



LEEC

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION COMMISSION

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A Weekly Compilation of Environmental Education News from Across Louisiana

LEEC NEWS

SAVE THE DATE! The Environmental Education State Symposium will be held on **February 21-22, 2014** in SHREVEPORT! *Watch for details in the coming months!*

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SeaPerch/NOAA Ocean Exploration Workshop– June 24-25, 2013

Professional Development for Educators of Grades 5-12 in Partnership with and hosted by the Audubon Aquarium of the Americas New Orleans, LA. **Registration Deadline: June 14, 2013.** To register, contact Tricia LeBlanc at the Audubon Aquarium of the Americas at (504) 378-2675 or tleblanc@AudubonInstitute.org. See attached application and flyer for more information.

JASON Training workshops

JASON Learning has partnered with the Louisiana DoE to provide FREE STEM-focused professional development and digital access for **middle school science teachers** in 19 northern Louisiana school districts. JASON is offering 10 One-Day training sessions covering weather, ecology, energy, forces/motion, geology and climate. Each session is limited to the first 25 registrants. For more information on the sessions, go to www.jason.org/training/louisiana. Open to public school teachers from Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, East Carroll, Franklin, Grant, LaSalle, Madison, Monroe City Schools, Morehouse, Ouachita, Rapides, Richland, Sabine, Tensas, Union, Vernon, West Carroll, Winn.

Project 1: Southern Louisiana Sessions

[Weather and Ecology: Destrehan, LA July 8-9](#)
[Geology and Forces/Motion: Litcher, LA July 8-9](#)
[Ecology and Energy: Ville Platte, LA July 10-11](#)
[Weather and Ecology: Franklinton, LA July 15-16](#)
[Forces/Motion and Climate: Greensburg, LA July 15-16](#)
[Energy and Forces/Motion: Franklinton, LA July 17-18](#)
[Geology and Energy: Lake Charles, LA July 22-23](#)
[Climate and Geology: Mandeville, LA July 22-23](#)
[Climate and Weather: Lake Charles, LA July 24-25](#)
[Energy and Forces/Motion: Harvey, LA July 24-25](#)

Project 2: Northern Louisiana Sessions

[Weather: Monroe, LA July 2](#)
[Geology: Alexandria, LA July 2](#)
[Ecology: Monroe, LA July 3](#)
[Geology: Many, LA July 2](#)
[Forces/Motion: Many, LA July 3](#)
[Forces/Motion: Vidalia, LA July 9](#)
[Climate: Vidalia, LA July 10](#)
[Geology: West Monroe, LA July 10](#)
[Forces/Motion: Bastrop, LA July 16](#)

Fall Plant ID Course

Acadiana RC&D is considering holding a Fall Plant ID Course featuring Dr. Robert H. Molenbrock as the Course Instructor. Acadiana RC&D is simply polling contacts at this time to ascertain whether there is an interest in attending the Fall Plant ID Course tentatively scheduled for October. Enrollment fee: \$600/participant with a maximum of 25 participants. All interested persons should reply or email Angie Fogleman at the following email address: angie@acadianarcd.com. Please indicate your name, company and a phone number. A notification of our decision will be sent via email to interested parties.

WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS

OneNOAA Science Seminars

All seminars are open to the public (unless otherwise indicated) and offer limited remote access on a first come first served basis. Please check the [OneNOAA Science Seminars](#) web page for the most updated seminar information or contact Hernan Garcia, Hernan.Garcia@noaa.gov.

