



*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. 15 ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2018

### **MDEQ Building Named for Nunnelee**

On January 11, a building dedication ceremony and plaque unveiling was held for the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality's (MDEQ) building in downtown Jackson. A bill was passed by the Mississippi Legislature in the 2017 session to rename the MDEQ building on East Amite Street after former Congressman Alan Nunnelee. Alan Nunnelee represented the citizens of Mississippi's First Congressional District from 2011 until his passing in 2015. He served on the House Appropriations Committee and the Agriculture, Energy and Water and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Subcommittees.



Alan Nunnelee's nephew, Clarke Wise, and Gov. Bryant unveil the plaque for the building.

Before joining the 112th Congress, Nunnelee represented Lee and Pontotoc counties in the Mississippi State Senate from 1995 to 2010. He served as chairman of the Appropriations Committee, the Public Health Committee, and the Environment Protection, Conservation and Water Resources Committee.

Speakers for the event included Governor Phil Bryant, Lieutenant Governor Tate Reeves, and Speaker Philip Gunn who all paid tribute to Congressman Nunnelee. Other elected officials in attendance were Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann, State Treasurer Lynn Fitch, Agriculture Commissioner Cindy Hyde-Smith, Transportation Commissioner Dick Hall, Tupelo Mayor Jason Shelton, and Gulfport Mayor Billy Hewes along with many members of the Mississippi State Senate and House of Representatives. In addition, members of the Nunnelee family and a host of their friends attended the ceremony.

The plaque will reside in the building's lobby and lettering was added to the exterior of the building.





