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Montgomery Clean City Commission Improves Recycling with ADEM Grant

In this year Grant selection process, the Department focused on the 2016 Southeast Recycling Development Council (SERDC) study, “A Plan for Boosting Residential Material Recovery and Recycling in Alabama”, which details how recycling efforts can be made more effective in our state. The central focus is the development of a “Hub and Spoke” model where larger cities, or hubs, partner with smaller and more rural communities, or spokes, to collect and recycle materials in a more efficient way.

In an effort to enhance recycling, along with economic growth, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management is pleased to announce that Montgomery Clean City Commission is the recipient of \$7,500.00 for this year’s grant process. This recycling grant will be used to purchase educational bin decals that will make recycling more convenient for the people of Montgomery.

When asked how recycling has impacted their community a Montgomery Clean City Commission representative said “Our recycling program has helped our city in allowing for a greater percentage of landfill diversion. This will allow the City of Montgomery’s landfill to last longer, and new cells to be built less often.” As Alabamians continue to push forward in their recycling efforts Clean City Commission said they expect to see their program grow by “...increasing awareness of what citizens can and cannot put into their garbage bins, which would allow our recycling partner RePower South to better process the recyclables out of the materials they receive. Which in turn, would make for a cleaner processing system and more items recycled.” The Department is honored to be able to assist communities in their recycling endeavors and has been able to aid Clean City Commission by “Assist[ing] us through this grant process.”

These grant funds are made possible through the Solid Wastes & Recyclable Materials Management Act which was passed by the Alabama Legislature in 2008. The legislation imposed a \$1 per ton fee on all solid wastes disposed of in Alabama landfills. A portion of the proceeds generated by this fee supported the creation of the Alabama Recycling Fund, which provides the foundation for ADEM to award the recycling grants on an annual basis.



“Montgomery is recycling! Although it may not be in a traditional way, it is happening. We encourage all citizens to place their recyclables into their bins. RePower South not only has the technology to sort out the recyclables, they are also using a process that allows them to create a coal alternative which is another way that our environment benefits” – Montgomery Clean City Commission