

Registration No. 333-

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-8

REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

WASTE MANAGEMENT, INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

73-1309529
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

1001 Fannin Street
Suite 4000
Houston, Texas 77002
(713) 512-6200

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area
code of Registrant's principal executive offices)

Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. 1997 Stock Option Plan;
Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. Amended
and Restated 1996 Stock Option Plan;
Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. 1991 Stock Option Plan
(Full titles of the Plans)

Gregory T. Sangalis
Waste Management, Inc.
1001 Fannin Street
Suite 4000
Houston, Texas 77002
(713) 512-6200

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number,
including area code, of agent for service)

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of Securities to be Registered | Amount to be Registered | Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share | Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price | Amount of Registration Fee |
|---|-------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|
| Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share (1) | 1,043,480 (2) | \$22.76(2) | \$23,749,605 | \$6,602.39 |

- (1) This Registration Statement on Form S-8 relates to shares of Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share (the "Common Stock"), of Waste Management, Inc. (the "Registrant"). Such shares are issuable pursuant to the above-referenced plans in substitution for shares of Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share, of Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. ("Eastern"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Registrant, which plans were assumed by the Registrant upon the effective time of the merger of a subsidiary of the Registrant with and into Eastern (the "Merger") on December 31, 1998.
- (2) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee. Such estimate is calculated pursuant to Rules 457(c) and 457(h) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), based on the weighted average exercise price of the options previously granted under the Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. 1997 Stock Option Plan; the Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. Amended and Restated 1996 Stock Option Plan and the Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. 1991 Stock Option Plan.

Item 1. Plan Information.*

Item 2. Registrant Information and Employee Plan Annual Information.*

- - - - -

* Information required by Part I to be contained in the Section 10(a) prospectus is omitted from this Registration Statement in accordance with Rule 428 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the "Note" to Part I of Form S-8.

Part II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") by the Registrant (formerly known as USA Waste Services, Inc.) are hereby incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement:

(a) Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1997.

(b) Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 1998, June 30, 1998 (as amended on Form 10-Q/A filed on August 28, 1998) and September 30, 1998.

(c) Current Reports on Form 8-K dated March 12, 1998; July 16, 1998; July 17, 1998 (as amended on Form 8-K/A filed on August 12, 1998); August 17, 1998; September 22, 1998; September 23, 1998 and October 8, 1998.

(d) The description of the Registrant's Common Stock contained in the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed with the Commission pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), on July 1, 1993, as amended on Form 8-B filed with the Commission on July 13, 1995.

All documents subsequently filed by the Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement and to be part thereof from the date of filing of such documents. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Registration Statement.

Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not applicable.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Not applicable.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Section 102 of the Delaware General Corporation Law ("DGCL") allows a corporation to eliminate the personal liability of a director to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except in cases where the director breached his or her duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders, failed to act in good faith, engaged in intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law, willfully or negligently authorized the unlawful payment of a dividend or approved an unlawful stock redemption or repurchase or obtained an improper personal benefit. The Registrant's Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the "Charter") contains a provision which eliminates directors' personal liability as set forth above.

The Charter and the Bylaws of the Registrant provide in effect that the Registrant shall indemnify its directors and officers, and may indemnify its employees and agents, to the extent permitted by the DGCL. Section 145 of the DGCL provides that a Delaware corporation has the power to indemnify its directors, officers, employees and agents in certain circumstances.

Subsection (a) of Section 145 of the DGCL empowers a corporation to indemnify any director, officer, employee or agent, or former director, officer, employee or agent who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation), against expenses (including attorney's fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred in connection with such action, suit or proceeding provided that such director, officer, employee or agent acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, provided that such director, officer, employee or agent had no reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was unlawful.

Subsection (b) of Section 145 of the DGCL empowers a corporation to indemnify any director, officer, employee or agent, or former director, officer, employee or agent, who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that such person acted in any of the capacities set forth above, against expenses (including attorney's fees), actually and reasonably incurred in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit provided that such person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonable believed to be in or not opposed to the best interest of the corporation, except that no indemnification may be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the Court of Chancery shall determine that despite the adjudication of liability such person is fairly and reasonable entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the court shall deem proper.

