



## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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### DEQ places second in EPA EnviroFlash National Challenge

BATON ROUGE – DEQ placed second in the 2013 EnviroFlash Challenge by adding 479 new subscribers from April 8 to May 31. Thirty agencies throughout the nation competed and recruited a total of 2,179 new subscribers nationwide.

EnviroFlash is a free electronic notification system that sends emails and texts about the daily air quality forecast to subscribers. Subscribers can sign for any level of notification they want from daily notifications to information on days when the air could be unhealthy. An added value to the notification system is that notifications can be sent out when there is an unusual air quality event, such as fires or emergency situations.

To sign up for EnviroFlash you can go to [www.deq.louisiana.gov/enviroflash](http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/enviroflash). Sign up for one or multiple notifications and be aware of the quality of your air.

There are now a total of 212,191 individuals across the country receiving the air quality forecast through EnviroFlash. Subscribers who know their local air quality are able to make choices that will better protect their health, the health of their families and contribute to a cleaner environment by limiting their own emissions.

DEQ became partners with the US Environmental Protection Agency during ozone season, May 1 to Sept. 30, 2008. The first cities in Louisiana included for notification via EnviroFlash were Baton Rouge, Shreveport and New Orleans. In 2009, the EnviroFlash forecast and notification system was added for Lake Charles, Alexandria, Thibodaux, Monroe and Lafayette.