

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Meridian Waste Shotwell Environmental Park's Charity Pumpkin Patch Benefits Hurricane Helene Victims

Raleigh, N.C. - October 7, 2024, <u>Meridian Waste</u> North Carolina LLC, an integrated, non-hazardous solid waste services company, celebrated fall with their annual Charity Pumpkin Patch, with 577 guests from the surrounding areas of Wake and Johnston Counties on October 5. The festival was held at the site of the Company's Shotwell Environmental Park.

This year's event featured new attractions, including a petting zoo and pumpkin-themed skills games, as well as customer favorites including pumpkin painting, lawn games, an inflatable slide, bubble station, photo booth and free BBQ lunch. The signature Meridian Waste Touch-A-Truck display was available for attendees to touch the trucks and heavy machinery used in the environmental services industry. The main attraction was the Charity Pumpkin Patch encouraging guests to pick a pumpkin accompanied by a charitable donation, which Meridian Waste was proud to match. Given the devastation felt by the victims of Hurricane Helene in Western North Carolina, this year's charitable donation recipient is the North Carolina Disaster Relief Fund.

"We were thrilled to have such a large turnout for our fifth annual Charity Pumpkin Patch," said Area President Patrick Messinger. "We love welcoming guests to our disposal facilities, educating them about the need for vital environmental facilities and teaching them how they operate. Plus, to combine it with a day of entertainment, laughter and good food is always a winning combination! Our hearts go out to our North Carolina neighbors to the west of us, and together the team agreed unanimously to whom our proceeds from the event would go to this year. We are proud to send \$3,000 to the North Carolina Disaster Relief Fund to contribute to Hurricane Helene relief efforts. We know it is a long road ahead but every bit helps and North Carolinians are strong."

If you would like to make a donation to the North Carolina Disaster Relief Fund, visit nc.gov.

Shotwell Environmental Park is home to a construction and demolition (C&D) landfill and a (soon-to-be-opened) Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) located at 4724 Smithfield Road in Wendell. For more information, visit MeridianWaste.com/Shotwell.

Be sure to check the Meridian Waste Facebook page for our next event at Shotwell Environmental Park in the spring of 2025.

Photo 1: An attendee cuddles a rabbit from the petting zoo, which was included for the first time in the Shotwell Charity Pumpkin Patch this year.



Photo 2: The Bubble Station was a hit among guests of all ages.



Photo 3: The giant slide brought smiles to hundreds of children's faces.



Photo 4: This young guest searches for the perfect pumpkin to take home.



About Meridian Waste

Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., 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 Northeast Fla., St. Louis, Mo., Goldston, N.C., Raleigh, N.C., Greensboro, N.C., Greenville, S.C., Knoxville, Tenn., Huntsville, AL, Central AL, North & South MS, Blacksburg, Va., Harrisonburg, Va., and Richmond, Va., servicing more than 524,520 residential, commercial, industrial, and governmental customers. In addition to a fleet of commercial, residential, and roll-off trucks, the company operates 31 hauling companies, eight transfer stations/materials recycling facilities (MRFs), three municipal solid waste landfills, and four C&D landfills in which 1,107,574 tons of waste are safely disposed of annually. For more information, visit MeridianWaste.com.

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