



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Company penalized; DEQ expands illegal dumping investigations

BATON ROUGE – The Louisiana Department of Environmental recently issued a \$27,421 penalty to a New Orleans business for improperly disposing of solid waste. Crescent Environmental Services has been penalized for disposing of construction and demolition waste at an unpermitted site along Old Gentilly Road.

The site was allegedly operated by Cecil Person, who was arrested in January and booked for violating solid waste laws centered around the unauthorized dump on Old Gentilly Road.

Crescent Environmental's recent penalty stems from inspections in 2004.

The penalty and earlier arrest are part of the department's plan to keep people from illegally dumping. DEQ has also expanded its surveillance of the area by adding hidden video cameras in the New Orleans East area.

A camera recently caught a hauler dumping a load of illegal waste on the side of Almonaster Boulevard. DEQ, along with other state and local authorities, have not been able to identify the company nor the driver of the truck. To provide information concerning the video, or to report other incidences of illegal dumping, call 504-736-7704.

The video can be seen on DEQ's web page at www.deq.louisiana.gov.

“There is an incentive for people to illegally dump,” said Assistant Secretary Harold Leggett, Ph.D. “Often times, people can save money and time by bypassing the regulations and dumping their load at an illegal dump. DEQ is working with local and other state officials to make the risks outweigh the rewards when it comes to this kind of illegal activity – not just in New Orleans East, but statewide.”

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