



State of Alabama
Unified Command
Joint Information Center
Mobile, Alabama

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ADEM Enhances Beach Monitoring Activities

MOBILE- The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) has increased the monitoring of water quality at local public beaches in response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. These enhanced beach monitoring efforts are just one phase of ADEM's overall response.

As part of its regular Beach Monitoring Program, ADEM routinely monitors 25 public beaches in Mobile and Baldwin Counties for bacteria. However, in response to this event, ADEM is providing extra monitoring for oil and grease as well as volatile organic compounds, even though no coastline impacts have been documented. This water quality data provides beach users with up-to-date information on water quality at the public beaches.

The program uses a green/yellow/red system to inform citizens of the latest test results. On-site signs are posted at each public beach. Information is also available at www.adem.alabama.gov. ADEM implements the Beach Monitoring Program with assistance from the Alabama Department of Public Health.

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For more information, contact Lauren Matson at 334-850-8345.