

ALABAMA HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE CLEANUP FUND

2004 ANNUAL REPORT



Alabama Department of
Environmental Management
Land Division

Environmental Assessment
Section
January 2005

2004 Response Activities

- **AHSCF General Management** Initial investigation of complaints prior to assigning site numbers, administrative support, and field sampling and safety supplies.
- **Webster Drum Site** Update of cleanup completed under other programs of an AHSCF originated site.
- **Montgomery Pilot Brownfield** Groundwater sampling, soil sampling, surface water sampling, and report compilation.
- **Sylacauga Brownfield** Groundwater sampling, soil sampling, surface water sampling, and report compilation and processing.
- **Clark County Dump Site** Investigation of complaint by Clark County EMA of an abandoned dump site.
- **Bibb County Meth Lab** Soil sampling and complaint investigation at the request of the Bibb County Sheriff's Office.
- **Coffee County EMA** Investigation of abandoned container found by Coffee County EMA.
- **LA Central Auto Drums** Investigation of drum complaint at an abandoned site in Birmingham.
- **Choccolocco Creek Drums** Investigation of drum complaint in Choccolocco Creek on the border of Calhoun and Talladega Counties
- **Selma Brownfield** Groundwater sampling, soil sampling, surface water and sediment sampling, report compilation and processing.
- **County Road 800 Drums** Investigation, sampling, and disposal of drums reported by the Chilton County EMA.
- **Fussy Hill Drums** Investigation, sampling, and staging of drums reported by the Madison County EMA
- **J & C Truck Driving School Drum Site** Investigation of complaint of buried drums at a site near Phenix City.

Enforcement, Expenditures and Cost Recovery

The recovery of cleanup and remediation cost for a site from the potentially responsible party (PRP) is a major part of the Alabama Hazardous Substance Cleanup Fund (AHSCF). Response actions at hazardous substance sites may be conducted by the PRP with oversight by ADEM. However, if a PRP is unwilling or unable to conduct a cleanup, funds from the AHSCF may be used and cost recovery and punitive damages may be pursued after the cleanup is complete. In fiscal year 2004, cost recovery efforts from PRPs totaled \$130,956.00. Total expenditures from the AHSCF were \$79,857.65 from October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2004.



About the Alabama Hazardous Substance Cleanup Fund

The Alabama Hazardous Substance Cleanup Fund (AHSCF) was established in 1989 by the Alabama Legislature to provide a mechanism for ADEM to investigate, remediate, and monitor hazardous substance sites. These sites may be an endangerment to human health and the environment, but may not qualify to be addressed by another federal or state cleanup program.

Generally, sites addressed utilizing AHSCF funds either are not qualified for, or are unlikely to receive cleanup funding under the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, commonly referred to as "Superfund". Funding may also be used for long term maintenance and monitoring of sites which have historically been addressed under CERCLA. Since the inception of the AHSCF, approximately 300 sites have been addressed, with almost 275 sites remediated to a point where no further action is warranted.

Funding for the AHSCF activities is generated by legislative appropriations, fees from hazardous waste disposal at the Emelle hazardous waste landfill, and reimbursements from potentially responsible parties (PRPs). For fiscal year 2004, legislative appropriations and tax revenue totaled \$128,286.09.



Site Specific Information

AHSCF GENERAL MANAGEMENT

Reference #9000

Functions not directly accountable to a specific site are contained in this category. These include, but are not limited to, personnel and travel costs associated with conducting complaint investigations of sites that are not to be assigned a specific site number, initial complaint investigations prior to having specific site numbers assigned to a site, administrative support for the purchase and repair of equipment utilized on all sites, and field sampling equipment and safety supplies. General administrative functions associated with research and clerical support are encompassed in this category, as are activities associated with the initial reporting of potential sites.

WEBSTER DRUM SITE

Marion County

Reference # 9289

Located on the west side of County Road 20, north of Highway 43 in the town of Gu-Win, this site was inspected by ADEM on October 29, 2001 after a complaint by a concerned citizen. ADEM investigators found an illegal solid waste dump containing old cars, refrigerators, washing machines, and similar materials, to include hazardous substances.



Webster Drum Site Prior to Cleanup

The cleanup was initiated in 2002 and cleanup/remediation of the site was completed in the fall of 2003. Solid wastes at the site were removed and disposed at a permitted sanitary landfill. The drums of paint waste, which were hazardous wastes, were removed and recycled, or disposed in accordance with the hazardous waste standards. The arsenic, which was also a hazardous waste, was removed and disposed at the permitted hazardous waste landfill at Emelle, Alabama.



