

For immediate release:

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<u>Contact</u>: Jerome Hand (334) 260-4500

ADEM Accepting Recycling Grant Applications

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Environmental Management is now accepting applications for the 2010 Alabama Recycling Fund Grants Program. The Department projects that \$1.5 million in grant funds will be available this year.

The program is open to local governments and local government nonprofits/authorities seeking to promote local recycling efforts by enhancing established recycling programs or by initiating new recycling programs. Grant applications must be submitted to ADEM by March 1, 2010 to be considered for funding. Applications and regulations detailing program requirements and the process for applying may be found online at www.adem.alabama.gov.

Entering its second year of operation, the Alabama Recycling Fund Grants Program has already been a tremendous success. In 2009, eight out of 37 applicants were awarded grant funds totaling more than \$1.1 million and grant recipients from across Alabama are using these funds to establish and enhance recycling programs.

The cities of Albertville and Boaz partnered to establish a joint recycling program and create the Albertville-Boaz Recycling Authority. Meanwhile, Auburn University, the City of Auburn, the City of Opelika, and Lee County partnered to increase regional recycling. Funds have been used to expand drop-off sites and purchase equipment such as recycling containers and balers. In addition, funds have supported public education activities to inform local citizens about the benefits of recycling.

Additional information on the Alabama Recycling Fund Grants Program, including a full list of 2009 grant recipients, can be obtained by contacting the ADEM Materials Management Section at (334) 271-7988 or by e-mail at recycling@adem.state.al.us.