



**For Immediate Release:**

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## **West Alabama Recycling Partnership Bolsters Recycling Program with ADEM Grant**

In this year Grant selection process, the Department focused on the 2016 Southeast Recycling Development Council (SERDC) study, “A Plan for Boosting Residential Material Recovery and Recycling in Alabama”, which details how recycling efforts can be made more effective in our state. The central focus is the development of a “Hub and Spoke” model where larger cities, or hubs, partner with smaller and more rural communities, or spokes, to collect and recycle materials in a more efficient way.

In an effort to enhance recycling, along with economic growth, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management is pleased to announce that The West Alabama Recycling Partnership (WARP) is the recipient of \$207,898.78 for this year’s grant process. This recycling grant will be used to purchase a curbside collection sorter truck, drop-off recycling trailer, recycling containers, clearstream containers and clearstream transporter that will make recycling more convenient for the people of West Alabama.

When asked how recycling has impacted their community a West Alabama Recycling Partnership (WARP) representative said “Our recycling program is extremely well received and utilized throughout Tuscaloosa County. Besides reducing landfilled waste, the program educates the 200,000 county residents about waste generation and reduction, other environmental programs, such as littering and storm water, as well as general solid waste practices and safety concerns.”

These grant funds are made possible through the Solid Wastes & Recyclable Materials Management Act which was passed by the Alabama Legislature in 2008. The legislation imposed a \$1 per ton fee on all solid wastes disposed of in Alabama landfills. A portion of the proceeds generated by this fee supported the creation of the Alabama Recycling Fund, which provides the foundation for ADEM to award the recycling grants on an annual basis.



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– West Alabama Recycling Partnership (WARP)