Webster Drum Site After Cleanup

MONTGOMERY PILOT BROWNFIELD

Montgomery County

Reference #9295

The City of Montgomery has initiated a downtown/riverfront redevelopment program to revitalize the downtown Montgomery area. Plans for this revitalization include parks, river walks, dwelling units, office space, music venues, sports facilities, retail space, restaurants, and other attractions and businesses. The first phase of this development began with the construction of a riverfront amphitheater / band shell, pergola, and children's area.

The City administration is concerned with the appearance of the sites and the potential for the sites to directly impact local residents and tourists by direct contact with potentially contaminated surface soils. To help identify these concerns, the City of Montgomery obtained a pilot Brownfield grant. Brownfield assessments are performed at sites where there is a real or perceived threat that previous activity at a site may have left behind industrial materials that could pose a problem for reuse of the site. This baseline environmental assessment provides the data needed to plan for redevelopment of this area. The City entered into a Memorandum of

Understanding with ADEM to have the Department perform the property assessments of proposed redevelopment sites.

Between May 27, 2004 and July 23, 2004, ADEM conducted sampling activities at the Montgomery Pilot Brownfield properties for the screening of surficial and subsurface soil and groundwater samples. During this time, thirteen (13) soil borings were advanced utilizing GeoProbe® direct-push technology to install temporary monitoring wells for the collection of groundwater samples and subsurface soil samples. Most of these temporary monitoring wells were approximately 40 feet in depth. Continuous subsurface soil samples were collected into forty-eight inch (48”) length clear plastic liners from each boring. Subsurface soil samples



GeoProbe® Operations at the Montgomery Pilot Brownfield Site Montgomery, Alabama

collected from each interval were visually inspected and placed into appropriate sample containers for screening utilizing the X-ray Florescence (XRF) Analyzer. These samples were also screened for VOCs utilizing a photo-ionization detector. Soil borings were advanced to a depth of four (4) feet below the shallowest groundwater table encountered on the site. Field screening for metals in surficial soil was also conducted utilizing the XRF. Surficial soils were screened in situ with the XRF with over 600 locations screened for the site. Based on these XRF screening results, surficial soil samples (0-1 inch) were collected at regular intervals utilizing a systematic grid and were submitted to the ADEM Central Laboratory. These samples were analyzed for metals (arsenic, cadmium, chromium, lead, and mercury), volatile



**XRF Screening In Situ at the Montgomery Pilot Brownfield Site
Montgomery, Alabama**

organic compounds (VOC), and semivolatile organic compounds (SVOC).

In addition to groundwater and soil sampling, ADEM's Environmental Assessment Section and Montgomery Field Operations collected surface water, sediment, and fish tissue samples along the surface water pathway associated with the site (the Alabama



**Groundwater Sampling at Temporary Monitoring Well #1
Montgomery Pilot Brownfield Site, Montgomery, Alabama**

River). All of the Alabama River surface water and sediment samples were analyzed for VOCs, SVOCs, and selected metals (arsenic, cadmium, total chromium, lead, mercury).

SYLACAUGA BROWNFIELD
Talladega County
Reference #9323

The City of Sylacauga owns 12.5 acres of property located at the corner of Highway 148 and Taft Brown Road. This area was utilized as a municipal landfill from 1969-1974. Today, the Sylacauga Utilities Board operates a water pump station on the southeastern corner of the site. The remainder of the site is undeveloped and covered with dense vegetation. This site was selected for a targeted Brownfield assessment. Brownfield assessments are performed at sites where there is a real or perceived threat that previous activity at a site may have left behind industrial materials that could pose a problem for reuse of the site. This baseline environmental assessment provides the data needed to plan for redevelopment of the area.



**GeoProbe® Sampling of Temporary Monitoring Wells at
Sylacauga Pilot Brownfield, Sylacauga, Alabama**

Between March 22, 2004 and April 16, 2004, sampling activities were conducted at the Sylacauga Targeted Brownfield Site for the screening of surficial and subsurface soil and groundwater sample collection. During this time, six (6) soil borings were advanced utilizing GeoProbe® direct-push technology to install temporary monitoring wells for the collection of groundwater samples and subsurface soil samples. Most of these temporary monitoring wells were approximately 30 feet in depth. Continuous subsurface soil samples were collected into forty-eight inch (48”) length clear plastic liners from each boring. Subsurface soil samples collected from

each interval were visually inspected and placed into appropriate sample containers for screening utilizing the X-ray Florescence (XRF) Analyzer. These samples were also screened for VOCs utilizing a photo-ionization detector. Soil borings were advanced to a depth of four (4) feet below the shallowest groundwater table encountered on the site. Field screening for metals in surficial soil was also conducted utilizing the XRF. Surficial soils were screened in situ with the XRF. Surficial soil samples for laboratory analysis (0-1 inch) were collected in regular intervals utilizing a systematic grid. All samples were submitted to the ADEM Central Laboratory located in Montgomery, Alabama and analyzed for metals (arsenic, cadmium, chromium, lead, and mercury), volatile organic compounds (VOC), and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOC).

