



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 25, 2021

**CONTACT:** M. Lynn Battle, Chief  
Office of External Affairs  
MLB@adem.alabama.gov  
(334) 462-6728

## **ADEM Investigating Fire at Debris Pit in Robertsdale**

*Efforts to Extinguish Fire Have Been Unsuccessful*

**MONTGOMERY, Ala.** – The Alabama Department of Environmental Management is investigating an unauthorized fire burning in a debris pit in the Robertsdale area in Baldwin County and is monitoring efforts by local fire departments and the property owner to extinguish the fire.

ADEM received complaints Tuesday from residents near the Bill Patterson Construction property at 21848 Hubbard Road about smoke from the fire. ADEM inspectors visited the site, observed fire and smoke from the debris pile, and told the owner of the property to take means as necessary to put out the fire. As of Thursday, efforts by the property owner, the Robertsdale Fire Department and other area fire departments to extinguish the fire had been unsuccessful. Officials estimate the fire could burn another week or so.

ADEM's ongoing investigation has determined the property has been used as a dumping site for debris, primarily chipped trees and limbs, from the cleanup in the aftermath of Hurricane Sally. The hurricane struck the area last September.

The cause of the fire has not been determined. ADEM will continue to monitor the fire, including efforts to extinguish it.

###