

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Earn up to 12 CLUs!



**\$35** Early Bird Registration  
Until Jan. 23, 2015

**February 27-28, 2015**

**Baton Rouge Marriott**

**5500 Hilton Avenue, Baton Rouge**

#### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES

Early Bird (Before Jan. 23)	\$35
Regular (After Jan. 23)	\$50
Pre-Service Teacher	\$25
Optional Short Course	\$10

Attendees must register for the conference in order to register for the Friday Short Course session.

#### OPTIONAL FRIDAY SHORT COURSES

##### EXPERIENCE LOUISIANA'S NATURAL HERITAGE

Begin the day with a tour of the LSU veterinary school wildlife rehabilitation facility with the state's wildlife veterinarian, Jim LaCour, and follow that up with a peek inside the LSU Natural History Museum's extensive preserved bird collection (including some rare and extinct species). Finally, end the day exploring lesson plans featuring threatened and endangered species presented by LDWF Natural Heritage Program staff. Transportation provided from hotel.

Grade Levels: **K-12** Location: **LSU Campus**  
Presenters: **Jim LaCour, Michael Seymour and Louisiana Natural Heritage Program Staff**

##### BIODIVERSITY CONNECTIONS

Capture your students' interest and make connections through biodiversity. We will explore how we quantify biodiversity, why it is important to us, how we affect it, and actions we can take for positive change. We will practice student activities throughout the day, and will use Louisiana/Gulf of Mexico data to compare local diversity to other ecosystems.

Grade Levels: **5-12** Location: **Bluebonnet Swamp**  
Presenter: **Dianne Lindstedt**

##### WETLAND ANIMALS OF LOUISIANA

Spend the day learning about wetland animals of Louisiana! Get outside and dig deep with unique, place-based lesson plans and materials for grades 3-8. In this session, go on an arthropod adventure, investigate insects, hatch into habitats, follow crawfish around the world, probe into pelican history, and more! Lessons are hands-on, interactive, fun, and best of all, tied to state standards!

Grade Levels: **K-8** Location: **Hilltop Arboretum**  
Presenters: **Mindy Brooks, Debbie Dornier and Catherine Myrick**

**NEW THIS YEAR!**  
Easy Online Registration  
with a Credit or Debit Card:

<http://www.wlf.la.gov/symposium-registration>

If you prefer to pay by check, download the registration form and send it by mail.  
<http://www.wlf.la.gov/symposium-registration-mail>

##### EXPLORE THE BIODIVERSITY IN LOUISIANA'S WETLANDS

Spend time learning about the organisms that inhabit coastal Louisiana. Learn how differences in salinity affect habitat biodiversity. This session will visit the USFWS Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge in Lacombe, LA. Take an airboat ride to see newly rebuilt wetlands. Get wetland lessons and learn more about the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act and the efforts to restore coastal Louisiana and the plants and animals of the ecosystem. Attendees receive lessons related to wetlands plants and animals correlated to current GLEs and materials about common organisms and those on the threatened and endangered species list. Transportation provided from hotel.

Grade Levels: **K-12** Location: **Southeast Louisiana Refuges Complex, Lacombe**  
Presenters: **Susan Testroet-Bergeron and David Stoughton**

##### LDWF FISHING IN SCHOOLS Promoting Education Through Fishing

Come gain resources to engage your students in conservation-based education. Learn to use current wildlife biology techniques to teach science and math skills. Participants will gain knowledge of Louisiana fisheries ecology and management through hands on lessons given by Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries biologists. Lesson topics include fish age and growth determination, fish tagging, fish identification, Sport Fish Restoration program information and more. Participants will also get an opportunity to try out fishing techniques. GLE correlated lesson plans and information on the LDWF Fisheries Loaner Kit Program for classroom equipment will be provided.

Grade Levels: **5-12** Location: **Waddill Refuge**  
Presenters: **Betsy Seals and Alayna McGarry**

#### SYMPOSIUM HIGHLIGHTS

- Two days of **professional development opportunities** through short courses and breakout sessions. Earn up to 12 CLUs!
- **Exhibitors** with special emphasis on Environmental Education materials
- **Networking** and active engagement with **like-minded professionals**
- Updates on **statewide Environmental Education programs**
- **Free materials** throughout the symposium and many **door prizes**

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