



*The mission of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality is to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of present and future generations of Mississippians by conserving and improving our environment and fostering wise economic growth through focused research and responsible regulation.*

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# Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

## Environmental News

VOL. 14 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2017

### Beach Outfalls Challenge

The goal of the Beach Outfalls Challenge is to enhance Mississippi's ability to restore and maintain ecological integrity of priority bays and estuaries by providing measurable improvements to water quality and reducing significant sources of degradation.

Members of the public, companies, students and other entities are invited to submit their ideas to improve the design of the beach outfalls along the Mississippi Gulf Coast. A panel of judges will review all submitted ideas and will name three winners who will have their solution designed and implemented in pilot-scale demonstrations.

Registration for the Beach Outfalls Challenge began January 9, and is scheduled to remain open until March 15, 2017. To review the rules or to register, go to <http://beachoutfallschallenge.org/registration/>. For any questions, please visit [www.beachoutfallschallenge.org](http://www.beachoutfallschallenge.org) or email the Beach Outfalls Challenge Administrators at [info@beachoutfallschallenge.org](mailto:info@beachoutfallschallenge.org).

#### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

January 9, 2017 Registration Opens!	April 8 - 20, 2017 Compliant Design Submissions will be reviewed by the Judging Panel and up to 12 Semi-Finalists will be announced.
March 15, 2017 Registration Deadline.	May 5, 2017 The Semi-Finalists must prepare a video for public voting by 5:00 PM CST.
March 31, 2017 All Design Submissions are due from all approved Registered Competitors by 5:00 PM CST.	May 8 - June 2, 2017 The public voting period will be open.
April 1-7, 2017 Design Submissions will be reviewed and a Compliance Cull will be completed by MDEQ.	June 8, 2017 Announcement of up to six Finalists.
	Late June 2017 Finalists present at the Beach Outfalls Challenge Showcase! Exact date TBD.



## Nissan enHance Project

MDEQ's enHance program recognizes environmental leaders in the state that make a commitment to address and achieve ongoing environmental improvements. This newsletter will highlight in the next several issues projects by enHance members.

Nissan North America in Canton has been a member of the enHance program at the Leader level since 2011. Following is more information about their chillers project.

### What was your project?

The project was an upgrade to the controls on the chillers at our Canton Utilities Plant—the largest chiller plant in the State of Mississippi. It supplies the Nissan Canton Vehicle Assembly Plant with chilled water, and it is comprised of several large chillers, condenser water pumps, secondary chiller water pumps, and air compressors. At its peak in the summer, it used 16.6 MW of power.

The project optimized the pumps by shutting the primary pumps off and pulling water through the system with secondary pumps. This not only saved energy from the primary pumps but also lowered the thermal loads the pumps were adding to the system. More efficient, variable speed drives were also added to the condenser pumps. In addition, chiller water temperatures and chiller sequence were optimized.



Canton Utilities Plant



### What gave you the idea for your project?

At the World Energy Engineering Congress Automobile EPA meetings, one of the other automobile companies showed a project that they did to upgrade their chiller controls. Nissan researched the project and saw that we could get large savings at our plant.

### What were the total savings?

Approximately 8,308,000 kwhr per year, enough to power 760 households for a year, 3,504 Metric Tons of CO2 equivalent, more than the tailpipe emission from 740 passenger cars in a year, and a cost savings of \$498,480 in a year.

### How is this transferable to smaller facilities?

Many businesses have similar equipment to Nissan's chiller plant, just a smaller size. Facilities could benefit by measuring their energy usage, benchmarking the results to similar facilities, then optimizing equipment accordingly.



