

Dr. James F. Quinlan, Research Geologist at Mammoth Cave NP, Kentucky, has resigned from the NPS. During his 16 years at Mammoth Cave, Quinlan conducted pioneering studies of the park and its cave systems and regional hydrology. He developed new techniques for tracing groundwater flows with fluorescent dyes and authored or co-authored more than 100 scientific publications. In addition, he led more than 100 field excursions, was extensively sought as a national and international lecturer, and was active in numerous scientific and professional societies.

Much of his work was relevant to the design and construction of a 15 million dollar regional sewage treatment facility that protected the park's resources. His work also contributed to the monitoring of groundwater quality in terranes underlain by limestone and dolomite (karst). His paper summarizing newly discovered principles applicable to monitoring for pollutants in karst terranes was selected by the Geological Society of America for the "Paper of the Year Award" in 1986. Dr. Quinlan has accepted a position as Senior Hydrogeologist with ATEC Environmental Consultants in Nashville, TN, where he will head a unique team specializing in applications of groundwater tracing.