



**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 77001  
(713) 512-6200**

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

**WASTE MANAGEMENT, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN**  
(Full titles of the Plans)

**Rick L Wittenbraker  
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)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer       Accelerated filer       Non-accelerated filer       Smaller reporting company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

**CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

<b>Title of securities to be registered</b>	<b>Amount to be Registered (1)</b>	<b>Proposed maximum offering price per share (2)</b>	<b>Proposed maximum aggregate offering price (2)</b>	<b>Amount of registration fee</b>
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share	3,000,000	\$23.8723	\$71,616,900	\$3,996

- (1) Relates to Common Stock to be issued pursuant to the Waste Management, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan. Pursuant to Rule 416(a) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this registration statement on Form S-8 also shall cover any additional shares of Common Stock in respect of the securities identified in the above table as a result of any anti-dilution provisions of the Plan.
- (2) The maximum offering price per share is estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(c) and Rule 457(h) under the Securities Act based upon 85% of the average of the high and low sales prices of the Common Stock as reported on the New York Stock Exchange on May 21, 2009, which was \$28.085. Under the terms of the Waste Management, Inc., Employee Stock Purchase Plan, the purchase price of Common Stock with respect to an offering period is 85% of the fair market value of the Common Stock on the last day of the offering period.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

### Part I

Item 1. Plan Information.\*

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

### Part II

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

Item 4. Description of Securities.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Item 8. Exhibits.

Item 9. Undertakings.

SIGNATURES

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

EX-5.1

EX-23.1

---

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

In accordance with the principles set forth under General Instruction E of Form S-8 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant has filed this registration statement on Form S-8 to register the issuance of an additional 3,000,000 shares of Common Stock pursuant to the Waste Management, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "Plan"). The contents of the Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-135379) filed by the Registrant with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 27, 2006 are incorporated herein by reference except to the extent otherwise updated or modified by this Registration Statement. The additional 3,000,000 shares of Common Stock that are the subject of this Registration Statement relate to the increase of the number of authorized shares available for issuance under the Plan as approved by the Company's stockholders at the Company's Annual Meeting held on May 8, 2009.

Upon this registration statement's effectiveness, there will be 3,469,091 shares of Common Stock registered for issuance under the Plan.

### Part I

#### INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

##### 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 are hereby incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement:

- (a) Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008.
- (b) Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2009.
- (c) 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.
- (d) Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on February 26, 2009.
- (e) Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on February 27, 2009.
- (f) Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on March 2, 2009
- (g) Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on May 12, 2009.

All documents subsequently filed by the Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all of the securities offered hereby 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 a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents.

**Item 4. Description of Securities.**

Not applicable.

**Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.**

Not applicable.

**Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.**

The Certificate of Incorporation (the “Charter”) and the Bylaws of the Registrant provide in effect that the Registrant shall indemnify its directors and officers (as well as persons serving as a director or officer of any of the Registrant’s direct or indirect subsidiaries) to the extent permitted by the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the “DGCL”). Sections 102 and 145 of the DGCL provide that a Delaware corporation has the power to indemnify its directors, officers, employees and agents in certain circumstances, as described below.

In accordance with Section 102 of the DGCL, the Registrant’s Charter contains a provision that eliminates the personal liability of directors of the Registrant 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 Registrant or its stockholders, failed to act in good faith, engaged in intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law, willfully or negligently

---

## Table of Contents

authorized the unlawful payment of a dividend or approved an unlawful stock redemption or repurchase or obtained an improper personal benefit.

Pursuant to Subsection (a) of Section 145 of the DGCL, the Registrant's Bylaws provide that the Registrant shall indemnify and upon request advance expenses to any director or officer who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit, proceeding or claim, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the name of the Registrant), against all liability, loss suffered and expenses (including attorney's fees and expenses), judgments, fines, penalties and amounts paid in settlement reasonably incurred in connection with such action, suit, proceeding or claim provided that the Registrant shall not be required to indemnify or advance expenses to any person in connection with any action, suit, proceeding or claim initiated by or on behalf of such person unless the initiation of such action, suit, proceeding, or claim was authorized in the specific case by the Board of Directors.

Pursuant to Subsection (b) of Section 145 of the DGCL, the Registrant's Bylaws provide that the Registrant shall indemnify and upon request advance expenses to any director or officer who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit, proceeding or claim by or in the right of the Registrant 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 all expenses (including attorney's fees and expenses), reasonably incurred in connection with the investigation, preparation to defend or defense of such action, suit, proceeding or claim provided that the Registrant shall not be required to indemnify or advance expenses to any person in connection with any action, suit, proceeding or claim initiated by or on behalf of such person.

The Registrant's Bylaws further provide that, to the extent that a director or officer 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 shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by him in connection therewith. Any person seeking indemnification as described above shall be deemed to have met the standard of conduct required for such indemnification unless the contrary shall be established. The indemnification provided by Section 145 of the DGCL shall not be exclusive of any other rights to which the party seeking indemnification may be entitled.

Section 145 of the DGCL also provides that a 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. The Registrant has purchased certain liability insurance for its officers and directors.

