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**WASTE MANAGEMENT PHOENIX OPEN GREEN OUT  
RAISES \$100,000 FOR THREE NON-PROFIT ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS**

**PHOENIX, Ariz.** – The Waste Management Phoenix Open’s seventh annual **GREEN OUT** raised \$100,000 for three non-profit environmental organizations in the Valley. For every person who wore **GREEN** to the tournament on Saturday, The Thunderbirds will donate \$33,333 each to Bonneville Environmental Foundation’s “Change the Course,” Arizona Recycling Coalition and the Arizona Chapter of Solid Waste Association of North America (AZ SWANA). According to the Waste Management Phoenix Open’s ‘Green Squad,’ nearly half of Saturday’s record-breaking crowd of 204,906 fans and PGA TOUR pros donned **GREEN** gear.

The Waste Management Phoenix Open has taken sustainability to the next level and has redefined what “**GREEN**” means on the PGA TOUR. Waste Management has won the PGA TOUR’s “Best Title Sponsor Integration” award three out of the last six years (2011, 2013 and 2015). In 2016, more than 618,000 golf fans attended the Waste Management Phoenix Open and the tournament diverted 100% of tournament waste from landfills for the third straight year. Zero Waste means nothing from the tournament has gone to a landfill in three years - not a single cup, can, sign or container.

Waste Management and The Thunderbirds began the **GREEN OUT** in 2011 as a way for fans to honor and support the sustainability initiatives of the tournament and title sponsor

Waste Management. Since 2011, the **GREEN OUT** has raised 490,000 for a variety of local non-profit environmental organizations.

The 2017 Waste Management Phoenix Open Presented by the Ak-Chin Indian Community, also known as “The Greatest Show on Grass,” and “The People’s Open”, will be held Jan. 30 – Feb 5, 2017, at TPC Scottsdale. The Waste Management Phoenix Open is the best-attended golf tournament in the world and has gained legendary status for being the most unique stop on the PGA TOUR. Last year’s tournament broke three attendance records, including a PGA TOUR record 618,365 fans for the week. The 2017 edition will mark the 82<sup>nd</sup> playing of the event (one of the five oldest events on the PGA TOUR) and the eighth as the Waste Management Phoenix Open.

The Thunderbirds were founded in 1937 with the mission of promoting the Valley of the Sun through sports. The Thunderbirds consist of 55 “active” members and more than 250 “life” members. Last year The Thunderbirds raised a record \$9.3 million for charity and have eclipsed \$111 million in charitable giving since its inception. For more information on the Thunderbirds or the 2017 Waste Management Phoenix Open visit [www.wmphoenixopen.com](http://www.wmphoenixopen.com).

