



For immediate release:
Wednesday, June 10, 2009

Contact: Jerome Hand
(334) 260-4500

ADEM Hosts Groundwater Conference

MONTGOMERY – Approximately 1.5 million Alabamians depend on groundwater resources as their source of drinking water. Ensuring a clean, safe supply of this precious commodity is a priority for the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, along with helping drinking water systems operate at maximum efficiency.

Each year, ADEM hosts a Groundwater Conference for public drinking water utilities, municipal officials, government agencies, and environmental consultants to meet and discuss issues of importance related to groundwater availability, impacts to groundwater resources, and changing regulatory requirements.

More than 200 professionals who work to manage and protect groundwater resources attended the June 10 conference in Montgomery where they heard presentations on a variety of topics including real-time monitoring of stream conditions, recent trends in quantifying groundwater recharge, water level surveys, and the incorporation of modeling in the assessment of underground plumes.

This year's conference also provided information about regulatory requirements placed on drinking water systems as part of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act and updates regarding groundwater levels following drought conditions for portions of 2008 and 2009.

The Department also took advantage of the conference to encourage drinking water systems to prepare for storm events and to take security measures to address circumstances that could possibly disrupt, or compromise, the safety and reliability of Alabama's drinking water supplies.

#

adem.alabama.gov