

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WM Celebrates 15th Year as Title Sponsor of the WM Phoenix Open

Sustainability and charitable giving are at the center of the popular, zero-waste PGA TOUR event

Scottsdale, Ariz. – Feb. 5, 2024 – This year, [WM](#) celebrates its 15th anniversary as title sponsor of the [WM Phoenix Open](#), one of the world’s largest certified zero-waste sporting events. From recovering more than 15.17 million pounds of material for its next best use, to addressing hunger in the community and fundraising record donations for Arizona charities, over the years the WM Phoenix Open has demonstrated how a major sporting event can minimize impacts on the environment and benefit the community.

This year, WM and tournament host, The Thunderbirds, are further advancing the tournament’s dual missions of leadership in sustainability and charitable giving with the new WM Phoenix Open Working For Tomorrow FundSM, which supports communities across Arizona. The 2024 beneficiaries of the WM Phoenix Open Working For Tomorrow FundSM will include water restoration projects through [Change The Course](#), an initiative working to ensure clean and reliable water, renewable energy initiatives on Tribal Nations, and efforts to eliminate food waste and address hunger through [Waste Not](#), a local non-profit organization.

“The WM Phoenix Open presents a unique opportunity to support our communities and demonstrate our brand promise -- **Always Working For A Sustainable Tomorrow®**,” said **Mike Watson, senior vice president and chief customer officer, WM**. “This is our 15th year working with the Thunderbirds to bring this incredible event to life while raising money for local charities, and I’m proud to say our shared commitment to making a positive impact on our communities and the environment has never been stronger.”

Tournament attendees can help raise money for the WM Phoenix Open Working For Tomorrow FundSM by wearing green on Saturday, Feb. 10, the tournament’s annual Green Out Day. For every person who wears green to the 3rd round, \$1 will be donated to the fund. In addition, attendees can participate in a raffle at the WM Green Scene, located in the Fan Zone. The winner will receive 50 percent of the raffle pot, and the other 50 percent will be donated to the WM Phoenix Open Working For Tomorrow FundSM.

Since WM became title sponsor in 2010, the tournament has raised more than \$124 million for local charities, including \$14.5 million raised from the 2023 tournament alone.

Soon after becoming the title sponsor in 2010, WM imagined an event where nothing goes to waste. By 2013, the WM Phoenix Open was a zero-waste event with all materials either recycled, composted, donated, reused or used to recover energy and create fuel. Today, the WM Phoenix Open is a recognized leader in sustainability in sports and shares best practices with other sports leagues, teams and venues.

For more information on the WM Phoenix Open, visit www.wmphoenixopen.com. For more information on WM, visit www.wm.com.

ABOUT WM

WM ([WM.com](http://www.wm.com)) is North America's leading provider of comprehensive environmental solutions. Previously known as Waste Management and based in Houston, Texas, WM is driven by commitments to

put people first and achieve success with integrity. The company, through its subsidiaries, provides collection, recycling and disposal services to millions of residential, commercial, industrial and municipal customers throughout the U.S. and Canada. With innovative infrastructure and capabilities in recycling, organics and renewable energy, WM provides environmental solutions to and collaborates with its customers in helping them achieve their sustainability goals. WM has the largest disposal network and collection fleet in North America, is the largest recycler of post-consumer materials and is the leader in beneficial use of landfill gas, with a growing network of renewable natural gas plants and the most landfill gas-to-electricity plants in North America. WM's fleet includes more than 12,000 natural gas trucks – the largest heavy-duty natural gas truck fleet of its kind in North America. To learn more about WM and the company's sustainability progress and solutions, visit Sustainability.WM.com.

ABOUT WM PHOENIX OPEN

The 2024 WM Phoenix Open will take place Feb. 5-11 at TPC Scottsdale. “The People’s Open” was named Tournament of the Year at the 2023 PGA TOUR annual meetings, garnering the award for the fifth time to acknowledge the tournament’s legendary status as one the most unique events in golf. Scottie Scheffler is the defending champ, (won in 2022 and 2023) and has the rare opportunity to achieve only the second three-peat in WM Phoenix Open history since Arnold Palmer (1961-63). The 2024 edition will mark the 89th playing of the event (one of the five oldest events on the PGA TOUR) and the 15th with WM as title sponsor. For more information, visit www.wmphoenixopen.com.

ABOUT THE THUNDERBIRDS

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 280 “life” members who have helped the tournament eclipse \$190 million in charitable giving since its inception in 1932 (\$14.5 million in 2023).

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