



For immediate release:

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ADEM Provides Compliance Assistance Calendars

MONTGOMERY – As a courtesy to dry cleaning facilities that utilize the chemical perchloroethylene (PERC) as their primary cleaning solvent, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management is providing complimentary compliance assistance calendars for 2011. This year marks the eleventh consecutive year of distribution of the free compliance assistance calendars.

Dry cleaners that utilize PERC are required to comply with strict standards to control air emissions and they are also required to implement mandatory recordkeeping measures. In addition, it is mandatory that a special instrument be utilized to detect any leakage of PERC on a monthly basis and the use of this special instrument must be documented.

The free compliance assistance calendars are an excellent way for owners to document their storage/use of dry cleaning chemicals. In addition, the calendars also feature monthly tips to explain compliance requirements. The compliance calendars have proven to be a valuable asset in tracking the use of dry cleaning chemicals and in meeting regulatory obligations. According to comments that have been received from the owners of dry cleaner facilities, the calendar is practical and convenient for documenting the results of the required monitoring.

Numerous dry cleaning facilities throughout Alabama utilize PERC in their daily activities and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency lists PERC as an air pollutant under the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants. According to ADEM Director Lance LeFleur, “Alabama’s economy is built on the foundation of small businesses such as these dry cleaning facilities and we want to do everything within our power to provide them with the tools they need to comply with our environmental regulations. Providing these compliance assistance calendars is just one way we can assist these small businesses with their compliance efforts and also protect our natural resources here in Alabama.”

To obtain a copy of the compliance assistance calendar, you may contact the ADEM Air Division at (334) 274-4156 or the ADEM Ombudsman Office at (800) 533-2336. The calendars will be available for distribution in early December.

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