Section 145 of the DGCL further provides that, to the extent that a director or officer of a corporation has been successful in the defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in subsections (a) and (b) of Section 145 of the DGCL or in the defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, he or she shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonable incurred by him or her in connection therewith; that indemnification provided by Section 145 of the DGCL shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which the party seeking indemnification may be entitled; and the corporation is empowered to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation against any liability asserted against him or her or incurred by him or her in any

such capacity or arising out of his or her status as such whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him or her against such liabilities under Section 145 of the DGCL; and that, unless indemnification is ordered by a court, the determination that indemnification under subsections (a) and (b) of Section 145 of the DGCL is proper because the director, officer, employee or agent has met the applicable standard of conduct under such subsections shall be made to a person who is or director or officer at the time or such determination (1) by a majority vote of the directors who are not parties to such action, suit or proceeding, even though less than a quorum, or (2) by a committee of such directors designated by majority vote of such directors, even though less than a quorum, or (3) if there are no such directors, or if such directors so direct, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion, or (4) by the stockholders.

The Registrant has purchased certain liability insurance for its officers and directors as permitted by Section 145(g) of the DGCL.

The Registrant has entered into Indemnification Agreements with certain of its directors and executive officers. Such Indemnification Agreements provide that such persons (the "Indemnitees") will be indemnified and held harmless from all expenses, including (without limitation) reasonable fees and expenses of counsel, and all liabilities, including (without limitation) the amount of any judgements, fines, penalties, excise taxes and amounts paid in settlement, actually incurred by an Indemnitee with respect to any threatened, pending or completed claim, action (including any action by or in the right of the Registrant), suit or proceeding (whether formal or informal, or civil, criminal, administrative, legislative, arbitral or investigative) in respect of which such Indemnitee is, was or at any time becomes, or is threatened to be made, a party, witness, subject or target, by reason of the fact that such Indemnitee is or was a director, officer, agent or fiduciary of the Registrant or serving at the request of the Registrant as a director, officer, employee, fiduciary or representative of another enterprise. Such Indemnification Agreements also provide that the Registrant, if requested to do so by an Indemnitee, will advance to such Indemnitee, prior to final disposition of any proceeding, the expenses actually incurred by the Indemnitee subject to the obligation of the Indemnitee to refund if it is ultimately determined that such Indemnitee was not entitled to indemnification.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits.

The following exhibits are filed as part of this Registration

Statement:

- 4.1 Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. 1997 Stock Option Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.67 to Eastern's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1997).
- 4.2 Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. Amended and Restated 1996 Stock Option Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4 to Eastern's Registration Statement on Form S-8, File No. 333-28627, filed on June 6, 1997, as subsequently amended on June 18, 1997).

- 4.3 Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. 1991 Stock Option Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to Eastern's Form 10-K for the Transition Period from July 1, 1997 to December 31, 1997).
- 4.4 Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Registrant, as amended (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K dated July 16, 1998).
- 4.5 By-laws (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4, File No. 33-60103).
- 4.6 Agreement and Plan of Merger (previously filed as Annex A to the proxy statement/prospectus included in the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-64239) filed on September 29, 1998).
- 5.1 Opinion of Shearman & Sterling regarding the legality of the Common Stock being registered hereby.
- 23.1 Consent of Arthur Andersen LLP.
- 23.2 Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.
- 23.3 Consent of Shearman & Sterling (included in Exhibit 5.1).
- 24 Powers of Attorney (included on signature page).

Item 9. Undertakings.

(a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the Registration Statement;

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof; and

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The undersigned Registrant hereby further undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement

shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant has duly caused this Registration Statement on Form S-8 to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Houston, State of Texas on the 31st day of December, 1998.

WASTE MANAGEMENT, INC.
(Registrant)

By: /s/ John E. Drury

John E. Drury
Chief Executive Officer

POWER OF ATTORNEY

We, the undersigned directors and executive officers of WASTE MANAGEMENT, INC., hereby severally constitute John E. Drury, Earl E. DeFrates and Gregory T. Sangalis and each of them singly, our true and lawful attorneys with full power to them and each of them to sign for us, and in our names in the capacities indicated below, any and all amendments to the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, hereby ratifying and confirming our signatures as they may be signed by our said attorneys to any and all amendments to said registration statement.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement on Form S-8 has been signed by the following persons in the capacities indicated on the 31st day of December, 1998.

