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ADEM Announces Grants to Enhance Recycling

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management has announced this year's recipients of grants totaling more than \$1.7 million to enhance recycling in local municipalities across Alabama. The grant funds will be utilized to initiate new recycling programs and also enhance existing recycling programs.

Grant funds will support the purchase of recycling trailers, recycling bins, collection trucks, roll-off containers, and other equipment that will make recycling more convenient for Alabama citizens. In addition, grant funds will support education and outreach efforts through print materials, public service announcements, and presentations to encourage citizens to participate in local recycling programs.

These grant funds are being made available through the Solid Wastes & Recyclable Materials Management Act which was passed by the Alabama Legislature and signed into law by Governor Riley in 2008. The legislation imposed a \$1 per ton fee on all solid wastes that are disposed of in Alabama landfills. A portion of the proceeds generated by this fee allowed the creation of the Alabama Recycling Fund (ARF), which provides the foundation for the awarding of grant funds on an annual basis.

During its initial year, more than \$1 million in grant funding was awarded through the Alabama Recycling Fund. With this announcement and its administration of the Alabama Recycling Fund, ADEM has provided approximately \$2.8 million in grant funds to enhance recycling in Alabama.

“The implementation of new recycling programs and the enhancement of existing recycling programs is an important step in the conservation of Alabama’s natural resources,” said ADEM Director Lance LeFleur. “The ability to recycle more materials not only conserves natural resources but also reduces the volume of materials going into Alabama’s landfills. I am pleased that ADEM can utilize its resources and work with officials at the local level to support these recycling efforts.”

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The following entities have been selected as recipients of grant funds for 2010:

- East Alabama Recycling Partnership \$169,701
- Jefferson County Partnership \$276,368
- City of Montgomery \$193,868
- City of Tuscaloosa \$133,400
- Calhoun County \$252,350
- City of Montevallo \$154,093
- Scottsboro Solid Waste Department \$143,202
- Albertville/Boaz Recycling Authority \$144,308
- City of Tuskegee \$13,740
- City of Prattville \$13,500
- City of Demopolis \$18,500
- City of Gardendale \$30,110
- Shoals Solid Waste Authority \$65,920
- Athens/Limestone Recycling Center \$58,996
- Helena Middle School \$1,400

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