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ADEQ to Celebrate Pollution Prevention (P2) Week in Arizona By Posting Stories Online that Examine Waste Reduction

PHOENIX (September 13, 2013) – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality officials announced today that the agency will be celebrating Pollution Prevention (P2) Week in Arizona next week by offering a series of stories on ADEQ’s website that offer helpful tips of how to reduce waste and promote recycling.

Governor Jan Brewer also has designated by proclamation P2 Week in Arizona. Governor Brewer noted that “Arizonans support innovative and cost effective programs that result in environmentally responsible economic growth. Pollution prevention not only protects the quality of our air, water and land but also emphasizes energy efficiency, water conservation and other best practices that will reduce impacts to the environment.”

Among the subjects to be addressed on ADEQ’s website next week are the history of ADEQ’s P2 program since the state Legislature adopted a P2 policy in 1991 and why it is important that programs should be directed more at pollution prevention rather than control.

ADEQ’s website will also describe how to minimize food waste, how “green chemistry” has created designs for products that eliminate the use of hazardous substances, and how to make recycling a lifestyle. The stories will be posted daily on ADEQ’s website at <http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/waste/p2/p2week.html>.

“I encourage everyone to read the stories that we post on our web site to familiarize themselves with changes they can make and reduce the amount of pollution they create,” said ADEQ Director Henry Darwin. “To show that we are walking the walk, we have developed and implemented an Environmental Management System for our agency which will minimize our impact on the environment.”

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has designated Sept. 15-21 as National Pollution Prevention Week throughout the country and also has useful information on the subject at <http://www2.epa.gov/p2week> .

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