'Sponge Heaven' and Other Discoveries from Deep-water Explorations in Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary

June 19, 2013; 12:00-13:00h Eastern Time; NOAA HQ [SSMC-4](#) Room 8150

Meta-analysis of exploited marine fish populations using the RAM Legacy Stock Assessment Database

June 20, 2013, 11:00 - 12:00 Eastern Time Zone; Northeast Fisheries Science Center, James J. Howard Marine Sciences Laboratory (Sandy Hook, NJ)

Weaving Ecosystem Services into Impact Assessments: The Why and the How

June 20, 2013, 12:00 - 13:00 Eastern Time Zone; NOAA HQ [SSMC-4](#) Room 8150

Sydney Levitus: "39 Years of Science and Service - Some Scientific and Data Management Recollections"

June 21, 2013; 11:30-12:00h Eastern Time; NOAA HQ [SSMC-3](#) Room 4527

GRANTS

Project Learning Tree GreenWorks! Grants

These student-driven projects enable students to take what they learn in the classroom and apply it to the real world. The GreenWorks! program is open to any Project Learning Tree-trained educator in the U.S. The deadline for application is September 30, 2013. <http://www.plt.org/apply-for-greenworks-environmental-education-grant>

Do Something Seed Grants

Do Something Seed Grants are given out every week, targeted towards project ideas and programs that are just getting started. The grants support community action projects. There is a rolling deadline, with notification within 2-3 months after submission. <http://www.dosomething.org/grants/seedgrants>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers Needed in Cameron Parish for Shoreline Restoration

CRCL is teaming up with Cheniere Energy on a restoration project to enhance sand dunes along the Cameron Shoreline in Southwest Louisiana, and they are looking for volunteers who are eager to help. Volunteers will plant over 10,000 dune plants, which will assist in stabilizing and capturing sand in the hopes of building dunes. In addition, the project will also create wildlife habitat and increase species diversity. The project is slated for Saturday, June 22. [Click here to sign up!](#)

Did you know? The June summer solstice for the northern hemisphere comes on June 21 at 12:04 a.m. Central Daylight Time for us in central U.S. There is no official beginning to summer or winter. Yet many will call this the beginning of summer in the Northern Hemisphere, and the beginning of winter in the Southern Hemisphere. From around the world, the sun is now setting and rising as far north as it ever does. The solstice marks when the sun reaches its northernmost point for the year. After the June solstice, the sun will begin to shift southward in the sky.

EVENTS

Southern Fried Swamp Fest

Come to **Southern Fried Swamp Fest** June 15-16 at Audubon Zoo. Free admission for members. Dads go free for Father's Day on June 16!

National Marine Educators Association Conference, Mobile, AL—July 22-26, 2013

Attendees will have the opportunity to make professional connections, share innovative ideas, and learn about new resources, tools and technologies for use in classrooms, laboratories, and education programs. Register: <http://nmea.disl.org/register.html>

NGCP Program Directory—Find Summer Camps!

The online [Program Directory](#) lists organizations and programs that focus on motivating girls to pursue STEM careers. The purpose of the directory is to help organizations and individuals network, share resources, and collaborate on STEM-related projects for girls. When you sign up for the Program Directory, you will enter your program description, resources available within your organization, program and/or organizational needs, and contact information. You can search by summer camp offerings in your zip code as well.

Live Q&A with Glaciologist Atsuhiko Muto— June 13

Join in on June 13 at 1:30pm ET as the JASON Live STEM career series continues with Glaciologist Atsu Muto. Atsu's studies has taken him to the ends of the Earth -- literally! His research expeditions to Greenland and Antarctica are helping us better understand global climate change. Learn more about Atsu and how to participate in the event on the JASON website: [Atsuhiko Muto Live STEM Career Q&A](#)

Pre-submitted text and video questions are currently being accepted. Sending in a question in advance increases the likelihood that we'll include your question in the live program. Just use the form on the event page to get it to us. Feel free to contact us at live@jason.org if you have any questions about participating.

