



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
PHIL BRYANT, GOVERNOR

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
GARY C. RIKARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 29, 2015
Contact: Robbie Wilbur
601/961-5277

MDEQ To Conduct Survey On Leaf River
Harmless Red Dye will be Noticeable

(JACKSON, Miss.) -- The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) will be installing electronic monitoring equipment on Monday, October 5, to help conduct a water quality sampling survey on the Leaf River from Hattiesburg to Beaumont. During the survey, a bright red, non-toxic dye will be released into the water. This dye is not toxic or hazardous. People should not be alarmed if they notice red coloration in the water. The dye is not harmful to people, plants, wildlife, fish, or seafood.

Residents are asked not to tamper with the equipment that will be mounted on rebar, fence posts, PVC poles, or buoys. The survey is scheduled from October 5 to 9, and the equipment will be removed. The dye will dissipate quickly in the water; and the waterbody will return to its normal state and color.

###