Surface water and sediment samples were collected from the unnamed tributary that transverses the site and Crooked Creek, which comprised the surface water pathway of the site. All surface water and sediment samples were analyzed for VOCs, SVOCs, and selected metals (arsenic, cadmium, total chromium, lead, mercury).

At this time, ADEM technical staff is organizing and interpreting the collected environmental data and will prepare a baseline environmental assessment report.

CLARK COUNTY DUMP SITE

Clark County

Reference #9332

The Clarke County battery site is located at 14455 Highway 84, west of Grove Hill, Alabama near the Zimco Community. This is an abandoned site of approximately one acre and has been used for years as an unauthorized dump. ADEM was notified of the site by the Clarke County Emergency Management Agent with a request to investigate the site for possible hazardous materials. The site was inspected and the only constituents of concern noted at the site were discarded vehicle batteries, which littered the property. The property was originally foreclosed on by the Veteran's Administration (VA) and was managed by the Gallery Agency real estate company. In January 2004, the VA turned the property over to Ocwen Financial Corporation.

The real estate company has requested and received bids to clean up the property and has had several prospects inquire about buying the property in an as-is condition. At this time, the finance company has not authorized payment of any money to initiate a



Batteries located at Clark County Dump Site near Grove Hill, Alabama

cleanup. The Department is presently awaiting notification of cleanup plans and timeline for this site.

BIBB COUNTY METH LAB

Bibb County

Reference #9333

The Bibb County Sheriff's office requested assistance from ADEM to sample the soil at a residence where they had raided and arrested the operators of an illegal drug lab producing Methamphetamine. ADEM personnel responded to the Sheriff's office and were taken to the site. The individuals had run a drain line from their process area and let the waste materials drain over the ground. Soil samples were collected and analyzed for VOCs and metals, but all constituents analyzed for were below detection limits. No further action was deemed necessary for this site.

COFFEE COUNTY EMA SITE

Coffee County

Reference # 9335

The Coffee County Emergency Management Agency contacted ADEM concerning a one-gallon plastic container found abandoned on the side of the road near Enterprise, Alabama. The container was labeled "Poison" and the county Emergency Management Agent requested assistance in proper handling and disposal of the materials. ADEM personnel responded and transported the unknown materials to the

ADEM Central Laboratory where it was analyzed and determined to be a 2-cycle engine oil/gasoline mixture. The container and materials were properly disposed of by the ADEM Laboratory.

LA CENTRAL AUTO DRUMS

Jefferson County

Reference #9336

ADEM was contacted by the Bessemer Fire Department regarding five (5) abandoned drums in poor condition located behind the former LA Central Auto Shop located at 229 3rd Avenue West, Birmingham, Alabama. ADEM personnel responded to the complaint, investigated the drums, and collected samples from the drums for analysis at the ADEM Central Laboratory. Laboratory results indicated the material in the drums was rainwater which had collected through the rusted areas in the drum tops and sides. No further action was deemed necessary for this site.



Drums located at the LA Central Auto Drum Site in Birmingham, Alabama

CHOCOLOCCO CREEK DRUM DUMP SITE

Talladega/Calhoun County

Reference #9337

The Choccolocco Creek Drums site consisted of a complaint received by ADEM of four (4) metal 55-gallon drums that had been illegally dumped into Choccolocco Creek. The site is located along the county lines of Calhoun and Talladega Counties



Drums Found In Choccolocco Creek near Oxford, Alabama

immediately south of the city of Oxford. ADEM personnel responded to the site and found two (2) drums in Choccolocco Creek. These drums, which were in poor condition, were removed from the creek and staged on the bank. The drums contained only creek water and were taken to an appropriate landfill for proper disposal.

SELMA BROWNFIELD RIVERFRONT PROPERTY

Dallas County

Reference #9338

The Selma Brownfields site consists of a six (6) acre block of land that can be divided into numerous business establishments that have either gone out of business or have been abandoned. ADEM is providing assistance to the City of Selma for the environmental assessment of each individual property in order to determine if there is a risk to the environment or to human health posed by the sites. The City of Selma intends on redeveloping the land into a riverfront park. The AHSCF fund is being used as a vehicle to monitor and track the amount of monies that the City of Selma is spending.