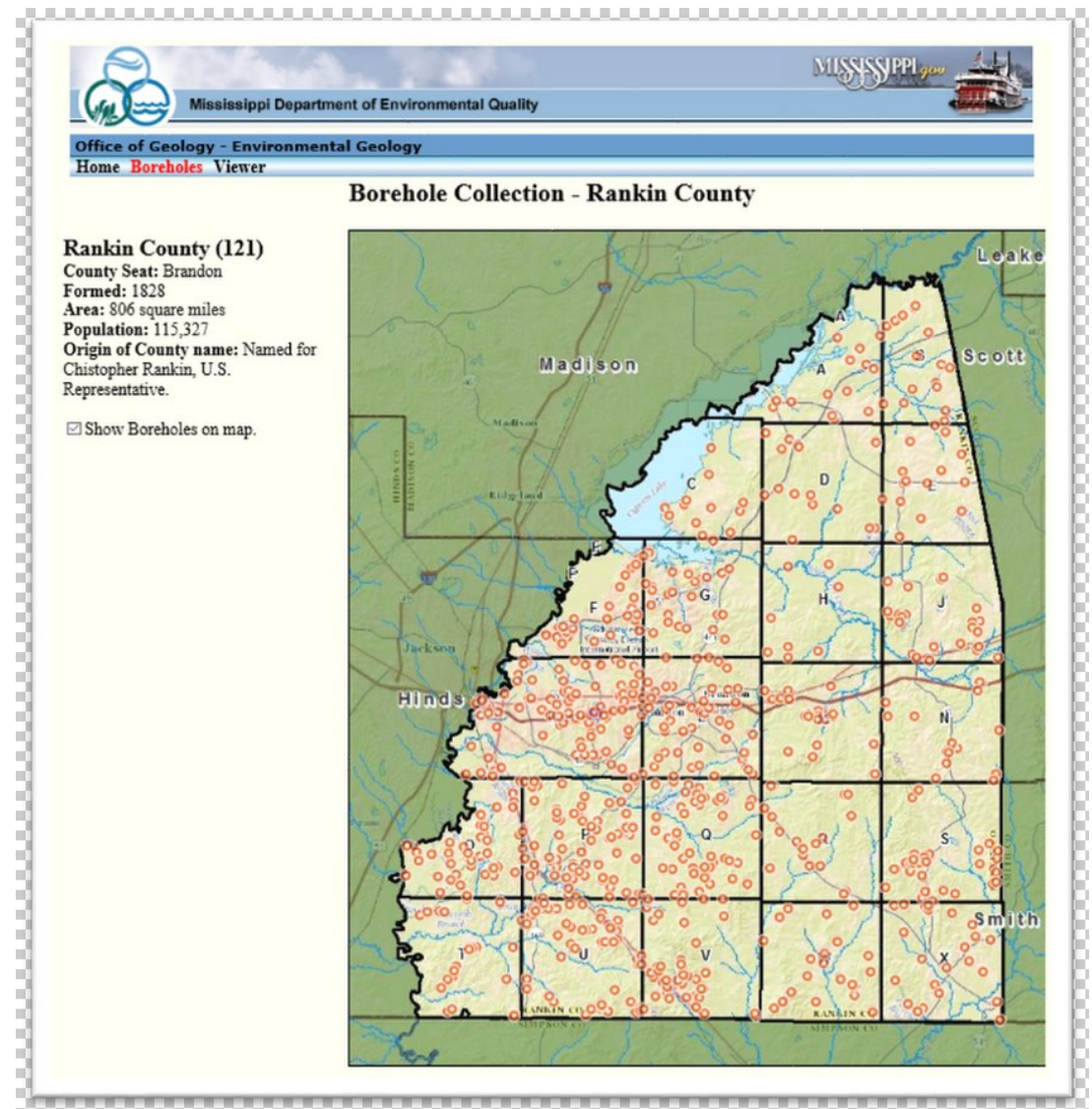


## New Webpage for Geophysical Logging Program

Paul Parrish, RPG, and Andrew Newcomb, Office of Geology


The Office of Geology and its Environmental Geology Division house a shallow geophysical log collection that dates to 1919. The division's current geophysical logging program is continually adding to the collection through the logging program and donations from private industry. The collection is comprised of 10,155 logs of which 10,092 were uploaded to the [division's new web page](#).

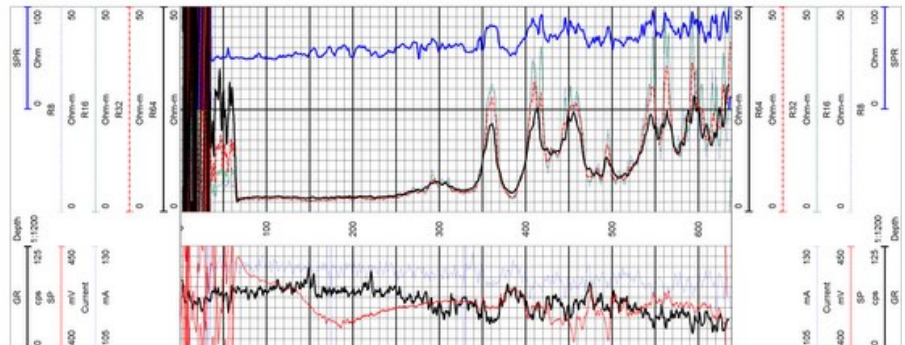
Borehole geophysics is the science of recording and analyzing measurements of physical properties made in wells or test holes. Probes that measure different properties are lowered into the borehole to collect continuous or point data that is graphically displayed as a geophysical log. The logs are then interpreted by geologists for specific information about the subsurface geology and hydrogeology.



The new web page is the result of several years of work and includes all of the historic collection scanned into digital format. A database was developed to include as many borehole attributes as were available. Accurate location information was developed for the database from the borehole header data and from site visits while logging in the field. The resulting geodatabase allowed for a GIS-based web tool that will allow agency staff, industry, and private stakeholders to have updated geophysical information at their fingertips. The user-friendly web page went live in July of 2017, and accrued more than 7,000 page views in the next two and a half months. Currently the page has been viewed around 12,000 times with most of the interest coming from Mississippi and Alabama. Several suggestions from users have been taken into account, and added to the capabilities of the tool.

This web page is a living page and includes all of the programs within the Environmental Geology Division along with contact information for each program. Updates are occurring frequently, and a news tab has been created to highlight some of the activities that have been undertaken by the division.

