By the numbers: Alabama

- 4,137 geoscience employees (excludes self-employed)
- 501 million gallons/day: total groundwater withdrawal
- $1.31 billion: value of nonfuel mineral production in 2017
- 79 total disaster declarations, including 16 hurricane, 36 severe storm, and 10 flood disasters (1953-2017)
- $2.49 million: NSF GEO grants awarded in 2017...

Read more in this Geoscience in Your State Factsheet...

**Agencies Working on Geoscience Issues in Alabama**

**Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs: Energy Division**
https://adeca.alabama.gov/Divisions/energy/Pages/default.aspx
The overall mission of ADECA’s Energy Division, as the State Energy Office, is to increase energy efficiency, reduce energy consumption, promote energy-efficiency and renewable-energy technologies, make energy efficiency more affordable for low-income residents, and to aid low-income households, especially those with vulnerable populations such as elderly, disabled and young children, with the increasing costs of home energy.

**Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs: Office of Water Resources**
https://adeca.alabama.gov/Divisions/owr/Pages/default.aspx
ADECA’s Office of Water Resources administers programs for river basin management, river assessment, water supply assistance, water conservation, flood mapping, the National Flood Insurance Program and water resources development. Further, OWR serves as the state liaison with federal agencies on major water resources related projects and conducts any special studies on instream flow needs as well as administering environmental education and outreach programs to increase awareness of Alabama’s water resources.

**Alabama Department of Environmental Management**
http://www.adeca.alabama.gov/Divisions/energy/Pages/default.aspx
The mission at ADEM is to assure for all citizens of the State a safe, healthful, and productive environment. ADEM administers all major federal environmental laws, including the Clean Air, Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water acts and federal solid and hazardous waste laws.

**Alabama Emergency Management Agency**
https://ema.alabama.gov/
The Alabama Emergency Management Agency (the "Alabama EMA") is responsible by statute and several specific Governors' executive orders for coordinating the emergency activities of all state departments and agencies with local governments, private agencies, organizations, federal agencies and other state governments for both peacetime emergency and disaster situations, and situations resulting from war-caused actions. These activities include hazard mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery operations.

**Alabama Forestry Commission**
http://www.forestry.alabama.gov/
The mission of the Alabama Forestry Commission is three-fold: to Protect the Forests from all harmful agents; to Service and Help Landowners to carry out responsible forest management on their property, using professional technical assistance so as to benefit themselves, their land and society; and to Educate the General Public about the value of our forests in insuring both a healthy economy and environment. We do this in the most efficient and cost effective way possible.

**Alabama Surface Mining Commission**
http://www.surface-mining.state.al.us/
The Alabama Surface Mining Commission is the primary regulatory authority for surface and underground coal mining operations for the State of Alabama under the Federal Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.

**Geological Survey of Alabama**
https://www.gsa.state.al.us/
The Geological Survey of Alabama, established in 1848, provides service and information to Alabama and its citizens as a natural resource data gathering and research agency. As part of its mission, GSA explores and evaluates the mineral, water, energy, biological, and other natural resources of the State of Alabama and conducts basic and applied research in these fields.

**State Oil and Gas Board of Alabama**
https://www.gsa.state.al.us/ogb/ogb.html
The State Oil and Gas Board of Alabama is a regulatory agency of the State of Alabama with the statutory charge of preventing waste and promoting the conservation of oil and gas while ensuring the protection of both the environment and the correlative
Interactive map of offshore sand and gravel resources of the United States

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's Marine Minerals Information System (MMIS) provides an interactive map with information on offshore sand and gravel resources for 18 states on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts of the United States. The system includes: Sand and gravel resources Marine...

Geologic map helps to protect groundwater in Alabama

In central Alabama, the Mississippian-age Fort Payne Chert is an important aquifer for domestic and municipal water supplies. Geologic mapping shows the extent of Fort Payne Chert exposure at the ground surface, which is the recharge area for the aquifer. Planning for protection of the groundwater...

The 2014 Critical Issues Forum, entitled "America’s Increasing Reliance on Natural Gas: Benefits and Risks of a Methane Economy", examined the 5- to 30-year outlook for the development of a natural gas-dominant energy sector in North America and discussed the associated benefits and risks.

Research Database Publications
Water is one of Alabama's most precious natural resources. It is a vital component of human existence and essential to the overall quality of life. Wise stewardship of this valuable resource depends on a continuing assessment of water availability and water use. Population growth in many parts...