RESOURCES

Sanctuary Videos

Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary offers short videos about the coral reefs and other aspects of the sanctuary, targeting upper elementary and middle school students. Topics include coral spawning, sharks and rays, and more. The videos are available in both English and Spanish.

http://flowergarden.noaa.gov/image_library/video.html

EPA's Climate Ready Estuaries Program Highlights King Tides This Month

EPA's Climate Ready Estuaries program is focusing on king tides this month. King tides are the highest predicted high tides of the year and can cause local tidal flooding. These tides provide an opportunity to catch a glimpse of the future because sea level rise will make today's king tides become the future's everyday tides. This year, Sarasota Bay and Tampa Bay Estuary Program have launched a [Chasing the Waves: King Tide Photo Exhibit](#), and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources is seeking king tide photos for their [king tide photo initiative](#). Find out when and where king tides will be occurring in your area. [Learn more about king tides](#).

Report from NOAA: "More Habitat Means More Fish" (NOAA)

<http://tinyurl.com/kdwyc5>

What Is Your Water Footprint? (National Geographic)

<http://tinyurl.com/ba8lfxq>

Research shows where trash accumulates in the deep sea (Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute)

<http://tinyurl.com/m8je28n>

RESOURCES, CONT.

Clean & Resilient Marina Guidebook

The *Clean & Resilient Marina Guidebook* is now available as a free download from the Gulf of Mexico Alliance website. This guidebook provides marina owners with useful information on tools and recommended best practices at marinas. Released by the Alliance's Coastal Community Resilience Priority Issue Team, the guidebook can be found on the Gulf of Mexico Alliance's website at <http://www.gulfofmexicoalliance.org/announcements/news.php#story-1050>.

Deep Sea Marine Debris

Large amounts of discarded trash end up in the ocean. Plastic bags, aluminum cans, and fishing debris not only clutter our beaches, but accumulate in open-ocean areas such as the "Great Pacific Garbage Patch." Now, a paper by researchers at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute shows that trash is also accumulating in the deep sea, particularly in Monterey Canyon. Described here http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2013-06/mbar-mrs060513.php, the paper described over 1,500 observations of deep-sea debris, at dive sites from Vancouver Island to the Gulf of California, and as far west as the Hawaiian Islands. The researchers found that trash was not randomly distributed on the sea floor. Instead, it collected on steep, rocky slopes, such as the edges of Monterey Canyon, as well as in a few spots in the canyon axis. The researchers speculate that debris accumulates where ocean currents flow past rocky outcrops or other obstacles. More research is needed to assess the long-term biological impacts of trash in the deep sea.

USGS Publishes New Data Series Highlighting CWPPRA

Bill Jones, Adrienne Garber, and the advanced coastal technologies team have a new U.S. Geological Survey Data Series publication titled "*Classifications for Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act Site-Specific Projects: 2010*" U.S.G.S. Data Series 745, 8 p. and 10 maps. The new report can be found at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/ds/745/>. This "Data Series" contains a brief introduction of CWPPRA, description of the different types of CWPPRA monitoring projects, how color-infrared aerial photography is obtained, and the research methods used in creating a land-water classification. The site-specific flights that were done in 2010 are also highlighted in this paper along with maps, data, and metadata.

Summer of Science

Hurray for summer! School may be out but that doesn't mean learning stops. Check out our collection of resources to keep kids engaged. [Read more](#).

Teacher Resources from Cornell: BirdSleuth K-12

Visit the [BirdSleuth K-12 website](#) to find creative resources and accurate information that will help you teach science, connect kids to nature, and understand birds and their habitats. **Highlights include:** The [Feathered Friends](#) education program (free downloadable lessons with life science content for elementary grades); new [Evolution in Paradise](#) lessons (free download to support learning about natural selection and evolution with the help of amazing video resources, recommended for middle and high school); [Kits and inexpensive resources](#) (for example, [Scavenger Hunt cards](#) in English or Spanish); free [inquiry lessons](#) to support student inquiry at all levels, and our unique [BirdSleuth Investigator](#) publication that shares the best student investigations.

Find out about wetland outreach activities including symposiums, conferences, meetings, educational opportunities, volunteer opportunities, & related support material at the *Louisiana Unified Coastal Community Calendar* at <http://lacoast.gov/calendar/>

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