



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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DEQ working with Sabine officials on hazardous waste case

BATON ROUGE – The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality is currently working with Sabine Parish officials to identify and help manage the hazardous waste that Robert Beam, 36, had stored at a residence in the parish. Beam is currently being held at the Sabine Parish jail. DEQ is working with parish officials to charge Beam with illegal disposal of hazardous waste, a felony.

Beam was arrested in Lake Charles in November 2003 and March 2004 for illegal disposal of hazardous wastes. The material was stored on properties he was using as part of a chroming business.

Beam brought the materials to Sabine Parish and stored them at an acquaintance's residence. Beam was arrested by Sabine officials on another charge and the acquaintance notified them about the drums of materials. Sabine officials contacted DEQ.

DEQ has spent more than \$304,000 cleaning up the hazardous waste Beam left behind in Lake Charles in 2003 and 2004. He is scheduled for trial in Lake Charles in January.

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