



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Gene McGee, Mayor

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Ridgeland installs solar powered recycling compactors

(Ridgeland, Miss. – August 27, 2013) The City of Ridgeland recently purchased five solar-powered recycling compactors. These compactors have been placed in public locations to enhance recycling efforts. You can find them at the concession stands at Freedom Ridge Park and at the trailhead pavilion of the Ridgeland Multiuse Trail.

“The installation of the Solar Powered Recycling Compactors is another example of the City of Ridgeland’s commitment to saving our resources and protecting the environment for future generations,” said Gene McGee, Mayor, City of Ridgeland.

Each compactor can hold up to five times more than regular garbage cans. Since the compactors do not have open tops, the recyclables will stay inside the compactor and not blow out. The compactors are built with a solar grid in the top, providing its energy source for compacting and for its alert system. An interior wireless chip and antenna sends a signal to a main server, providing data that can then be accessed from a web app.

The app allows designated city employees to see on a map which of the compactors in the area are full and which are empty. A system of lights on the exterior of the compactors also provides this information. If the light is green, the compactor has room for recyclables. If the light is yellow, the compactor is full and red means that it is overflowing.

The City of Ridgeland invites its residents, businesses and visitors to recycle as much as possible. You may recycle cans, plastic and paper in the solar-powered recycling compactors at the Ridgeland Multiuse Trail pavilion and Freedom Ridge Park concession stands.

Ridgeland is an environmental hero among cities in Mississippi, earning the following awards for its efforts in recycling and environmental protection: 2013 First Place Local Government Award from Keep Mississippi Beautiful, Steward in the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality’s enHance Program since 2011, 2011 Local Government Recycler of the Year from the Mississippi Recycling Coalition, Tree City USA certification since 2009, Merit Award from the American Society of Landscape Architects for the Ridgeland Area Master Plan and the Mississippi Municipal League’s Planning and Development Award for the Ridgeland Area Master Plan.

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Gene F. McGee, cmo - mayor • Paula W. Tierce, phr - city clerk/human resources director

board of aldermen: D.I. Smith - at-large • Ken Heard, cmo, mayor pro tempore - ward 1 • Chuck Gautier, cmo - ward 2
Kevin Holder, cmo - ward 3 • Brian P. Ramsey, cmo - ward 4 • Scott Jones, cmo - ward 5 • Wesley Hamlin, cmo - ward 6

the city of RIDGELAND



For more information about the City of Ridgeland recycling program, contact Mike McCollum, Director of Public Works at 601-853-2027 or mike.mccollum@ridgelandms.org.

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