Educational Field Trips at UNO’s Coastal Education and Research Facility (CERF)

*Elementary, Middle and High School teachers: Plan a wetland field trip to UNO CERF for your students this semester!*

- Explore the coastal environment through inquiry science
- Choose a topic focus and we will work with you to design a half-day or full-day field workshop for your students to meet your educational needs.
- Meet many current Louisiana Science GLEs as well as standards in math and social studies
- Students engage in hands-on inquiry activities

For more information email Dinah Maygarden at dmaygard@uno.edu

Or go to web site: [www.uno.edu/pontchartrain-institute/coastal-education-program.aspx](http://www.uno.edu/pontchartrain-institute/coastal-education-program.aspx)
Activities are designed by staff with many years of field-based education experience
Canoeing may be included for small groups of students in sixth grade and older
We can accommodate up to approximately 50 students for a land-based field trip

Topics include:

- The geology of the Mississippi River Delta, including river dynamics, map study, erosion, land loss and current restoration methods;
- Estuary science, including physical science concepts such as tides, water quality measurement, data collection and analysis;
- Life science of the estuary, including sampling organisms, adaptations, food webs, estuarine and wetland habitats, identification of organisms using dichotomous key, plankton sampling;
- Investigation and monitoring of wetland plants in our habitat restoration projects;
- Service learning opportunities such as wetland vegetation planting, making measurements and collecting data for monitoring, etc.
- Data collection for student research projects;

You may also wish to get involved in one of our grant-funded projects in partnership with Bayou Sauvage Refuge for a more in-depth year-long experiences. Please e-mail dmaygard@uno.edu for further information.
What and Where is CERF?

The Coastal Education and Research Facility is a field station located in the wetlands on Chef Menteur Highway in eastern Orleans Parish. It is about 30 min drive from downtown New Orleans.

It is adjacent to Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge (25,000 acres of coastal wetlands) and some activities take place in the refuge.

We have classroom space, kitchen and bathrooms inside and a large area for outdoor activities. We are surrounded by coastal marshes and water and located on Chef Menteur Pass.

Directions to UNO Coastal Education and Research Facility (CERF) - 21000 Chef Menteur Highway, new Orleans LA 70129. Online GPS search may not place correctly. Use directions below.

From New Orleans: Take I-10 to I-510. Exit I-510 on Chef Highway (Hwy 90) and travel east (Left). You will continue on Highway 90 for about 9.4 miles, passing the intersection with Hwy 11, Textron and Venetian Isles Subdivision before reaching the Chef Menteur Pass Bridge. Cross the Chef Pass bridge and take an immediate right over a small canal bridge into the parking lot of our building.

From Slidell: From I-10 west, Take the Highway 433 exit east (Old Spanish Trail). This road will take you to Highway 90 near Fort Pike. Take a right (west on Highway 90) and travel approximately 9.5 miles. Just before reaching the Chef Pass Bridge, turn left over a small bridge over a canal. Our building is directly in front of you.

Field Trip Fee Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.</td>
<td>Half-Day Field Trip (2-3 hours long) – Example 9 am – 12 noon. Includes a rotation of 2-3 hands-on activities on one topic focus.</td>
<td><strong>Cost: $8 per student.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>B.</td>
<td>Full – day land-based Field Trip (at least 4 hours) Example 9 am – 1:30 pm. Include 2 rotations of 2-3 activities each. 30 min lunch break (bring your bag lunches).</td>
<td><strong>Cost: $12 per student (Title I school - $8).</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>C.</td>
<td>Full Day Field Trip including canoe trip. Same as B. – one rotation is canoe trip.</td>
<td><strong>Cost: $20 per student (Title I School - $12)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D.</td>
<td>Overnight – 2-day field trip. Accommodates up to 10 students and 3 chaperones.</td>
<td><strong>Cost: $30 per student land-based and $50 including supervised canoe trip.</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
UNO Coastal Education and Research Facility

Field Trip Reservation Form

Please complete and return to:

Dinah Maygarden - dmaygard@uno.edu; call 504-669-1893 for more information.

Web site:  www.uno.edu/pontchartrain-institute/coastal-education-program.aspx

Teacher’s Name __________________________ Contact phone number __________________________

Teacher’s e-mail address __________________________

School Name __________________________ School phone number __________________________

Requested dates: 1st choice: ____________ 2nd Choice: ____________ 3rd Choice: ____________

Time of Arrival __________________________ Time of Departure __________________________

Grade Level _________ Subject Area __________________________ Special Topic __________________________

Number of Students (approximate) _______ Number of Adults __________________________

Topic focus from list above: ______________________________________________________________

Specific activities to be included: __________________________________________________________

Type of Field Trip (Please check one)

□ Land based only*

□ Land based and canoes**

Length of Trip: (check one) 1. ___ Half-Day – am/pm  2. ___ Full-Day  3. ___ Longer than 4 hours

Special Requests (please mention any special needs of students, special projects and interests)

___________________________________________________________________________________

Notes:

*Land-based field trips include sampling from the dock and indoor and outdoor activities around CERF.

