## Waste Connections Reports First Quarter 2007 Results

- Reports revenue of \$219.0 million and earnings per share of \$0.32
- Revenue and operating income increase 15.1% and 18.6%, respectively
- Reports internal growth of 8.7%
- Reports free cash flow of \$24.9 million, or 11.4% of revenue

PRNewswire-FirstCall FOLSOM, Calif.

Waste Connections, Inc. today announced its results for the first quarter 2007. Revenue totaled \$219.0 million, a 15.1% increase over revenue of \$190.2 million in the year ago period. Operating income was \$46.4 million, an 18.6% increase over operating income of \$39.2 million in the first quarter of 2006. As a percentage of revenue, operating income was 21.2%, a 60 basis point increase from 20.6% in the year ago period despite an approximate 45 basis point increase in equity-based compensation costs as a percentage of revenue. Equity-based compensation costs, on a pre-tax basis, were \$1.7 million and \$0.6 million for the first quarter of 2007 and 2006, respectively.

Net income in the quarter was \$22.4 million, or \$0.32 per share on a diluted basis of 70.6 million shares. In the year ago period, the Company reported net income of \$15.7 million and diluted earnings per share of \$0.22. Net income in the prior year period included a \$4.2 million charge (\$2.6 million net of taxes, or approximately \$0.04 per share) for the write-off of unamortized debt issuance costs associated with convertible notes that subsequently were redeemed. Shares and per share numbers reflect a three-for- two stock split effective March 13. 2007.

"We are extremely pleased with our results in the quarter and the implications moving forward. Continued strong pricing growth, improved commodity prices and a reduction in net days sales outstanding enabled us to exceed our expectations for the quarter," said Ronald J. Mittelstaedt, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. "We expect volume growth to increase in the second quarter given improving monthly trends experienced during the first quarter and the full impact of two long-term contracts that commenced earlier in the year."

Waste Connections will be hosting a conference call related to first quarter earnings and second quarter outlook on April 24th at 8:30 A.M. Eastern Time. The call will be broadcast live over the Internet at <a href="http://www.streetevents.com/">http://www.streetevents.com/</a> and through a link on the Company's web site at <a href="http://www.wasteconnections.com/">http://www.wasteconnections.com/</a>. A playback of the call will be available at both of these sites.

For non-GAAP measures, see accompanying Non-GAAP Reconciliation Schedule.

Waste Connections, Inc. is an integrated solid waste services company that provides solid waste collection, transfer, disposal and recycling services in mostly secondary markets in the Western and Southern U.S. The Company serves more than one million residential, commercial and industrial customers from a network of operations in 22 states. The Company also provides intermodal services for the movement of containers in the Pacific Northwest. Waste Connections, Inc. was founded in September 1997 and is headquartered in Folsom, California.

For more information, visit the Waste Connections web site at <a href="http://www.wasteconnections.com/">http://www.wasteconnections.com/</a>. Copies of financial literature, including this release, are available on the Waste Connections web site or through contacting us directly at (916) 608-8200.

Certain statements contained in this press release are forward-looking in nature. These statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "believes," "expects," "may," "will," "should," "anticipates," or the negative thereof or comparable terminology, or by discussions of strategy. Waste Connections' business and operations are subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties and, consequently, actual results may differ materially from those projected by any forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ from those projected include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) Waste Connections may be unable to compete effectively with larger and better capitalized companies and governmental service providers; (2) increases in the price of fuel may adversely affect Waste Connections' business and reduce its operating margins; (3) increases in labor and disposal and related transportation costs could impact Waste Connections' financial results; (4) increases in insurance costs and the amount that Waste Connections self- insures for various risks could reduce its operating margins and reported earnings; (5) Waste Connections' financial results are based upon estimates and assumptions that may differ from actual results; (6) efforts by labor unions could divert management attention and adversely affect operating results; (7) Waste

