

MERIDIAN WASTE RECYCLES CHRISTMAS TREES Clean Christmas Trees are Returning to the Environment Creating Fish Habitat for Missouri

WENTZVILLE, Mo. (January 6, 2020) – <u>Meridian Waste</u>, an integrated, non-hazardous solid waste services company, volunteered to help the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) by hauling used, natural and debris-free Christmas trees to the August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area in St. Charles to return them to the environment as fish habitats.

In partnership with the City of Wentzville, Meridian Waste will collect and haul undecorated, natural Christmas trees to the MDC for the reef project. Meridian Waste donated hauling services as well as clean tree inspection services for this recycling project with a direct impact on the local environment.

"We believe in a clean environment and the true cycle of recycling within our communities. Repurposing these trees back into the MDC is a perfect example of how we help to take care of our one Earth responsibly," said Area President Bob Mathis. "We are so happy to participate in this and future projects directly impacting our service areas and our natural environment."

Undecorated, natural Christmas trees can be donated at the three drop-off locations in Wentzville and at the August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area in St. Charles:

- Progress Park, 968 Meyer Rd., Heartland Park
- 100 William Dierberg Dr., Rotary Park
- 2577 W. Meyer Rd.
- Trees can also be dropped off at the August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area is in St. Charles on Highway D, approximately two miles west of Highway 94. or at the lakes between now and Jan.15, 2020.

The trees will be sunk and used to create a natural reef for fish to spawn and develop homes. According to the MDC, the trees benefit some of the most popular fish that anglers like to pursue, including largemouth bass, bluegill, red ear sunfish, and crappie.

PHOTO 1 - Meridian Waste dropping off the first load of Christmas trees from the Progress Park drop location.



PHOTO 2 - Troy Boone of Meridian Waste managing the roll-off truck.



For more information on the Christmas Tree program, please visit the <u>City of Wentzville's Facebook</u> page. For more information on renting a roll-off truck for residential or commercial use, please visit <u>Meridian</u> <u>Waste's</u> webpage.

About Meridian Waste

Headquartered in Charlotte, NC., Meridian Waste is a company defined by its commitment to servicing its customers, caring for and engaging its employees, and generating financial value for its shareholders while delivering a clean and healthy community. The company's core waste business is centered on residential,

commercial, and industrial non-hazardous waste collection and disposal. Currently, the company operates in., Richmond, Va., Blacksburg, Va., Augusta, Ga., Northeast Florida St. Louis, Mo and Knoxville, Tenn., servicing more than 119,000 residential, commercial, industrial and governmental customers. In addition to a fleet of commercial, residential, and roll-off trucks, the company operates one transfer station, three recycling facilities, three municipal solid waste landfills and two C&D landfills in which 890,676 tons of waste are safely disposed annually. For more information, visit MeridianWaste.com.