**Land based and canoe trips mean that the group will be split so one group canoes while others do land based activities. The groups will switch. This is a 4-hour activity

**Canoe trips are subject to cancellation due to weather conditions, including wind.
Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement (1 of 2 forms)

1. In consideration for receiving permission to participate in a field trip to any of the University of New Orleans Coastal Education and Research facilities (CERF) and surrounding properties (on CERF research vessels, canoes or other vessels), or to use any University of New Orleans vessels for research, education and outreach in and around the coastal waterways of Louisiana, I hereby release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue University of New Orleans, its officers, servants, agents and employees (hereinafter referred to as “releasees”) from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions and causes of action whatsoever arising out of or relating to any loss, damage or injury, including death, that may be sustained by me and/or my child, or to any property belonging to me and/or my child, whether caused by the negligence of the releasees, or otherwise, while participating in research, education or outreach activities, or while in, on or upon the vessels and premises where such activities are being conducted, while in transit to or from the premises, or in any place or places connected with these activities.

2. I am fully aware of risks and hazards connected with being on a wetland field trip, or using vessels for wetland-related research, education or outreach activities in coastal Louisiana waters, and I am fully aware that there may be risks and hazards unknown to me and/or my child connected with being involved in these activities (a non-exhaustive list could include poisonous snake bites; exposure to hypothermia, extreme heat, sunburn, bad weather; or boating accidents resulting in immersion in the water). I hereby elect to (allow my child to) voluntarily participate in these activities, to enter upon the above named premises and and/or vessels, and to engage in activities knowing that conditions may be hazardous, or may become hazardous or dangerous to me/my child and my property. I voluntarily assume full responsibility for any risks of loss, property damage or personal injury, including death, that may be sustained by me/or my child, or any loss or damage to property owned by me, as a result of my being a participant in these activities, whether caused by the negligence of releasees or otherwise.

3. I further hereby agree to indemnify and save and hold harmless the releasees and each of them, from any loss, liability, damage or costs they may incur due to my and/or my child’s participation in these activities, whether caused by the negligence of any or all of the releasees, or otherwise.

4. It is my express intent that this Release shall bind the members of my family and spouse, if I am alive, and my heirs, assigns and personal representative, if I am deceased, and shall be deemed as a Release, Waiver, Discharge and Covenant Not to Sue the above named releasees.

In signing this Release, I acknowledge and represent that:
A. I have read the foregoing Release, understand it, and sign it voluntarily as my own free act and deed;
B. No oral representation, statements or inducements, apart from the foregoing written agreement, have been made;
C. I am at least eighteen (18) years of age and fully competent (I may also be the parent or legal guardian of an individual who may be under the age of 18); and
D. I execute this Release for full, adequate and complete consideration fully intending to be bound by same.

Date:______ /_______ /______  School/Group Name:________________________________________

Printed Name and Signature of Participant:________________________________________/________________________

If Participant is under age 18, Printed Name of Parent/Legal Guardian:________________________

UNO-CERF 7-28-15
If Participant is under age 18, Parent/Legal Guardian Signature:___________________

Rules for University of New Orleans Coastal Education and Research Field Trips and Trip Checklist for University of New Orleans-Authorized Vessel Captain (2 of 2 forms)

PART I. RULES FOR GROUPS (Authorized Group Representative, i.e., teacher or other leader, should brief all participants on these rules before arrival, then sign)—One form per group

1. All rules and regulations that apply to University of New Orleans Boat Users (as noted in the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries safe boating regulations, located at http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/boating/required-equipment-regulations) apply to group riders of the research vessels, canoes and other vessels. For group trips, a summary of the rules follows:

2. Only people approved by the Coastal Education and Research Facility Manager and hold a valid Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries safe boating certificate may drive research vessels and/or lead field trips in canoes or other vessels.

3. While on the Research Vessel Percy Viosca Jr., children age 15 and younger must wear a life jacket. EVERYONE must wear a life jacket while in canoes and other vessels.

4. No leaning over railing or sitting on the bow of any vessel while it is moving.

5. No alcohol, illegal drugs, or lit cigarettes on CERF property, including all vessels.

6. For canoe groups, no traveling in open water, i.e., out into Chef Pass. Canoes will only travel in small canals/bayous behind the CERF property as designated by the field trip guide.

7. No swimming off the CERF docks or surrounding property or off any vessels.

8. No littering on CERF property or Louisiana waterways.

9. Adult supervisors are responsible for maintaining proper order on the vessels.

If any one of these rules is broken, the trip will be cancelled, and no future visits will be allowed.

_____________________________________                      _______/_______/_______
Printed Name of Authorized Group Representative      Date

_________________________________________
Signature of Authorized Group Representative Date