

# **City of Houston**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Solid Waste Management Department**

**Harry J. Hayes, Director**  
For Immediate Release

**Bill White, Mayor**  
May 15, 2009

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### **Truck & Mechanic Rod-E-O Participants Compete for Spot in State Competition**

May 15, 2009 – IT’S ROD-E-O TIME AGAIN!! The Houston Solid Waste Management Department (SWMD) will host its 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Drivers’ and Mechanics’ Road-E-O on Saturday, May 16, 2009, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Northwest Service Center located at 1245 Judiway (Key Map 452P).

This event provides drivers and mechanics the opportunity to demonstrate their skills and compete against co-workers for a spot in the state competition.

- SWMD drivers will maneuver trash trucks, tractor trailers and automated trucks through obstacle courses that simulate daily real-life situations. Drivers will compete against co-workers in their respective truck categories in a timed setting as they weave through cones, avoid barricades and demonstrate their skills and quick reflexes.
- The mechanics' portion of this competition will consist of a written examination and a trouble-shooting skill competition. Each contestant will be given a list of vehicle problems and the individual who solves the most problems in the allotted time will be determined the winner.

The 1st and 2nd place winners will qualify for the state championship sponsored by the Texas Chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America (TxSWANA) held in Beaumont this June. The 1st and 2nd place winners from the state competition will go on to the international competition.

The Solid Waste Management Department provides solid waste service to the citizens of Houston through the collection, disposal and recycling of discarded material in a manner that is safe, efficient, environmentally sound and cost-effective.

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