

# *2009 PEP Environmental Stewardship Awards*

## **2009 PEP MEMBER AWARDS**

### **AARON Oil Company**

**Aaron Oil Company**, a full service used oil and petroleum reclamation facility, set a corporate goal to reduce overall energy usage by 6 percent in 2008. This was not only achieved, but surpassed, saving a total of 8 percent by reducing the amount of energy purchased from the grid and by creating a fuel source that could be used within the plant rather than purchasing fuel from an outside vendor. Instead of the usual landfilling practice, AOC recycles or reclaims all of the absorbent materials (910 tons) and used oil metal filters (601 tons) it picks up. In doing so, AOC helps companies reach their waste minimization goals.

### **E.I. DuPont de Nemours & Company, Mobile Site**

**DuPont, Mobile Site** implemented significant new activities and recycling efforts to reduce environmental impact. In early 2008, after careful testing, DuPont replaced an ammonia compressor with a safer cooling method and removed approximately 13,000 lbs of toxic ammonia from the plant. DuPont also began using recycled toluene in all applicable processes eliminating the need to purchase fresh toluene and its disposal as a waste. Through shipping 830,500 lbs of the recycled solvent to an off-site user, a transportation synergy was found that allowed the Mobile site to reduce by half the number of trucks on the highway and to never transport an empty container.

### **Holcim (US) Inc, Theodore Plant**

**Holcim, Theodore Plant** demonstrated its commitment to sustainable environmental performance through the Theodore Plant's StormWater Conservation Project. In prior years, the plant has discharged as many as 88 million gallons of treated storm water. By finding new ways to utilize captured storm water in the cooling process, in 2008, only three million gallons of storm water was discharged. This also reduced the plant's use of and reliance on local municipality water. Through this project, Holcim not only saved thousands of dollars, but benefited the environment by significantly reducing reliance on local municipality water and the volume of water discharged to the ship channel.

### **Shell Chemical, Mobile Site**

**Shell Chemical, Mobile Site**, in a synergy partnership with Oil Recovery Company, took the opportunity provided by recent changes in EPA's RCRA hazardous waste regulations to reduce

the environmental impact of the Mobile Site. Shell implemented new recycling methods for Dissolved Air Floatation (DAF) material collected from the treatment of petroleum process wastewater at the onsite industrial wastewater treatment facility. Since the inception of this recycling process, the Mobile Site has recycled more than ten (10) million pounds (three million in 2008 alone) of material that otherwise would undergo a dewatering process and be disposed in a hazardous waste landfill. Subsequently, the Mobile site has reduced its annual Toxic Release Information for hazardous material.

### **ThyssenKrupp Steel and Stainless USA, LLC**

**ThyssenKrupp Steel and Stainless** and Team Alabama undertook extraordinary efforts in protecting and improving the environment while developing the 4,000 acre site for the new steel and stainless mill in Calvert, Alabama. TK and their site selection consultants performed initial environmental screenings of all the finalist sites, so that they could be ready to immediately break ground. Following the ThyssenKrupp Environmental Master Plan, Team Alabama, under the leadership of *Linda Swann of the Alabama Development Office*, hired local professionals to conduct Cultural Resource Assessments, Wetlands Mitigation Plans, and an extensive Stream Mitigation Plan. These plans called for the largest purchase of wetland mitigation credits in the history of the State, the improvement of hundreds of acres of on-site wetland buffer areas, the perpetual protection of preserved on-site wetlands, and the construction of an improved stream bed on the north edge of the property. In addition to the steps required by permits, ThyssenKrupp also constructed a tall earthen berm to mitigate the disturbance of neighboring property owners. ThyssenKrupp Steel and Stainless and Team Alabama paid close attention to and made positive contributions to our area's triple bottom line - representing environmental, social, and economic benefits.

*As part of this Award, PEP extends special recognition to the Alabama Development Office for its strong leadership of Team Alabama.*

## ***Community Partner Awards***

### **Neil C. Johnston and Alabama Coastal Foundation**

#### **Neil C. Johnston**

Neil Johnston has dedicated his professional and personal endeavors to protecting and enhancing the environment. Neil's commitment to community education, particularly, the next generation is evidenced by his work in the development of the Alabama Coastal Foundation's Coastal Kidz Quiz and Project CATE's educational CD-ROM series. Neil inspires and activates students of all ages to learn about conservation and the environment.

As a partner in the law firm, Hand Arendall, LLC, Mr. Johnston is the Chairman of the firm's Land Use and Environmental Practice Group. Mr. Johnston frequently writes and speaks on

environmental and land use topics concerning forestry, wetlands, endangered species, coastal issues, conservation easements, and construction storm water issues.

Among his numerous awards for his work in the fields of conservation, environmental law and education, are the 2003 National Wetlands Award from the Environmental Law Institute in Washington, D.C., the Gulf Guardian Award 2002 – first place conservation education (*Ribbit's Big Splash*), the 2003 Governor's Conservation Achievement Award ("Conservation Educator of the Year" for The Project CATE Foundation) from the Alabama Wildlife Federation, and the 2002 Best Environmental Education Award for development of *Ribbit's Big Splash* from the Environment Education Association of Alabama. He serves on a number of professional and civic associations, including the Nature Conservancy of Alabama (Board of Trustees, 1990-1996), The Project CATE Foundation, Inc. (President and General Counsel, 1997-present), and Alabama Coastal Foundation (President, 2003-2004).

### **Alabama Coastal Foundation**

Since its founding in 1993, the Alabama Coastal Foundation (ACF) has worked to create a healthy balance between the conservation needs of our priceless resources and the inevitable pressures of economic growth placed upon them. To accomplish its mission ACF uses an education-based approach to conservation by understanding the problem before a solution is sought. ACF pursues practical solutions to conservation challenges in a non-adversarial manner. And they are dedicated to partnering with business, local government and other non-profits to maximize their efforts.

ACF informs and engages the community through a number of community programs. In particular, the habitat preservation efforts of the Osprey platforms and tree plantings, and the Coastal Kidz Quiz, a fun and informative method of educating 5th graders, motivates people of all ages to take personal action to make a positive impact on the environment. The Kids Quiz, which PEP has supported for several years, was recently named "the Best Environmental Education Program" in Alabama by the Environmental Education Association of Alabama.