| Signature ----- | Title ----- |
|---|---|
| /s/ John E. Drury ----- John E. Drury | Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer) |
| /s/ Rodney R. Proto ----- Rodney R. Proto | President, Chief Operating Officer and Director |
| /s/ Earl E. DeFrates ----- Earl E. DeFrates | Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer) |
| /s/ Bruce E. Snyder ----- Bruce E. Snyder | Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer (Controller/Principal Accounting Officer) |

| Signature | Title |
|---|---|
| ----- | ----- |
| ----- H. Jesse Arnelle | Director |
| ----- Dr. Pastora San Juan Cafferty | Director |
| ----- Ralph F. Cox | Director |
| /s/ Richard J. Heckmann ----- Richard J. Heckmann | Director |
| /s/ Roderick M. Hills ----- Roderick M. Hills | Director |
| ----- Richard D. Kinder | Director |
| ----- Robert S. Miller | Director (Non-Executive Chairman of the Board) |
| /s/ Paul M. Montrone ----- Paul M. Montrone | Director |
| /s/ John C. Pope ----- John C. Pope | Director |
| /s/ Steven G. Rothmeier ----- Steven G. Rothmeier | Director |
| /s/ Ralph V. Whitworth ----- Ralph V. Whitworth | Director |
| ----- Jerome B. York | Director |

Exhibit Index

| Exhibit No. | Description of Document |
|-------------|---|
| 4.1 | Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. 1997 Stock Option Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.67 to Eastern's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1997). |
| 4.2 | Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. Amended and Restated 1996 Stock Option Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4 to Eastern's Registration Statement on Form S-8, File No. 333-28627, filed on June 6, 1997, as subsequently amended on June 18, 1997). |
| 4.3 | Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. 1991 Stock Option Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to Eastern's Form 10-K for the Transition Period from July 1, 1997 to December 31, 1997). |
| 4.4 | Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Registrant, as amended (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K dated July 16, 1998). |
| 4.5 | By-laws (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4, File No. 33-60103). |
| 4.6 | Agreement and Plan of Merger (previously filed as Annex A to the proxy statement/prospectus included in the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-64239) filed on September 29, 1998). |
| 5.1 | Opinion of Shearman & Sterling regarding the legality of the Common Stock being registered hereby. |
| 23.1 | Consent of Arthur Andersen LLP. |
| 23.2 | Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. |
| 23.3 | Consent of Shearman & Sterling (included in Exhibit 5.1). |
| 24 | Powers of Attorney (included on signature page). |

[LETTERHEAD OF SHEARMAN & STERLING]

December 30, 1998

Waste Management, Inc.
1001 Fannin Street
Suite 4000
Houston, Texas 77002

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as special counsel to Waste Management, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Waste Management"), in connection with the Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement") being filed by Waste Management on December 31, 1998 with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, with respect to 1,043,480 shares of common stock, par value \$.01 per share, of Waste Management (the "Common Stock"), to be issued from time to time pursuant to the Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. 1997 Stock Option Plan; the Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. Amended and Restated 1996 Stock Option Plan and the Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. 1991 Stock Option Plan.

In so acting, we have examined the Registration Statement and we have also examined and relied as to factual matters upon the representations and warranties contained in originals, or copies certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of such documents, corporate records, certificates and other instruments as in our judgment are necessary or appropriate to be able to render the opinion expressed below. In such examination, we have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the authenticity of all documents, certificates and instruments submitted to us as originals and the conformity with the originals of all documents submitted to us as copies.

Based upon the foregoing, we are of the opinion that the shares of Common Stock to which the Registration Statement relates have been duly authorized and, when issued and delivered in accordance with the terms of the applicable plan and paid for in full in accordance with the terms of the applicable plan, will be validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

Our opinion expressed above is limited to the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware and we do not express any opinion herein concerning any other law.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement.

Very truly yours,

/s/ SHEARMAN & STERLING

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

As independent public accountants, we hereby consent to the incorporation by reference of our report on Waste Management, Inc. dated September 23, 1998 included in Waste Management, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K dated September 23, 1998 in this Registration Statement on Form S-8 and related Prospectus of Waste Management, Inc. and to all references to our Firm included in or incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement.

/s/ Arthur Andersen LLP

Houston, Texas
December 30, 1998

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this registration statement on Form S-8, relating to the Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. 1997 Stock Option Plan, the Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. Amended and Restated 1996 Stock Option Plan and the Eastern Environmental Services, Inc. 1991 Stock Option Plan, of our report dated March 16, 1998, on our audits of the consolidated financial statements of USA Waste Services, Inc. (now known as Waste Management, Inc.) as of December 31, 1997 and 1996 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 1997.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Houston, Texas
December 30, 1998