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## **ADEQ Director Owens Announces Initiative to Promote Recycling and Support Environmental Clubs in High Schools**

PHOENIX (Sept. 18, 2008) – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Director Steve Owens today announced a new program to support high school environmental clubs by providing funding for the clubs to conduct recycling at club meetings and around their school campuses.

ADEQ will award 25 grants of \$200 each to environmental clubs in Arizona high schools on a first-come, first-served basis. In connection with the grant award, each club will agree to place recycling containers provided by ADEQ around its school and be responsible for making sure that recyclable items collected in the containers are deposited in a recycling collection barrel. At the end of the school year, each club will give ADEQ a report on the club's recycling effort.

“This is a great way to help high school students learn about recycling, while also supporting their environmental clubs,” Director Owens said. “Students are very aware of environmental issues and are forming environmental clubs at their schools as a way to make a difference. These grants will help them make recycling a part of their daily life at school and give them resources to support recycling and other environmental club activities. We encourage the environmental clubs to apply for these grants.”

More information on the new grant program and how to apply can be found on ADEQ's website at: <http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/waste/solid/science.html>