



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

PEGGY M. HATCH
SECRETARY

For Immediate Release:
Oct. 25, 2010

Contact: Jean Kelly
Telephone: 225-219-3966

DEQ mans paint swap for Household Hazardous Materials Day

BATON ROUGE – The Greater Baton Rouge Household Hazardous Materials Collection Day and Paint Swap was held on Saturday, Oct. 23, at Memorial Stadium.

DEQ employees and members of the Baton Rouge Junior League manned the paint swap area taking in reusable latex paint and mixing it in five-gallon containers. The objective of the swap is to recycle unused paint, varnishes, stains and thinners. After the material is collected, screened and blended by the volunteers, it is given to Habitat for Humanity ReStore and then sold to the public at a reduced price. DEQ initiated the paint swap in 1990 and has participated every year since.

At this year's paint swap, a record 213.5, five-gallon buckets of various colors of paint were rescued and taken to the Restore for resale.

“DEQ helped initiate Household Hazardous Material Collection Day in 1985 and has participated ever since,” said Judy Schuerman, DEQ coordinator for the event. “DEQ employees have worked with the paint swap for many years and thousands of gallons of paint have been rescued.”

The collection day is a collaborative effort between the Baton Rouge City parish and other partners. For more information about recycling, paint disposal and common potentially hazardous materials in the home, go to the DEQ Web site at www.deq.louisiana.gov.