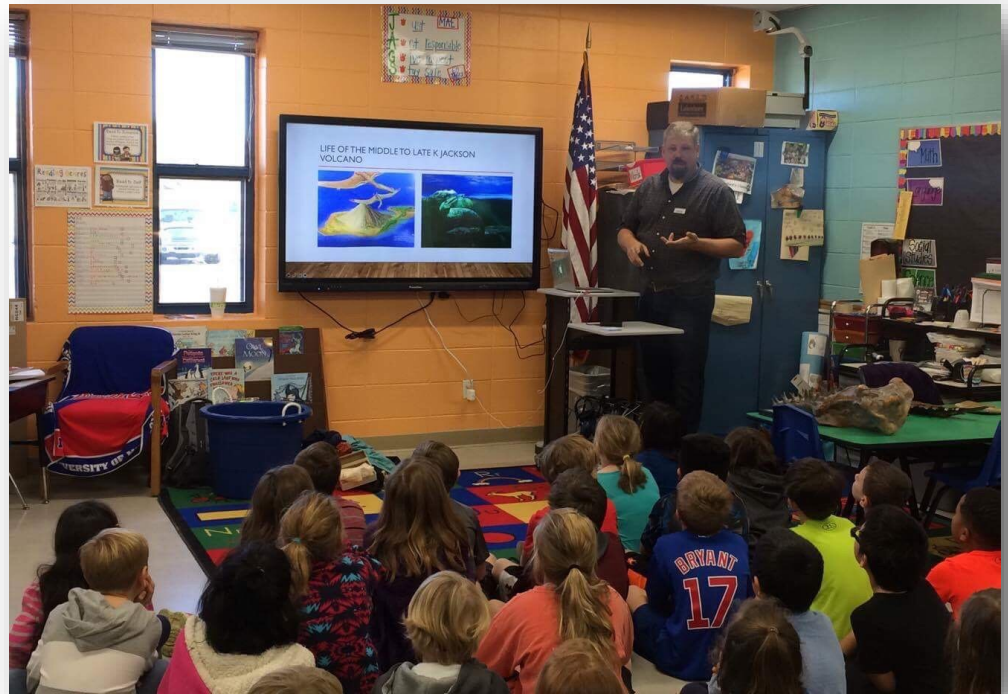
Chillers at the Nissan facility



## Geology Outreach

Top: In January, MDEQ's Paul Parrish spoke to 150 second graders in three presentations at Madison Avenue Elementary School about the Jackson volcano and fossils in the area. He also spoke to 50 fifth graders at Boyd Elementary School in Jackson.

Bottom: James Starnes addressed the February 7 meeting of the Jackson Area Chapter of the Mississippi Archaeological Association in Madison. He presented information on the geology of Mississippi and how geology and archaeology are intertwined.



## MDEQ To Host Rubbish Site Operator Training in April

MDEQ is hosting the Mississippi training course for Class I rubbish site operators on Wednesday, April 26, and Thursday, April 27, at the Millsaps Cabot Lodge on North State Street in Jackson. The course fulfills state training and testing requirements for the Class I Rubbish Site Operator Certification and updates general knowledge of Class I rubbish site regulatory and operational requirements. MDEQ will also allow currently-certified operators to attend the course as a refresher course for Continuing Education Units (CEUs).



The course is a day and a half class with a written examination on the second day. Persons who attend the course, pass the written examination, and meet the experience and education requirements may apply to MDEQ for a certificate of competency for a Class I rubbish site operator. The examination will not be required for those operators attending for CEUs only. All attendees that complete the class will receive 10 hours of CEUs that can be applied towards renewal of their certification. There is no registration cost for the training. However, all lodging, meal, and transportation costs are the responsibility of the attendees.

Course instructors will include the staff of MDEQ and FTN Associates, Ltd. Advance registration for the course is required. For additional information on the training course and details about registration, contact Mark Williams with MDEQ at 601-961-5304 or visit the MDEQ solid waste program web page at: [www.deq.state.ms.us/solidwaste](http://www.deq.state.ms.us/solidwaste).

## Solid Waste Management Facility Annual Reporting

**Due February 28**

The annual report on solid waste management or disposal activities conducted during Calendar Year 2016 by owners and operators of all solid waste management facilities is due to the agency no later than February 28, 2017. These reporting requirements apply to landfills, rubbish sites, transfer stations, land application sites, processing facilities, composting facilities, and beneficial use determinations.

