



**For immediate release:**  
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## **ADEM Removes Waste Chemicals from Schools**

In the last two years, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management has removed more than 5,300 containers of waste chemicals from 32 high schools across Alabama. ADEM scientists provided oversight for the schools to sort, lab pack, transport, and properly dispose of the waste chemicals. All of the containers of waste chemicals, which weighed more than 6,900 pounds, were disposed of at the Waste Management facility in Emelle.

“We are very pleased to be able to assist local schools with the proper disposal of their used and outdated chemicals,” said ADEM Director Trey Glenn. “This program not only provides environmental benefits but also assists schools, many of which operate on limited budgets, in the removal of chemicals from their classrooms.”

In September 2006, ADEM was awarded a two year grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to help fund the school chemical cleanout effort. This EPA initiative promotes the removal and proper disposal of potentially dangerous, outdated chemicals from high schools to make it safer for the school, the community, and the environment. In addition to helping schools clean out their chemicals, ADEM used the grant to assist Enterprise High School with the clean up and disposal of chemicals after the school was destroyed by a tornado.

ADEM is also using a portion of the grant funds to prevent the collection of similar wastes in the future. This effort is supported through the department’s work with the Alabama Science in Motion program and encouraging all public schools to participate in this initiative. Alabama Science in Motion provides schools micro-scale amounts of chemicals and corresponding lab equipment for classroom experiments. The ASIM system is designed to allow participating schools to complete required experiments without purchasing chemicals or having any resulting waste.

EPA has supported the department’s use of the remaining grant monies to continue the school chemical cleanout project in 2008 at other schools until the grant monies are exhausted. A list of schools that have participated in this chemical clean out campaign is outlined on the following page.

(-more-)

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(ADD ONE)

Aliceville High School  
Amelia Love Johnson High School  
B. C. Rain High School  
Bibb County High School  
Central High School (Lowndes County)  
Cold Springs High School  
Cullman High School  
Enterprise High School  
Fairview High School  
Good Hope High School  
Greene County High School  
Greensboro East High School  
Greensboro West High School  
Hanceville High School  
Holly Pond High School  
J. O. Johnson High School

Marengo High School  
Monroe County High School  
Notasulga High School  
Pisgah High School  
Red Level High School  
Sidney Lanier High School  
South Lamar County High School  
St. Clair County High School  
Sulligent High School  
Tarrant High School  
Verbena High School  
Vinemont High School  
Wadley High School  
Wellborn High School  
West Blocton High School  
Williamson High School