



Alabama Chapter Newsletter

GREETINGS FROM THE ALABAMA CHAPTER CHAIR

As meetings and conferences pick up the pace again, we are excited for signs of moving a little closer to normalcy! We've provided a few dates to mark on your calendar, including especially the A&WMA Southern Section meeting in Chattanooga on September 20-22. Please keep your eyes peeled for hotel and registration information. Also, we hope to resume dinner meetings soon, and we are close to finalizing arrangements for an ADEM regulatory conference in the fall. More information to come!

Also, please tell any undergraduate students you may know in environmental sciences that we are again offering scholarships. Information on how to apply is included in this newsletter. Most importantly, the application deadline is coming up quickly – June 30, 2022. We hope to make awards in time to offer assistance this fall.

Thank you for participating in A&WMA! If there's any way your Alabama chapter can better serve you, please feel free to reach out to me (sburns@balch.com) or any of our board members.

Steven Burns

STATE PARK PAVED WITH ASPHALT MADE WITH RECYCLED TIRES

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management and the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources have resurfaced roads and parking areas at Lake Guntersville State Park using asphalt modified with rubber from recycled tires. The project was paid for in part by an \$829,080 grant from ADEM to Alabama State Parks, with funding from the state's Scrap Tire Fund administered by ADEM. One dollar from the sale of each tire goes into the fund, which

is used to remove scrap tires from illegal dumps, along roadsides and other places, as well as promoting used tire recycling.

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HOW CAN WE HELP?

If there is something you would like to see in an upcoming newsletter or an event you would love to attend, please let us know!

ALAWMA@GMAIL.COM

2022 CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP

The Alabama Chapter is happy to announce that it will be awarding up to two \$1,000 Environmental Scholarships to students attending an Alabama college or university. Eligible candidates should be undergraduate students or graduating seniors pursuing a scientific degree in an environmentally-related field. Environmental degree programs qualify, as well as any science-based degree program with additional environmental exposure, such as an environmental co-op. The deadline for scholarship sub-mission is June 30, 2022.

The application as well as any additional information regarding this scholarship will be posted to the website and provided to state colleges and universities. If you know of any eligible candidates, please encourage them to apply.

[SS-AWMA.ORG/ALSCHOLARSHIP.HTML](https://ss-awma.org/alscholarship.html)

ADEM BREAKS GROUND ON NEW MOBILE FIELD OFFICE

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management has broken ground on a new field office in Mobile. The new, state-of-the-art facility will be located on South Broad Street near Duval Street.

The project is mostly funded by settlement money from the 2010 BP oil spill. The rest comes from funds approved by the Alabama Legislature.

The new building will bring under one roof approximately 30 Departmental staff who have been working for years in old buildings that are more than nine miles apart and severely outdated. The 15,000-square-foot building will allow more efficient environmental protection services in the biodiverse-rich coastal area, and complement Mobile's redevelopment efforts in the area.

At the ribbon cutting ceremony on April 22, ADEM Director Lance LeFleur said the project would greatly benefit ADEM, Mobile, and the entire coastal area.

"Very few places on Earth have the ecological riches of the Mobile Delta," said LeFleur. "ADEM will continue to play an important role in protecting these natural assets, and the new field office will enable our staff to have the modern resources it needs to carry out the Department's mission."

Source: ADEM Insider, May 10, 2022.



On Earth Day 2022, ADEM broke ground on its new field office in Mobile

MEMBERSHIP

Thank you for your continued support of the Alabama Chapter of the Air and Waste Management Association.

If you missed our recent membership drive, you can still pay by check or PayPal using the membership form on our website

ss-awma.org/alabama

UPCOMING TRAINING & EVENTS

June 27-30	A&WMA 115th Annual Conference and Exhibition , San Francisco, CA
August 23-24	ADEM UST Assessment and Remediation Conference & Groundwater Conference , Wetumpka, AL
This Fall	Air & Waste Regulatory Update (sponsored by AWMA & ADEM), Montgomery, AL
September 13-15	A&WMA Guideline on Air Quality Models Conference, Durham, NC
September 20-22	A&WMA Southern Section Meeting, Chattanooga, TN
November 2-3	A&WMA New Source Review Workshop, Atlanta, GA
November 8-10	A&WMA The Science of PFAS, Durham, NC

*Cont. from page 1...*The ADEM grant covered the costs of repaving access roads and parking areas for the park's marina and lodge. In addition, ADCNR paid for the paving of additional roads in the park with the special asphalt, which is stronger, smoother, and will last longer than traditional paving options.