COUNTY ROAD 800 DRUMS

Chilton County

Reference #9346

ADEM was notified by the Chilton County Emergency Management Agency of five (5) abandoned drums located approximately 0.1 mile north of the intersection of



Abandoned Drums, County Road 800, Chilton County

County Road 800 and County Road 149. ADEM personnel responded to the complaint, screened the drums for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and consolidated the materials into two (2) drums. The drums were transported to a staging area where samples were taken from each drum and submitted to the ADEM Central Laboratory for analysis and characterization. Samples were analyzed for flashpoint, metals, VOCs, and PCBs. The materials were found to be waste oils with high water content. Appropriate disposal of the materials was contracted and the drums and materials were disposed of at a fuel blending operation. Charges for these operations are still pending.

FUSSY HILL ROAD DRUMS

Madison County

Reference #9360

The Fussy Hill drum site is located at 461 Fussy Hill Road in Huntsville, Alabama. The landowner originally contacted ADEM for guidance on thirty-six (36) drums that had been abandoned on site prior to his purchase of the property. In August 2004, ADEM coordinated with the Huntsville Fire Department and helped sample the contents of all 36 drums. The Huntsville Fire Department is equipped with a Haz Cat kit which helped the ADEM Central Laboratory determine which constituents to focus on during sample analysis. In return for use of the Haz Cat kit, the Fire Department was able to use this opportunity as a hazardous materials training exercise for the Emergency Response Team. Samples of solid materials from the drums delivered to the ADEM Central Laboratory were analyzed for metals. On-site testing with the Haz Cat kit determined that the liquid samples should be analyzed for

BTEX. The results from the analyses of these samples have not yet been received. The drums remain on site. Once analysis of the samples is complete, proper transportation and disposal at an appropriate facility will be arranged.

J & C TRUCK DRIVING SCHOOL DRUM SITE
Russell County
Reference #9363

ADEM received a complaint concerning buried drums from an individual who is leasing property at the C & J Truck Driver Training School near Phenix City, Alabama. The individual runs a heavy equipment training center on approximately 10 – 15 acres leased from C & J. During the instruction of one of their students on the operations of a track hoe, the student excavated what appeared to be a 55-gallon drum of used/waste oil from approximately 10 – 15 feet underground. The drum



Area Where Drum was Excavated by Student at J & C Site, Phenix City, Alabama

was damaged during the excavation exercise and leaked into the hole. The drum and remaining liquid was staged in a secure area away from training exercises, the pit was covered over, and the operator notified ADEM of the incident. ADEM personnel responded to the site, located at 5018 Highway 80 West, near Phenix City, Alabama.