MISSISSIPPI OFFICE of GEOLOGY							
 Office of Geology		COMPANY Water Well Services		E-LOG FILE #		N-0047	
		CLIENT Ray Morris					
		WELL I D Th #1, Well #1					
		COUNTY Rankin STATE MS					
		LOCATION 32 17 15 N / 89 44 59 W ***GPS*** NE/4, NW/4, NE/4, SE/4					
		SEC 11 TWP 5N RGE 5E					
PERMANENT DATUM MSL		ELEVATION 379'±		K.B.			
LOG MEAS. FROM Ground Level		ABOVE PERM. DATUM		D.F.			
DRILLING MEAS. FROM Ground Level		G.L. 379'					
DATE 16 June 2016		TYPE FLUID IN HOLE drilling mud					
RUN No 2		SALINITY					
TYPE LOG GRP/SP/CC/ROR/R16/R2/R4		DENSITY					
DEPTH-DRILLER 640'		LEVEL		Hole Full			
DEPTH-LOGGER 639'		MAX. REC. TEMP.					
ENGINEER Randy Quarles, ESI		Log Spliced at					
GEOLOGIST		Digital File Name www23rankin					
DRILLER Will Barlow		MOG File # RANKN0047					
RECORDED BY Andrew Newcomb-GIT							
WITNESSED BY Will Barlow							
RUN BOREHOLE RECORD		CASINO RECORD					
NO.	HT	FROM	TO	SIZE	WGT.	FROM	TO
2	10.000"	0'	35'	10.000"	PVC	0'	35'
2	6.000"	35'	640'	Open	Hole	35'	640'
ELD523121N0047A		ELD123121N0047B					



## RESTORE Project to Improve Water Quality

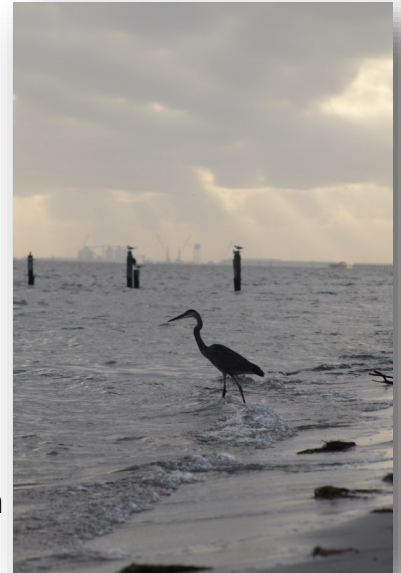
Stream degradation and water quality are pervasive problems across Mississippi's coastal counties. Common threats and stressors to coastal streams include urban development, invasive species, and sedimentation which impact ecological function and decrease water quality moving into the Mississippi Sound. Water quality entering the Sound can be improved with strategic stream restoration projects.

For these reasons, MDEQ is implementing the Strategic Stream Restoration program funded under the Direct Component, or "Bucket 1," of the RESTORE Act. The project is included in the state's Multiyear Implementation Plan and a grant was awarded by the U.S. Department of the Treasury to MDEQ for \$5 million in September of 2017.

To increase efficiency, and as part of MDEQ's goal to integrate where possible all restoration funding streams, the project leverages with the Coastal Stream and Habitat Initiative project funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund. That project partnered with The Nature Conservancy and Audubon Mississippi to engage stakeholders across the Mississippi landscape to examine and formulate a plan to restore coastal streams coast-wide.

Investing in stream restoration provides multiple ecological benefits including water quality improvements, habitat restoration and enhancement, improved stormwater management, and enhanced outdoor recreation areas for residents and tourists. Restoration actions associated with stream restoration includes land conservation strategies, habitat restoration actions to assist with invasive species management, reconnecting streams with floodplains, creating riparian buffers of native plant species, as well as wetland creation and restoration within a stream channel. Restoration measures could also include hydrological restoration of original channel shapes, recontouring stream banks, and creating impoundments to reduce the erosive power of streams during storm events.

MDEQ and the residents of the Coast recognize that improving water quality is a vital part of the restoration process. Through this project, and several others, real progress will be made to improve the natural resources of South Mississippi.