According to research by the University of Missouri and the U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association, asphalt made with ground-up tires has many advantages over regular asphalt. It lasts up to 50 percent longer and is less prone to potholes and cracking. Rubber-modified asphalt reduces tire wear, improves fuel mileage and is safer due to better traction. It is also easier to use, because it does not stick as much to machinery and hand tools.

SOURCE: ADEM INSIDER, MAY 10, 2022.

PFAS REGULATORY ROUNDUP

This is a snapshot of recent EPA actions on PFAS. For more information and to access source materials, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/pfas/epa-actions-address-pfas>

- Clean Water PFAS Actions. In April 2022, EPA announced three clean water actions that advance progress under EPA's PFAS Strategic Roadmap.
 - Draft Aquatic Life Criteria for PFOA and PFOS: EPA proposed the first Clean Water Act aquatic life criteria for PFAS, focusing on two of the most well-studied chemicals in this group: PFOA and PFOS. According to EPA, the draft recommendations reflect the latest peer-reviewed scientific knowledge regarding the toxicological effects of PFOA and PFOS on freshwater aquatic organisms.
 - Addressing PFAS in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permitting: EPA issued a memo to use its Clean Water Act permitting authorities to reduce discharges of PFAS at the source and to obtain more comprehensive monitoring information on potential sources of PFAS. The memo applies to Clean Water Act programs EPA oversees. EPA plans to issue a subsequent memo that provides guidance to state permitting authorities.
 - Draft Adsorbable Organic Fluorine Method: EPA published a new draft method to measure for Adsorbable Organic Fluorine in water samples. According to EPA, draft EPA method 1621 can broadly screen for the presence of chemical substances that contain carbon-fluorine bonds, including PFAS.
- Expanding PFAS Monitoring in Drinking Water. On December 27, 2021, EPA published the final fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, which will require sample collection for 29 PFAS between 2023 and 2025. Consistent with EPA's PFAS Strategic Roadmap, UCMR 5 will provide new data to help determine the frequency that 29 PFAS (and lithium) are found in the nation's drinking water systems and at what levels.
- Science Advisory Board Review of Draft PFOA/PFOS Scientific Documents. In November 2021, EPA asked the agency's Science Advisory Board to review four draft scientific documents including recent scientific data and new analyses that indicate that negative health effects may occur at much lower levels of exposure to PFOA and PFOS than previously understood and that PFOA is a likely carcinogen.
- Initiation of Two Rulemaking Efforts Under RCRA. In October 2021, EPA announced steps toward evaluating the existing data for four PFAS under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and authorizing PFAS cleanups through the RCRA corrective action process.
- Final Human Health Toxicity Assessment for GenX Chemicals. In October 2021, the Agency published a final human health toxicity assessment for GenX chemicals following peer review and public comment.
- National PFAS Testing Strategy. In October 2021, EPA announced that the Agency is developing a national PFAS testing strategy that intends to use its Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) authorities to require PFAS manufacturers to provide information on PFAS.
- PFBA Toxicity Assessment Released for Public Comment. In August 2021, EPA released a draft assessment of the human health hazards of PFBA for public comment and external peer review.
- Preliminary Toxics Release Inventory Data on PFAS. In July 2021, EPA released the first set of preliminary data for PFAS ever collected under the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI). The agency collected data for more than 170 PFAS and is working to further expand reporting requirements under the TRI by removing certain exemptions and exclusions.
- Rule Development for designating PFOA/PFOS as CERCLA Hazardous Substances. In June 2021, EPA restarted the process to designate PFOA and PFOS as hazardous substances for purposes of CERCLA.
- Expanding Data Collection Efforts on PFAS. In June 2021, EPA proposed a rule to require all manufacturers (including importers) of PFAS in any year since 2011 to report certain PFAS-related information.
- EPA Council on PFAS. On April 27, 2021, EPA Administrator Michael Regan called for the creation of a new "EPA Council on PFAS" that is charged with building on the agency's ongoing work to better understand and address potential risks.
- Updated Toxicity Assessment for PFBS. In April 2021, following peer review, the Agency published an updated toxicity assessment for PFBS.
- Policy on Review Process for new PFAS. In April 2021, EPA announced a new policy regarding review of new PFAS entering the market.
- Establishing a National Primary Drinking Water Standard for PFOA/PFOS. In February 2021, EPA published a final determination to regulate PFOA and PFOS while also evaluating additional PFAS and considering regulatory actions to address groups of PFAS.