The Registrant has entered into indemnification agreements with its directors and certain of its executive officers and certain of its executive officers' employment agreements contain indemnification provisions. Such agreements and provisions generally provide that such persons will be indemnified and held harmless to the fullest extent of Delaware law.

### **Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.**

Not applicable.

### **Item 8. Exhibits.**

The following exhibits are filed as part of this Registration Statement:

- 4.1 — Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the Quarter ended June 30, 2002).
- 4.2 — Bylaws (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on December 16, 2008).

## Table of Contents

- 4.3 — Waste Management, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan (Incorporated by reference to Appendix A of the Company's Notice and Proxy Statement dated March 25, 2009, for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders held on May 8, 2009).
- 5.1 — Opinion of Amanda K. Maki with respect to the legality of the securities.
- 23.1 — Consent of Ernst & Young LLP.
- 23.2 — Consent of Amanda K. Maki (included in Exhibit 5.1).
- 24.1 — Powers of Attorney (included on the signature page of this Registration Statement).

### **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:
  - (i) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act");
  - (ii) to reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the Registration Statement; and
  - (iii) 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.

Provided, however, that the undertakings set forth in paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement.

- (2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under 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 that 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

[Table of Contents](#)

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.



**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

Know all men by these presents, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints David P. Steiner, Robert G. Simpson and Rick L. Wittenbraker, and each of them, each of whom may act without joinder of the other, his true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any or all pre- or post-effective amendments to this Registration Statement, including without limitation any registration statement of the type contemplated by Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, or substitute or substitutes of any or all of them, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all requirements for filing on Form S-8 and 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 26<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2009.

**WASTE MANAGEMENT, INC.**

/s/ David P. Steiner  
By: David P. Steiner  
Chief Executive Officer

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 26<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2009.

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>
<u>/s/ David P. Steiner</u> David P. Steiner	Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)
<u>/s/ Robert G. Simpson</u> Robert G. Simpson	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)
<u>/s/ Greg A. Robertson</u> Greg A. Robertson	Vice President and Chief Accounting Officer (Principal Accounting Officer)

[Table of Contents](#)

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>
<u>/s/ Pastora San Juan Cafferty</u> Pastora San Juan Cafferty	Director
<u>/s/ Frank M. Clark, Jr.</u> Frank M. Clark, Jr.	Director
<u>/s/ Patrick W. Gross</u> Patrick W. Gross	Director
<u>/s/ John C. Pope</u> John C. Pope	Director
<u>/s/ W. Robert Reum</u> W. Robert Reum	Director
<u>/s/Steven G. Rothmeier</u> Steven G. Rothmeier	Director
<u>/s/ Thomas H. Weidemeyer</u> Thomas H. Weidemeyer	Director

**INDEX TO EXHIBITS**

- 4.1 — Second Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the Quarter ended June 30, 2002).
- 4.2 — Bylaws (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on December 16, 2008).
- 4.3 — Waste Management, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan (Incorporated by reference to Appendix A of the Company’s Notice and Proxy Statement dated March 25, 2009, for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders held on May 8, 2009).
- 5.1 — Opinion of Amanda K. Maki with respect to the legality of the securities.
- 23.1 — Consent of Ernst & Young LLP.
- 23.2 — Consent of Amanda K. Maki (included in Exhibit 5.1).
- 24.1 — Powers of Attorney (included on the signature page of this Registration Statement).

[WMI LETTERHEAD]

May 26, 2009

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

**Re:** Registration Statement on Form S-8

Gentlemen:

I am Senior Counsel for Waste Management, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), and have acted in such capacity in connection with the registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act"), of 3,000,000 shares of the Company's common stock, \$0.01 par value (the "Common Stock"), to be offered upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement") relating thereto to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 26, 2009.

In connection therewith, I have examined originals or copies certified or otherwise identified to my satisfaction of the Certificate of Incorporation of the Company, the By-laws of the Company, the corporate proceedings with respect to the offering of the shares and such other documents and instruments as I have deemed necessary or appropriate for the expression of the opinions contained herein.

I have assumed the authenticity and completeness of all records, certificates and other instruments submitted to me as originals, the conformity to original documents of all records, certificates and other instruments submitted to me as copies, the authenticity and completeness of the originals of those records, certificates and other instruments submitted to me as copies and the correctness of all statements of fact contained in all records, certificates and other instruments that I have examined.

Based on the foregoing, and having a regard for such legal considerations as I have deemed relevant, I am of the opinion that:

- (i) The Company has been duly incorporated and is validly existing in good standing under the laws of the State of Delaware.
- (ii) The shares of Common Stock proposed to be sold by the Company have been duly and validly authorized for issuance and, when issued and paid for in accordance with the Waste Management Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan, and subject to the Registration Statement becoming effective under the Act and to compliance with such state securities rules, regulations and laws as may be applicable, will be duly and validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

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

Very truly yours,

/s/ Amanda K. Maki

Amanda K. Maki  
Senior Counsel

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement on Form S-8 to be filed on May 26, 2009 pertaining to the Waste Management, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan of our reports dated February 17, 2009, with respect to the consolidated financial statements and schedule of Waste Management, Inc., and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting of Waste Management, Inc., included in its Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 2008, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

/s/ ERNST & YOUNG LLP

Houston, Texas  
May 20, 2009