

For Immediate Release

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**City and Rumpke to Continue Curbside Recycling
and Yard Waste Collection**

(Columbus) RUMPKE of Ohio will continue to offer fee-based curbside recycling to Columbus residents and continue offering free curbside collection of yard waste, which is also recycled, under the terms of legislation passed unanimously by City Council on February 25. As proposed by Mayor Michael B. Coleman, the City will no longer subsidize curbside recycling, saving \$389,311, the equivalent of the 2008 funding for 11 Police recruits in the class scheduled for July.

“We appreciate RUMPKE’s commitment to Columbus’ recycling market and that they will keep serving their subscribers with the option of curbside service,” Mayor Coleman said. “Despite tough economic times, we are increasing recycling at homes, businesses and construction sites, as well as through drop boxes. Everyone needs to do more to Get Green and to quit throwing away recyclable materials and yard waste.”

RUMPKE will increase the monthly household subscription fee to \$8.25, effective June 1 for existing clients and immediately for new subscribers, to off-set its hauling costs.

“RUMPKE believes in the importance of offering the curbside recycling program in Columbus, but we also understand fluctuations occur within the economy,” said Andrew Rumpke, RUMPKE vice president. “We hope our customers will continue to show their commitment to a cleaner environment by staying with the program.”

Ordinance #0203-2008 modified the City’s 5-year contract with RUMPKE, authorizing \$3,800,650.00 to fund the continuation of Yard Waste Collection.

The amount of trash being recycled by Columbus families is growing at a record pace. In January, three months after expanding the number of drop-off locations from 69 to 190, the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) announced that recycling was up 11.5% in 2007 over 2006. RUMPKE reported a 15% increase during the same period in the amount of bottles, cans, paper and cardboard recycled by its curbside customers.

Mayor Coleman’s staff is also working on a comprehensive review of recycling options, funded in partnership with SWACO, to study into the most economically and environmentally friendly recycling options for Columbus’ future.