

**TESTIMONY OF WASTE MANAGEMENT OF WASHINGTON, INC. – HOUSEHOLD
HAZARDOUS WASTE STEWARDSHIP BILL (HB 3251)**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

MAY 14, 2015

Good afternoon, Committee members. My name is Kim Kaminski; I am here on behalf of Waste Management of Oregon. I am Senior Government Affairs Manager for Waste Management, and I am here to talk with you about Waste Management's At Your Door Special Collection service, which can manage the collection of household hazardous waste or what we like to call home generated special materials.

Before I get into some details on the At Your Door service, let me just first speak about Waste Management's position on product stewardship programs. Waste Management generally supports product stewardship or extended producer responsibility for toxic and/or hard-to-handle materials such as electronic waste, mercury-containing lamps, batteries, sharps, and pharmaceuticals. These are all materials that generally do not have effective collection or funding systems in place. Additionally, we supported the development of the paint stewardship program in Oregon.

In contrast, we absolutely do NOT support product stewardship for traditional recyclables, such as paper and packaging, which do not contain toxics, are appropriately handled by curbside collection programs and for which recycling infrastructure and collection programs are well established.

What we generally look for and support in product stewardship legislation whether it be for household hazardous waste or other hard-to-handle and/or toxic materials.

1. The incorporation and use of the existing waste collection services and infrastructure, whether private or public, and including curbside services to meet the requirements of the stewardship program.
2. Payment of reasonable compensation to service providers for the collection, transportation, recycling, reuse and/or disposal of stewardship materials, while recognizing the role of curbside services.
3. Curbside services are recognized as a valuable and appropriate collection method and can be identified and utilized as a way to meet the convenient collection standards and criteria.
4. Performance measures for the stewardship organization including annual reporting to DEQ.

As I said, we have a collection service called At Your Door Special Collection, which is our door-to-door collection service for household generated special materials. What are Home Generated Special Materials that we would collect via our At Your Door service? These are items typically found in most households. They generally involve certain categories of materials such as household cleaners, automotive products, garden chemicals, electronics, paint products,

swimming pool chemicals, universal waste materials such as mercury containing lights and batteries. These materials must be in their original labeled materials. We cannot collect materials which we clearly cannot identify what it is. There is a list of materials that we collect in the brochure that I handed out. This list is not necessarily exhaustive. The list also notes what we do not collect, such as radioactive, commercial wastes and highly reactive wastes.

A city or county can decide to offer the At Your Door Collection service and the solid waste rate would be structured to reflect this service. The At Your Door service provides residents with an essential community program available to them year-round, when collection is convenient for the customer.

How does it work? When a customer in a participating community or city needs household hazardous materials picked up, they call our toll-free number, email us, or contact us via our website, wmatyourdoor.com, and schedule a pick-up. Every resident can contact the At Your Door service when it is convenient for them.

When the customer contacts us, the type of material and quantity of materials is discussed, the collection date is set and a special collection and containment kit is mailed. The customer places their discarded household generated special materials into the special collection bag, which protects the materials from the elements. The collection bag is a heavier and thicker type of plastic. The resident then places their bag out for collection on a specific collection date by 7:00 am and they do not need to be home for the pick-up. This is very similar to how garbage and recycling collection works.

An experienced and trained Service Technician comes out, in a special and compartmentalized truck for transport, and collects the materials and secures the load. Our customers have found this to be a **very convenient way** to recycle and/or specially dispose of their household hazardous waste. However, most materials we collect are not disposed of, but are recycled.

The household generated special materials are stored at an approved site until regularly picked up by our processors for recycling. Our site is subject to inspections. At Your Door Collection, service maintains and can provide data to cities on the transportation and processing of the collected household hazardous materials. Comprehensive reports can be provided which include total pounds of each material collected. The service can also help meet state and local recycling and diversion goals. The At Your Door Special Collection service is optimal for any type of community: urban, rural, suburban, single family and multi-family. The At Your Door service operates year-round.

At Your Door Collection currently operates in California in several municipalities including Santa Monica, Laguna Beach, Mission Viejo, San Ramon, Manhattan Beach, and Arcadia, to name a few. At Your Door also operates in other states such as Texas and Pennsylvania.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak to the Committee today.