Connections may lose contracts through competitive bidding, early termination or governmental action; (8) Waste Connections' results are vulnerable to economic conditions and seasonal factors affecting the regions in which it operates; (9) Waste Connections may be subject in the normal course of business to judicial and administrative proceedings that could interrupt its operations, require expensive remediation and create negative publicity; (10) competition for acquisition candidates, consolidation within the waste industry and economic and market conditions may limit Waste Connections' ability to grow through acquisitions; (11) Waste Connections' growth and future financial performance depend significantly on its ability to integrate acquired businesses into its organization and operations; (12) Waste Connections' acquisitions may not be successful, resulting in changes in strategy, operating losses or a loss on sale of the business acquired; (13) because Waste Connections depends on railroads for its intermodal operations, its operating results and financial condition are likely to be adversely affected by any reduction or deterioration in rail service; (14) Waste Connections' intermodal business could be adversely affected by steamship lines diverting business to ports other than those Waste Connections services, or by heightened security measures or actual or threatened terrorist attacks; (15) Waste Connections depends significantly on the services of the members of its senior and district management team, and the departure of any of those persons could cause its operating results to suffer; (16) Waste Connections' decentralized decision-making structure could allow local managers to make decisions that adversely affect Waste Connections' operating results; (17) Waste Connections may incur additional charges related to capitalized expenditures, which would decrease its earnings; (18) the outcome of audits by the Internal Revenue Service may adversely affect Waste Connections; (19) each business that Waste Connections acquires or has acquired may have liabilities that Waste Connections fails or is unable to discover, including environmental liabilities; (20) liabilities for environmental damage may adversely affect Waste Connections' business and earnings; and (21) the adoption of new accounting standards or interpretations could adversely impact Waste Connections' financial results. These risks and uncertainties, as well as others, are discussed in greater detail in Waste Connections' filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including its most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K. There may be additional risks of which Waste Connections is not presently aware or that it currently believes are immaterial which could have an adverse impact on its business. Waste Connections makes no commitment to

revise or update any forward-looking statements in order to reflect events or circumstances that may change.

WASTE CONNECTIONS, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME
THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2006 AND 2007
(Unaudited)
(in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

Three months ended March 31, 2006 2007

Revenues \$190,169 \$218,951

Operating expenses:

Cost of operations 113,063 128,869
Selling, general and administrative 19,801 23,910
Depreciation and amortization 18,232 19,590
Loss (gain) on disposal of assets (82) 160
Operating income 39,155 46,422

 Interest expense
 (7,494)
 (7,818)

 Minority interests
 (2,711)
 (2,840)

 Other income (expense), net
 (3,993)
 51

 Income before income taxes
 24,957
 35,815

Income tax provision (9,234) (13,435) Net income \$15,723 \$22,380

Basic earnings per common share \$0.23 \$0.33

Diluted earnings per common share \$0.22 \$0.32

Shares used in the per share calculations:

Basic 68,504,318 68,465,359 Diluted 71,385,714 70,583,096

WASTE CONNECTIONS, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(Unaudited)

December 31, March 31, 2006 2007

**ASSETS** 

Current assets:

Cash and equivalents \$34,949 \$21,264

Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$3,489 and \$3,492 at December 31, 2006 and March 31, 2007,

respectively 100,269 104,082 Deferred income taxes 9,373 9,494

Prepaid expenses and other current assets 15,642 17,383

Total current assets 160,233 152,223

Property and equipment, net 736,428 783,048

 Goodwill
 750,397
 761,454

 Intangible assets, net
 86,098
 85,764

 Restricted assets
 15,917
 16,606

 Other assets, net
 24,818
 22,196

 \$1,773,891
 \$1,821,291

LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Current liabilities:

 Accounts payable
 \$53,010
 \$53,189

 Accrued liabilities
 57,810
 64,806

 Deferred revenue
 32,161
 36,228

Current portion of long-term debt and

notes payable 6,884 7,098 Total current liabilities 149,865 161,321

Long-term debt and notes payable 637,308 636,463

 Other long-term liabilities
 16,712
 26,890

 Deferred income taxes
 205,532
 204,158

 Total liabilities
 1,009,417
 1,028,832

Commitments and contingencies

Minority interests 27,992 28,480

Stockholders' equity:

Preferred stock: \$0.01 par value; 7,500,000 shares authorized; none issued and outstanding -- Common stock: \$0.01 par value; 100,000,000

Common stock: \$0.01 par value; 100,000,000 shares authorized; 68,266,038 and 68,556,329 shares issued and outstanding at December 31,

 2006 and March 31, 2007, respectively
 455
 685

 Additional paid-in capital
 310,229
 313,861

 Retained earnings
 422,731
 447,782

Accumulated other comprehensive income 3,067 1,651

Total stockholders' equity 736,482 763,979

\$1,773,891 \$1,821,291

WASTE CONNECTIONS, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2006 AND 2007
(Unaudited)
(Dollars in thousands)

Three months ended March 31, 2006 2007

Cash flows from operating activities:

Net income \$15,723 \$22,380

Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:

Loss (gain) on disposal of assets (82) 160

Depreciation 17,248 18,558

Amortization of intangibles 984 1,032

Deferred income taxes, net of acquisitions 3,679 2,852

Minority interests 2,711 2,840

4,763 Amortization of debt issuance costs 482 Stock-based compensation 618 1,663 Interest income on restricted assets (141)(107)Closure and post-closure accretion 149 253 Excess tax benefit associated with equity-based compensation (3,353)(2,260)Net change in operating assets and liabilities, net of acquisitions (4,443)13,061 Net cash provided by operating activities 37,856 60,914

Cash flows from investing activities:

Payments for acquisitions, net of cash

acquired (3,755) (35,860)

Capital expenditures for property and

equipment (19,966) (36,147) Proceeds from disposal of assets 171 215

Increase in restricted assets, net of

interest income (276) (581)
Increase in other assets (392) (517)
Net cash used in investing activities (24,218) (72,890)

Cash flows from financing activities:

Proceeds from long-term debt 229,964 21,000

Principal payments on notes payable and

long-term debt (173,349) (23,616) Change in book overdraft (1,683) --

Proceeds from option and warrant exercises 17,361 6,513

Excess tax benefit associated with

equity-based compensation 3,353 2,260
Distributions to minority interest holders (2,058) (2,352)
Payments for repurchase of common stock (80,586) (5,414)

Debt issuance costs (6,307) (100) Net cash used in financing activities (13,305) (1,709)

Net increase (decrease) in cash and equivalents 333 (13,685) Cash and equivalents at beginning of period 7,514 34,949 Cash and equivalents at end of period \$7,847 \$21,264

ADDITIONAL STATISTICS
THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2007
(Dollars in thousands)

Internal Growth: The following table reflects revenue growth for operations owned for at least 12 months:

Three Months Ended
March 31, 2007

Price 5.2%

Volume 1.9%

Intermodal, Recycling and Other 1.6%

Total 8.7%

Uneliminated Revenue Breakdown:

Three Months Ended March 31, 2007

Collection \$160,152 64.3%
Disposal and Transfer 66,641 26.8%
Intermodal, Recycling and Other 22,224 8.9%

Total \$249,017 100.0%

Inter-company elimination \$30,066

Days Sales Outstanding for the three months ended March 31, 2007: 43 (28 net of deferred revenue)

Internalization for the three months ended March 31, 2007: 70%

Other Cash Flow Items for the three months ended March 31, 2007:

Cash Interest Paid: \$5,156 Cash Taxes Paid: \$632

Debt to Capitalization: 45.7%

Share Information for the three months ended March 31, 2007:

Basic shares outstanding 68,465,359
Dilutive effect of options and warrants 1,833,779
Dilutive effect of restricted stock 283,958
Diluted shares outstanding 70,583,096

Shares repurchased 187,540

## NON-GAAP RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE (in thousands)

Free cash flow, a non-GAAP financial measure, is provided supplementally because it is widely used by investors as a valuation and liquidity measure in the solid waste industry. Waste Connections defines free cash flow as net cash provided by operating activities, plus proceeds from disposal of assets and excess tax benefit associated with equity-based compensation, plus or minus change in book overdraft, less capital expenditures for property and equipment and distributions to minority interest holders. This measure is not a substitute for, and should be used in conjunction with, GAAP financial measures. Management uses free cash flow as one of the principal measures to evaluate and monitor the ongoing financial performance of our operations. Other companies may calculate free cash flow differently.

Free cash flow reconciliation:

Three Months
Ended
March 31,
March 31,

2006 2007

Net cash provided by operating activities \$37,856 \$60,914

Change in book overdraft (1,683) --

Plus: Proceeds from disposal of assets 171 215

Plus: Excess tax benefit associated with

equity-based compensation 3,353 2,260

Less: Capital expenditures for property and

equipment (19,966) (36,147)

Less: Distributions to minority interest

holders (2,058) (2,352) Free cash flow \$17,673 \$24,890

Free cash flow as % of revenues 9.3% 11.4%

SOURCE: Waste Connections, Inc.

CONTACT: Worthing Jackman of Waste Connections, Inc., +1-916-608-8266,

or worthingj@wasteconnections.com

Web site: <a href="http://www.wcnx.org/">http://www.wcnx.org/</a>

https://investors.wasteconnections.com/2007-04-23-Waste-Connections-Reports-First-Quarter-2007-Results