## MDEQ Helps Girl Scout Troop 3960

Several women from MDEQ lent their time and expertise to help Daisies from Girl Scout Troop 3960 in Ridgeland earn their "Model Car Design Challenge" badges. In order to receive their badges, the girls learned basic engineering principles then designed and constructed their own model cars. Volunteers from MDEQ led



two sessions for the girls, and activity stations were provided at the first meeting to introduce the concepts of friction, force, and design. The Daisies also chose the shape and design of the wooden cars that they would be constructing and racing.

A second meeting was held for the troop to decorate their cars, attach wheels, and add washers to reach regulation weight. The girls raced their new cars in the FormulaGIRL Derby on January 20. Awards were given based on speed as well as theme and sportsmanship. The Troop won the Best Sportsmanship trophy at the race and were awarded the trophy by Lieutenant Governor Tate Reeves.

MDEQ volunteers included Haley Sims, Leah Drinnon, Caitlyn Atkins, Laura James, Lynn Bradshaw, Brittany McCrary, and Sara Beasley. Monetary donations were used to cover the troop's FormulaGIRL Derby registration fee and to provide car kits, supplies, and t-shirts. Congratulations to these girls on earning their "Model Car Design Challenge" badges!



## MRC Recycling Awareness Day at the State Capitol

The Mississippi Recycling Coalition (MRC) is holding its annual Recycling Legislative Awareness Day event at the State Capitol on Wednesday, February 7, from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. This year's event will be jointly hosted with Keep Mississippi Beautiful and will include an Ice Cream Social with State Legislators and other elected officials in the first floor rotunda area. The event will promote the positive impact that the recycling industry is having on Mississippi's economy and environment to the state's elected officials.



The MRC will also recognize the "Recyclers of the Year" for 2017 at the event with the organization's annual "Environmental Hero" awards. The awards recognize extraordinary recycling efforts among business, government and institutions in the state.

For more information on the MRC or the upcoming Recycling Legislative Awareness Day event, please visit the MRC [web page](#) or contact Jennifer Milner at 601-961-5739 or [jmilner@mdeq.ms.gov](mailto:jmilner@mdeq.ms.gov). Also, be sure to like the MRC on [Facebook](#) and follow them on [Twitter](#) for event updates and other recycling news and information.







## **SAVE THE DATE: enHance Workshop Scheduled for April 5th**

The enHance environmental stewardship workshop and awards luncheon in downtown Jackson will be held Thursday, April 5, 2018, beginning at 8:00 a.m. This annual event is sponsored by MDEQ and the Mississippi Manufacturers Association, and this year's workshop will celebrate the tenth anniversary of the program.

The workshop will provide information concerning the principles of environmental stewardship, lean manufacturing, waste reduction through best management practices, presentations, and case studies. The workshop is also a great opportunity to network with Mississippi's environmental stewardship leaders.

**When:** Thursday, April 5, 2018, 8:00 a.m.

**Where:** Jackson Marriott Downtown, 200 East Amite Street, Jackson, 39201.

For more information, contact Mr. Khairy Abu-Salah with MDEQ at [KAbuSalah@mdeq.ms.gov](mailto:KAbuSalah@mdeq.ms.gov) and 601-961-5284 or Mr. Mark Williams at [mwilliams@mdeq.ms.gov](mailto:mwilliams@mdeq.ms.gov) and 601-961-5304.

More information about the program is available at [www.enhance.ms](http://www.enhance.ms).



2017 workshop presentation from Nissan.





## MDEQ Environmental Action Links

- [Draft permits currently at public notice](#)
- [Environmental Permits Division Scheduled Public Hearings](#)
- [Geology Permit Application Public Notice](#)
- [Permits and certificates issued in the last 90 days](#)
- [General permit coverages issued in the last 90 days](#)
- [Notices of Intent for coverage under a Statewide General permit received by the Environmental Permits Division](#)
- [List of the 401 Water Quality Certifications currently at public notice](#)
- [List of the compliance inspections recently conducted](#)
- [Orders issued by the Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality](#)



Connect with MDEQ



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YouTube

### Picture of the Month

Along the Reservoir  
Botanical Gardens'  
trail in Rankin County.

Taken by James  
Starnes, Office of Ge-  
ology.

