

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MDEQ ACCEPTING SOLID WASTE ASSISTANCE GRANTS APPLICATIONS

(JACKSON, Miss.) -- The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) announced today that they are accepting applications for competitive solid waste assistance grants from local government organizations. These grant funds are available for municipalities, counties and regional solid waste management authorities, and applications must be received by MDEQ by October 1, 2011, in order to be considered in this funding cycle.

These grants are provided through the local government Solid Waste Assistance Fund and are used by municipalities, counties, regional solid waste management authorities and other multi-county entities for one or more of the following purposes:

- Clean up of existing and future unauthorized dumps on public or private property;
- Establishment of a collection center or program for white goods, recyclables or other bulky rubbish waste not managed by local residential solid waste collection programs;
- Provision of public notice and education related to the proper management of solid waste, including recycling;
- Payment of a maximum of 50 percent of the cost of employing a local solid waste enforcement officer;
- Payment of a maximum of 75 percent of the cost of conducting household hazardous waste collection day programs; and,
- Development of other solid waste management program activities associated with the prevention, enforcement or abatement of unauthorized dumps, as approved by the Commission on Environmental Quality.

These competitive grant applications are accepted twice a year: April 1 and October 1. For more information, or to request a grant application, contact Luis Murillo or Denise Wilson at (601) 961-5171, or visit www.deq.state.ms.us/solidwaste.

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