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NEWS RELEASE

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‘Merry Mulch’ Program Runs January 5 - 16

DUBUQUE, Iowa – The City of Dubuque is again sponsoring its “Merry Mulch” Christmas Tree Collection and Composting Program which provides solid waste collection customers a convenient Christmas tree curbside collection service, while also beneficially recycling their trees into compost. Yard waste bags, bundles and cans as well as GreenCarts with food scraps will also be collected during the program.

The City will provide curbside collection of natural Christmas trees, yard waste and food scraps for two weeks **beginning on Monday, January 5, 2009 and ending Friday, January 16, 2009**. Residents should set out their trees (maximum of eight feet high) and other compostables next to their refuse on their normal collection day.

- Crews appreciate very large trees cut in half.
- The tree must have either one City Brush-Tie or one yellow City Yard Waste Sticker attached and visible from the street or alley.
- Please remove all ornaments, lights, tinsel, wire, nails, stands or plastic bags from the tree.
- Yard waste bags and rigid containers with attached yellow City Yard Waste Stickers will also be collected. 2009 full-year Yard Waste Decals are valid and currently available for purchase at City Hall – Utility Billing for \$28.00.

City Brush-Ties cost \$1.20 each and yellow City Yard Waste Stickers cost \$6 for a sheet of five. Both are sold at City Hall and most grocery, discount and hardware stores throughout Dubuque.

Wreathes and garland contain too much wire to compost. Flocked trees are not compostable. Please set out these items with regular refuse. You must attach green City Garbage Sticker on each of these items, along with every additional bundle, item, bag, or can in excess of your household's first base container and any additional subscribed containers. For additional information, please call the City of Dubuque Public Works Department at 589-4250.

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