Facility specific reporting notifications and forms will be available in late January. Electronic forms will be available at [www.deq.state.ms.us/solidwaste](http://www.deq.state.ms.us/solidwaste). To access the forms, click on “Solid Waste Reporting” on the left hand side of the page. Hard copies of these forms will also be mailed to all facility owners and operators in late January.

Operators are asked to submit two copies of the completed Annual Reporting Form and the supporting information. Forms should be completed and submitted for all solid waste facilities with a valid solid waste management permit or authorization, even if the facility was inactive during the calendar year. For questions or for more information, contact Trent Jones at 601-961-5726 or [tjones@mdeq.ms.gov](mailto:tjones@mdeq.ms.gov).







## MRC Announces School Grant Award Recipients

The Mississippi Recycling Coalition (MRC) announced in February the five schools to receive Mississippi School Recycling Grants for the 2016 to 2017 school year. These grants include a \$500 or \$1,000 cash award and a complimentary one-year membership to the Coalition.

**Batesville Junior High School** -- the school plans to use the grant funds to purchase additional recycling bins to be used in the classrooms and bins to be used to collect special materials. In addition, the school will use some of the funds for supplies to help make the collection of recyclables cleaner, easier, and more efficient including can liners, labels for bins, and other items. The school plans to continue the collection of aluminum cans, plastics, and paper and will begin collecting batteries, glue sticks, pencils, pens, and markers for recycling.

**Guntown Middle School** -- is awarded a grant to start a new school recycling program and will purchase recycling bins to be distributed across the campus. The school will use the remaining funds on supplies such as bin liners and other materials used to promote the recycling program and educate students and faculty on the benefits of recycling. The school plans to collect aluminum cans, plastics, paper, and paper goods.

**New Albany Elementary School** -- will use the grant to assist with their new "Recycling Wednesdays" program for which students and faculty are encouraged to bring recyclables from home to place in the school's recycling bins. The school intends to purchase a large collection bin to allow for more materials to be collected and stored prior to pick up. In addition, the City of New Albany has agreed to partner with the school by picking up and transporting recyclables collected in the new bin to a recycling facility in Tupelo. The school plans to continue collecting plastics, paper, and paper goods and hopes to expand the program to offering recycling on additional days of the week.

**Philadelphia Elementary School** – will use the funding for a new composting program. The grant funds will be used to purchase items needed to collect, transport, and process compostable materials into compost to be used in the school garden. In addition, some funds will be used to help educate and promote the composting program and home composting to students, faculty, and the community. The school also plans to compost food wastes from the cafeteria.

**Southeast Lauderdale High School** -- the grant funds will be used to purchase and install a bottle filling station in a central location at the school to be used by students, faculty, and staff. Additional installation costs will be covered by the Student Council and the Lauderdale County School District. The goal of this project is to decrease the number of plastic bottles being thrown away and to promote and educate the community on the importance of waste reduction, reuse, and recycling.

A panel of MRC members evaluated each school grant application received based on the reuse, recycling, and composting components of the program; the amount of student leadership and student participation; the emphasis on educating students on the benefits of recycling; and, community involvement, participation, and outreach. The panel also considered creativity, technical design, sustainability, and maximization of resources.

The Mississippi Recycling Coalition is a consortium of recycling companies, local governments, state and federal agencies, trade associations, manufacturers, and other organizations interested in promoting recycling, reuse, waste reduction, and composting in Mississippi. MDEQ serves as a primary sponsor and host organization for the MRC as part of its directive to promote and grow recycling in the state. More information can be found at [www.msrecycles.org](http://www.msrecycles.org).





## National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

The next Prescription Drug Take-Back Day sponsored by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration will be April 29, 2017, nationwide, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Use this website beginning April 1 to find local collection sites:

[http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug\\_disposal/takeback/index.html](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html).

The National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day provides a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications. In addition, taking advantage of this opportunity keeps prescription medication out of the household waste stream and from being flushed down toilets.



**BE RESPONSIBLE.  
DON'T FLUSH YOUR MEDS.**



Collection event in Long Beach, California, from *The Signal Tribune*.



