

**For Immediate Release  
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**Contact:**

Charles Scribner, Executive Director: Black Warrior Riverkeeper – (205) 458-0095

Rev. Anthony Johnson, Community Relations Director: Birmingham-Metro Chapter NAACP – (205) 541-9719

**Birmingham-Metro Chapter NAACP Presents Grand Town Hall Meeting on the Environment  
*Panelists Will Focus on Local Pollution Threats: Shepherd Bend Mine and “Deadly Deception”***

Birmingham – The Birmingham-Metro Chapter of the NAACP will present a Grand Town Hall Meeting and Public Forum about the Environment on Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 8:15. Panelists will focus on two local pollution threats: the Shepherd Bend Mine proposal across the river from Birmingham’s drinking water intake facility and the recent “Deadly Deception” controversy in the Collegeville area. The free public event will take place at Glen Iris Elementary School (1115 11<sup>th</sup> Street South, Birmingham, AL 35205).

Panelists will include representatives from the Alabama Rivers Alliance, Birmingham Faith in Action, Black Warrior Riverkeeper, Cahaba Riverkeeper, Citizens Opposed to Strip Mining on the Black Warrior River, Coalition of Alabama Students for the Environment, Collegeville area residents, GASP, Green Initiative at UAB, University of Alabama Environmental Council, and University of Montevallo Environmental Club.

“We are honored that the Birmingham-Metro Chapter NAACP invited us to join these esteemed panelists,” said Charles Scribner, Executive Director of Black Warrior Riverkeeper. “The Shepherd Bend Mine poses a unique threat to Birmingham’s drinking water. This forum presents an exciting opportunity to increase public awareness about the proposed coal mine and the University of Alabama’s potential role in stopping it.”

Click here to view event flyer:

[www.blackwarriorriver.org/pdf/EnvironmentTownHall10.14.11.pdf](http://www.blackwarriorriver.org/pdf/EnvironmentTownHall10.14.11.pdf)

Click here for more information about the Shepherd Bend Mine controversy:

[www.blackwarriorriver.org/news/help-protect-birmingham-s-drinking-water.html](http://www.blackwarriorriver.org/news/help-protect-birmingham-s-drinking-water.html)

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**Black Warrior Riverkeeper** ([www.blackwarriorriver.org](http://www.blackwarriorriver.org)) is a citizen-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to protect and restore the Black Warrior River and its tributaries. A member of Waterkeeper Alliance, Black Warrior Riverkeeper won Alabama Environmental Council’s 2007 Conservation Organization of the Year and American Canoe Association’s 2008 Green Paddle Award. Nelson Brooke, Riverkeeper, won Alabama Rivers Alliance’s 2010 River Hero Award. In 2011 the Black Warrior became one of [America's Most Endangered Rivers](#). For more information, contact: Charles Scribner, Executive Director, Black Warrior Riverkeeper: 205-458-0095 or Rev. Anthony Johnson, Community Relations Director: Birmingham-Metro Chapter NAACP: (205) 541-9719