



**McHenry County Department of Health**  
2200 N. Seminary Avenue, Woodstock IL 60098  
Phone 815-334-4510 Fax 815-334-4635  
[www.mcdh.info](http://www.mcdh.info)  
[www.twitter.com/mchenrycohealth](http://www.twitter.com/mchenrycohealth)  
[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 7, 2010**

CONTACT: Debra Quackenbush  
815-334-4456; cell 815-236-3238

**Health Department receives NACO Achievement Award**  
*Recognition for "Franchising of Solid Waste Program"*

**Woodstock IL** – McHenry County Department of Health is the recipient of the 2010 NACO Achievement Award in recognition of its *Franchising of Solid Waste Program*, an economical and environmentally sound alternative for disposal of landscape waste for unincorporated areas. Patrick J. McNulty, MCDH's Public Health Administrator, states "Many residents in the program area saw their waste disposal cost go down while the number of services provided increased." The program includes curbside pick-up of household municipal waste, landscape waste, bulk items and recyclable materials by a single waste hauler (instead of multiple waste haulers). Franchising of solid waste removal services is unique in the Northern Illinois area and is typically only available in municipalities.

Following the adoption of the revised Open Burning Ordinance (2008) which restricted open burning of landscape waste in densely populated areas, residents in unincorporated areas sought alternatives to burning landscape waste – beyond composting, mulching and natural landscaping. Those living in heavily shaded areas found bagging leaves and landscape waste impractical; for many, contracting with solid waste haulers proved to be cost-prohibitive.

Working with County representatives, local policy makers, area residents and utilizing a bidding process, MCDH proposed a customized, comprehensive solid waste removal program which will franchise services for over 4200 residences in unincorporated areas of the County at an affordable cost. Added benefits include a reduction in the number of solid waste violations in these areas, improved air quality and increased recycling rates.

For more information, contact MCDH at 815-4585 or [www.mcdh.info](http://www.mcdh.info), Environmental Health.

###

***"Working to prevent disease and promote health and safety for all people of McHenry County since 1966."***