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ADEQ Announces 3 Workshops for Those Wanting to Apply for Water Quality Improvement Grants

PHOENIX – (Dec. 7, 2009) – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality officials announced today three different opportunities for those interested in applying for Water Quality Improvement Grants to attend workshops about the grant cycle sponsored by the agency.

Two web-based seminars will be conducted from 10 a.m. until noon on Thursday, Dec. 17 at ADEQ's Northern Regional Office in Flagstaff at 1801 W. Route 66, Suite 117 and Southern Regional Office in Tucson at 400 W. Congress, Suite 433. A live workshop will be held at ADEQ's main office in Phoenix at 1100 W. Washington Street on Friday, Dec. 18 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Space is limited and seats will be reserved on a first-come, first-serve basis. To make reservations, contact Kym Holloway at (602) 771-4691 or holloway.kym@azdeq.gov. Registration deadline is Friday, Dec. 11.

Pre-proposals will be due on Jan. 18 and final applications on March 5 for the grants. The grant awards are expected to be announced in June 2010. Priority for funding is being given to the headwaters areas of the Little Colorado River and Tonto Creek and the San Pedro River from Babocomari Creek to Dragoon Wash.

Each year, ADEQ allocates funding to public and private entities in Arizona through the WQIG program to improve and protect water quality in the state by addressing a nonpoint source of water pollution. Nonpoint source pollution is the nation's largest source of water quality problems and occurs when rainfall or runoff picks up pollutants and deposits them in rivers, lakes or other groundwater sources.

“The Water Quality Improvement Grants provide much-needed funding at the local level to implement creative approaches to protect and improve watersheds,” said ADEQ Director Benjamin H. Grumbles. “These funds help us keep Arizona's precious water resources clean and safe.”

Information about the WQIG program, including the grants manual and application forms are available on ADEQ's website at www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/watershed/fin.html or by calling ADEQ at (602) 771-4635 or 1-800-234-5677, Ext. 771-4635.

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