# AGRICULTURAL PESTICIDE DISPOSAL DAY

**WHEN:**

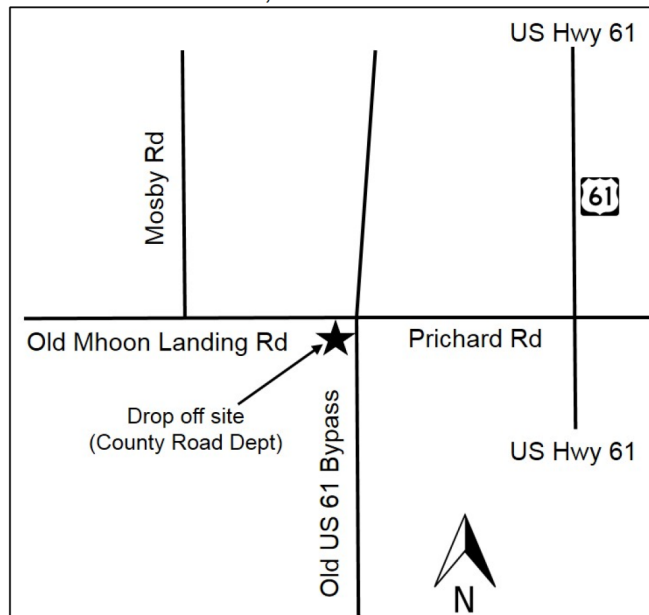
Thursday  
02/23/2017

**WHERE:**

Tunica County Road Dept.  
5250 Old Mhoon Landing Road  
Tunica, MS 38676

**TIME:**

8:00 am-3:00 pm



Call your county Extension office  
For more information.

## Waste Pesticides Accepted

Insecticides • Herbicides • Fungicides • Other Pesticide Products

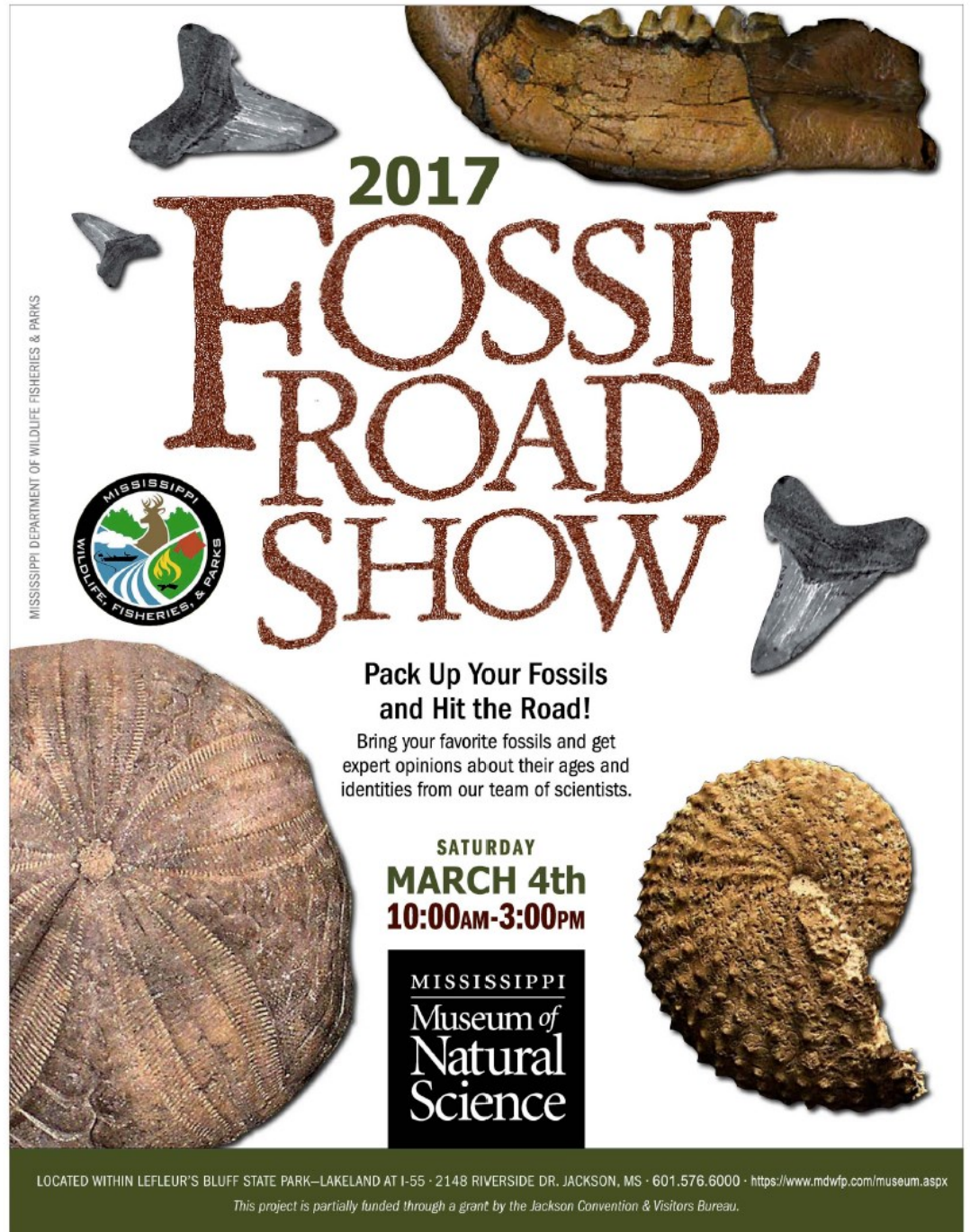
Automobile, light truck-sized, and tractor waste tires from  
the farm can also be dropped off for recycling.