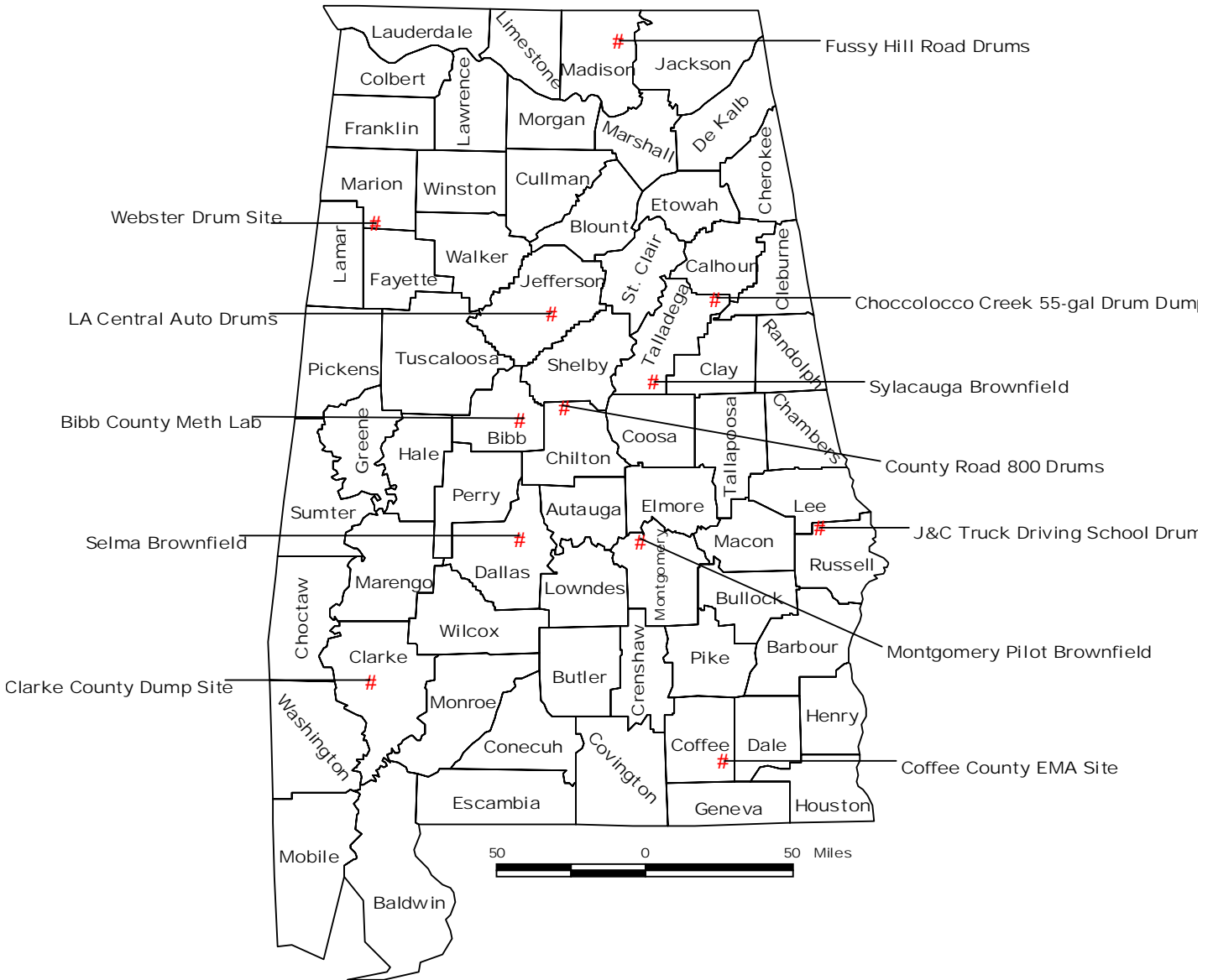
Using a magnetometer, an approximate 75 ft x 75 ft grid was investigated with the location of the discovered drum at its center. Three additional readings of possible buried drums were noted and locational data were collected by GPS. Investigators then ran a Chlor-N-Soil screening kit on soils where the drum had leaked. Results of the screening kit indicated PCBs above 50 ppm. This site has been referred to the RCRA Branch for future action under TSCA in reference the to possible PCB contamination.

AHSCF Expenditures for 2004 are summarized below:

Site Name	Action Taken	Cost
AHSCF General Management	Administrative, clerical support, Initial Investigations, equipment	10,959.49
Montgomery Pilot Brownfield	Groundwater, soil, surface water sampling	31,505.26
Sylacauga Brownfield	Groundwater, Soil, Surface water sampling, report compilation	11,588.46
Clarke County Dump	Investigation of complaint	1,348.91
Bibb County Meth Lab	Soil Sampling to assist Sheriff's Office	617.09
Coffee County EMA Site	Transport and proper disposal of container	353.86
LA Central Auto Drums	Investigation and sampling of 5 abandoned drums	434.48
Choccolocco Creek Drums	Investigation and disposal of drums in the creek	2,202.13
Selma Brownfield	Assistance to the City of Selma in assessing the 6 lots	4,340.47
Laboratory Costs - Total	All Sites	16,507.50
Total Cost		79,857.65

Note: Webster Drum Site originated as an AHSCF complaint. Other programs became involved in the cleanup and assessment of the site. Inclusion of this site in this report is an update to show completion of the site. County Road 800 drums still have expenses pending at this time. Fussy Hill has lab expenses incorporated in the total Laboratory costs and any site costs are still pending. Finally, C & J Truck Driving School still has charges yet to be applied to the site.

Alabama Hazardous Cleanup Fund (AHSCF) Annual Report: Fiscal Year 2004 Site Location Map



Site #	Site Name
348-9289	Webster Drum Site
348-9295	Montgomery Pilot Brownfield
348-9323	Sylacauga Brownfield
348-9332	Clarke County Dump Site
348-9333	Bibb County Meth Lab
348-9335	Coffee County EMA Site
348-9336	LA Central Auto Drums
348-9337	Choccolocco Creek 55-gal Drum Dump
348-9338	Selma Brownfield
348-9346	County Road 800 Drums
348-9360	Fussy Hill Road Drums
348-9363	J&C Truck Driving School Drums

