



For immediate release:

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ADEM Announces Broad-Reaching Pesticide General Permit

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Environmental Management has completed the process for developing its Pesticide General Permit which became effective on October 31, 2011. The permit is designed to protect water quality from the potential impacts associated with discharges from the application of biological and chemical pesticides.

On January 19, 2009, the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that Clean Water Act (CWA) permits were required for the application of pesticides in, over, or near waters of the United States. Due to this ruling, NPDES permits will now be required for these pesticide applications and the ADEM Pesticide General Permit is being issued to address this need.

The requirements for compliance under the new Pesticide General Permit are potentially applicable to a wide-range of entities including individual homeowners, municipalities, foresters, farmers, and private industries that are utilizing biological and chemical pesticides for activities such as mosquito control, animal pest control, weed/algae control, and forestry canopy or other area-wide pest control that occur in water, at water's edge, or over water. Those entities that are required by the Pesticide General Permit to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) for permit coverage will not be required to submit the NOI until January 31, 2012.

The new Pesticide General Permit and all associated forms will be available on the ADEM website at www.adem.alabama.gov. In addition, questions related to compliance with the Pesticide General Permit and/or submittal of a NOI should be directed to the ADEM Stormwater Management Branch at (334) 394-4318.

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