarded a \$5,000 Target City Grant from Keep America Beautiful (KAB) for its community greening efforts. Orland Park Mayor Dan McLaughlin and Trustee Ed Schussler accepted the check at the April 19 Village Board Meeting.

Orland Park is among only 23 recipients in the United States and Puerto Rico to receive the Target City Award, presented by the non-profit organization Keep American Beautiful. The group recognizes grassroots groups across the country that work to prevent litter, reduce waste and beautify public spaces. The Target City Program is sponsored by Waste Management, Inc.

“Orland Park is honored to be recognized with this grant,” said Orland Park Mayor Dan McLaughlin. “These funds will be used to support the village’s green initiative, Smart Living Orland Park,” the mayor added. The village’s community wide program, Smart Living Orland Park includes five components, Smart Neighborhood, Smart Living, Smart Business, Smart Village and Smart Codes.

“The community’s response to Smart Living Orland Park has been wonderful,” said Trustee Patricia Gira who chairs the village’s Recreation, Parks and Environmental Initiatives Committee. “The funds made possible through Waste Management will help our public education efforts through the workshops the village hosts with the Prairie Godmothers,” Gira explained. Based in Flossmoor, Illinois, the Prairie Godmothers teach environmentally responsible gardening and outdoor space improvement.

The Prairie Godmothers will be one of the featured speakers at Orland Park’s Green Fair 2010 on Saturday, April 24 from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 South Ravinia Avenue. More than 50 vendors and speakers will be showcased at this village event during which an electronics recycling drive will be held at the Orland Park Public Works Facility, 15655 South Ravinia Avenue. Details about both appear at www.smartlivingop.com.

“As Orland Park’s waste services provider, we at Waste Management are delighted that Keep America Beautiful has recognized the village’s efforts to promote sustainability,”

said Steve Batchelor, Waste Management's Market Area Vice President for Illinois and Indiana. "Orland Park's many environmental programs make it a model community in promoting environmental stewardship."

"Thank you to Waste Management and the Keep America Beautiful campaign for recognizing what we're doing in Orland Park," McLaughlin said, adding, "Their contribution will help bring the village's message to the community as we all work together to preserve our environment for the generations to come."

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PHOTO OUTLINE

Waste Management Manager of Public Sector Solutions Jim Karls (center) presents a \$5,000 Keep America Beautiful Grant to Orland Park Trustee Ed Schussler (left) and Mayor Dan McLaughlin (right) at the April 19 Orland Park Village Board Meeting.

About Waste Management

Waste Management of Illinois, Inc. provides recycling and solid waste collection services to the Village of Orland Park. It is a subsidiary of Waste Management, Inc. Based in Houston, Texas, Waste Management, Inc. 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 the largest recycler and 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. For more information, visit www.wm.com or www.thinkgreen.com.

Waste Management and Keep America Beautiful (KAB) have been partners in community improvement and environmental stewardship for more than 20 years. Beginning in 2006, under the umbrella theme "Think Green National Community Improvement Partnership", the overall scope of the partnership was expanded. Target City grant recipients are recognized for projects that address one of KAB's three national areas: litter prevention, beautification, and waste reduction and may include recycling events, cleanups, educational materials, and landscaping.

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