

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

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For Immediate Release

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Baker County Schools and Calhoun City Schools' Transportation Departments Receive EPD Award

(ATLANTA –October 14, 2015) – Baker County Schools and Calhoun City Schools have received the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) Georgia Diesel Emissions Reduction (GaDER) Green Award.

The GaDER Green Award is awarded to school systems that have reduced emissions in 25% or less of their school bus fleet through either early bus replacement, installation of emissions control equipment, and/or the use of alternative fuels. Both Baker County Schools and Calhoun City Schools earned their awards through early bus replacements. The buses were purchased in part with Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) grant funds provided by the GaDER Program.

The GaDER School Bus Program assists Georgia school systems by offering grants, technical assistance and education.

Stacy Allman, EPD Environmental Compliance Specialist and Grant Project Manager for GaDER, says, "Older diesel buses emit a high amount of particles in the exhaust. New buses reduce these particulates by more than 85 percent, which results in a significant improvement in the air quality inside and around the school bus. Transportation Directors and their staff who receive a GaDER award should celebrate their hard work and dedication to ensure that school children are riding in the safest and cleanest buses available." Visit www.gaderprogram.org for more information about the GaDER program.

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