



## THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF DURHAM

# NEWS RELEASE

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### **Works Department honoured with three international awards for waste management practices**

**WHITBY, ON** – The Regional Municipality of Durham, Works Department was once again recognized internationally for its waste management practices, when it was announced as a triple award winner from the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA).

“It is rare for a municipality to receive three awards, from this international organization, in the same year,” said Cliff Curtis, Commissioner of Works. “This is a testament to the programs we have in place to increase diversion in our communities, and the strong participation by the public. It’s no wonder we are leading the province in waste diversion.”

The 2009 Public Education Gold Excellence Award was presented for the Region’s public Waste Fair, which was held to educate residents about Regional waste initiatives through children’s activities and public education displays.

Durham Region shares the 2009 Composting System Gold Excellence Award with Miller Waste Systems for the Region’s composting program and the way in which Miller Waste Systems processes these organics.

The Region’s Integrated Waste Management Program earned it the 2009 Solid Waste Management Silver Excellence Award, which recognizes Regional programs and facilities, including the energy-from-waste initiative.

“The Waste Management Division is always looking at ways to enhance our diversion programs and provide efficient and convenient waste management services,” said Mirka Januszkiewicz, Director of Waste Management. “We are proud to be honoured with these awards. They are a reflection of the outstanding services provided by our employees, and the dedication of our residents who contribute to this success.”

SWANA’s Excellence Awards program recognizes outstanding solid waste programs and facilities that advance the practice of environmentally and economically sound solid waste management. Recipients are honoured with gold, silver or bronze awards in 13 categories. The awards will be presented during SWANA’s awards luncheon in September.

These three SWANA awards accompany those won in previous years: the 2008 Gold Recycling Systems Excellence Award (for the Region’s new Material Recovery Facility), and the 2007 Gold Award for Communication, Education and Marketing (for the successful launch of the Integrated Waste Management Program).

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