RINSATES AND BULK CONTAINERS ARE NOT ACCEPTED!

**FREE TO MS FARMERS**



MDEQ Geologists will be participating as experts to identify your finds!



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE FISHERIES & PARKS

MISSISSIPPI  
WILDLIFE, FISHERIES, & PARKS

# 2017 FOSSIL ROAD SHOW

**Pack Up Your Fossils  
and Hit the Road!**

Bring your favorite fossils and get expert opinions about their ages and identities from our team of scientists.

**SATURDAY  
MARCH 4th  
10:00AM-3:00PM**

**MISSISSIPPI  
Museum of  
Natural  
Science**

LOCATED WITHIN LEFLEUR'S BLUFF STATE PARK—LAKELAND AT I-55 • 2148 RIVERSIDE DR. JACKSON, MS • 601.576.6000 • <https://www.mdwfp.com/museum.aspx>

*This project is partially funded through a grant by the Jackson Convention & Visitors Bureau.*





## MDEQ Environmental Action Links

- Draft permits currently at public notice, <http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/publicnotice.aspx>
- Environmental Permits Division Scheduled Public Hearings, <http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/publichearingheader.aspx>
- Geology Permit Application Public Notice, [http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/geology\\_public\\_notice.aspx](http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/geology_public_notice.aspx)
- Permits and certificates issued in the last 90 days, [http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/report\\_permits.aspx](http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/report_permits.aspx)
- General permit coverages issued in the last 90 days, [http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/report\\_gnp\\_issued.aspx](http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/report_gnp_issued.aspx)
- Notices of Intent for coverage under a Statewide General permit received by the Environmental Permits Division, [http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/report\\_gnp\\_notice.aspx](http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/report_gnp_notice.aspx)
- List of the 401 Water Quality Certifications currently at public notice, [http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/report\\_wqc\\_public\\_notice.aspx](http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/report_wqc_public_notice.aspx)
- List of the compliance inspections recently conducted, [http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/report\\_eced\\_tasks.aspx](http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/report_eced_tasks.aspx)
- Orders issued by the Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality, [http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/report\\_orders.aspx](http://opc.deq.state.ms.us/report_orders.aspx)

## Connect with MDEQ



## MDEQ Social Media



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**[www.deq.state.ms.us](http://www.deq.state.ms.us)**

## Picture of the Month

Deer Island

By Trent Jones,  
Waste Division.

