



AUBURN UNIVERSITY

WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING

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Auburn University receives grant from Alabama Department of Environmental Management

AUBURN UNIVERSITY – Auburn University's Waste Reduction & Recycling Department recently received an \$84,505 grant from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM).

The grant will support the purchase of recycling bins and other equipment that will create a more convenient recycling environment for the university community. The grant will also support outreach efforts to encourage participation in local recycling programs.

Funding for the grant was made possible through the Solid Wastes & Recyclable Materials Management Act passed by the Alabama Legislature in 2008. The legislation set a \$1 per ton fee on all solid wastes disposed of in Alabama landfills, a portion of which supports the Alabama Recycling Fund.

Auburn University applies for ADEM funding as a member of the East Alabama Recycling Partnership (EARP). Since 2009, EARP has been awarded nearly one million dollars of grant funds by ADEM. Auburn University has received nearly \$250,000.

Other EARP grant recipients include Lee County and the cities of Auburn and Opelika. The vision of the partnership is to establish a comprehensive and coordinated regional recycling program to divert material from landfills by initiating programs to expand their capacity to collect materials and by implementing promotional and educational activities.

Planning and working together, EARP members have enhanced their recycling programs, seeking to maximize recycling participation, reduce operation costs, and more effectively market recycled materials. The sharing of ideas and resources provides a strong foundation for a future regional recycling program.

Auburn University's recycling program was established in 2005. Its mission is to provide waste reduction opportunities and quality recycling services to the Auburn University community.

More information about Auburn University's recycling program is available online at <http://www.auburn.edu/administration/facilities/organization/building-services/recycling/index.html>.

More information about the East Alabama Recycling Partnership is available online at <http://eastalrecycles.org>.

(Written by Joan Hicken)

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