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### **MDEQ Awards Solid Waste Assistance Grants to Leake County**

(Jackson, Miss.) -- The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) awarded Leake County a solid waste assistance grant of \$34,209 that will be used by the county for a solid waste enforcement officer.

The county also received a \$21,745 two-year waste tire grant to continue the local waste tire collection program for small quantity generators of waste tires.

“The Solid Waste Assistance Grants support a variety of useful solid waste management activities for cities and counties, and this grant will assist Leake County’s efforts in improving their management of solid waste,” said Gary Rikard, MDEQ Executive Director.

Cities and counties may apply for Solid Waste Assistance Grants through the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality. These grants are used by local communities for programs to prevent and clean up unauthorized dumps; to aid in hiring local solid waste enforcement officers; for public education efforts on solid waste disposal and recycling; and to establish programs for the collection of white goods, bulky wastes and recyclables.

Funding for waste tire grants is provided by a waste tire account funded from a fee charged on the wholesale sale of every new motor vehicle tire sold in Mississippi. This fee provides the funds to ensure and encourage the proper management and disposal of waste tires.

Information about this grant program and other initiatives is available at [www.deq.state.ms.us/solidwaste](http://www.deq.state.ms.us/solidwaste).

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