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ADEQ Director Owens Announces Sponsorship of Flagstaff “15-Minute Makeover” Cleanup Event

FLAGSTAFF (Sept. 8, 2008) – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Director Steve Owens today presented the City of Flagstaff with a \$2,500 check from ADEQ to help sponsor the city’s “15-Minute Makeover,” a community cleanup project that will take place in Flagstaff on Wednesday, Oct. 15 from 10:15 a.m.-10:30a.m.

Director Owens presented the check at a meeting of the Flagstaff City Council during a kickoff event for the cleanup.

On Oct. 15 at 10:15 a.m., the City is asking citizens to stop what they are doing, step outside wherever they are, and for the next 15 minutes clean up the area around them like yards, sidewalks, alleys, schoolyards, ballfields, and parking lots.

“We are delighted to support this terrific idea,” Director Owens said. “This is a great way to energize individuals, classes, groups and businesses to get involved in cleaning up the community and see the results of their efforts right away. It can create a sense of community and help everyone understand the value of a clean neighborhood and clean environment.”

The City of Flagstaff will provide free use of cleanup equipment. Citizens who register will be eligible for prize drawings. For free registration, safety guidelines, a list of recyclables, and other information, please go to www.flagstaff.az.gov/15 or contact Stephanie Smith, (928) 213-3607, ssmith@flagstaff.az.us.

Owens added that this event is one of several environmental activities in which ADEQ is involved in Flagstaff.

Owens pointed out that ADEQ has awarded nearly \$90,000 in Brownfield grants to the City of Flagstaff for environmental site assessments for two properties at the northwest corner of Phoenix Avenue and Beaver Street. One of those locations is currently being constructed as Flagstaff’s new downtown municipal bus transfer site.

Earlier this year, ADEQ partnered with Northern Arizona University in a \$27,246 grant for a recycling community education campaign, and today the department also awarded NAU another \$10,000 grant to promote recycling at Walkup Skydome during athletic events.