



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!*

WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS

EPA Report Details How Development Can Impact Public Health, Environment

EPA has released its most comprehensive review to date on how the built environment - the way we build our cities and towns directly affects our environment and public health. The publication, *Our Built and Natural Environments: A Technical Review of the Interactions among Land Use, Transportation, and Environmental Quality*, provides evidence that certain kinds of land use and transportation strategies -- where and how we build our communities -- can reduce the environmental and human health impacts of development. According to the report, environmental impacts linked to building and development patterns include at least 850,000 acres of lakes, reservoirs, and ponds and 50,000 miles of rivers, and streams that are thought to be impaired by stormwater runoff. For more information about the report and an upcoming webinar, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/built.htm>

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.

[Strategies for Communicating Climate Science to People in Denial](#)

June 26, 2013; 13:00-14:00 Eastern Time; NOAA HQ SSMC2 Room 14316

[Ecosystem Productivity Change](#)

June 27, 2013; 11:00-12:00h Eastern Time; NOAA HQ [SSMC-3](#) Room 4817

[Is the PDO a Useful Predictor of North American Climate?](#)

July 10, 2013, 14:00 - 15:00 Eastern Time Zone; NOAA HQ [SSMC-2](#), Room 14316

[Infectious salmon anemia \(ISA\) - Facts, Fiction, and Management Strategies in North America](#)

July 10, 2013, 15:00 - 16:00 Eastern Time Zone; Remote access only

[Extreme Weather and Climate Change in the American Mind](#)

July 10, 2013, 13:00 - 14:00 Eastern Time Zone; NOAA HQ [SSMC-2](#), Room 14316

[SocMon: Social Science Monitoring in Coastal and MPA Management](#)

July 11, 2013; 13:00-14:00 Eastern Time; Remote Access Only

[Assimilation of Land Surface Skin Temperature Observations into the GEOS-5 Atmospheric Modeling & Assimilation System](#)

July 17, 2013; 14:00-15:00 Eastern Time; NOAA CWCP Conference Center (College Park, MD)

[Cloud and Precipitation Assimilation Activities at the JCSDA](#)

September 18, 2013; 14:00-15:00 Eastern Time; NOAA CWCP Conference Center (College Park, MD)

EVENTS

Call for Proposals for 2014 Conference

The 2014 Oil Spill & Ecosystem Science Conference is soliciting proposals from the community for sessions to address the Conference Themes and Integrative Topics. For guidelines and submission instructions, visit <http://gulfofmexicoconference.org/program/scientific-sessions/>.

Deadline for submissions is June 30, 2013.



Basics of the Basin 2013—Call for Papers

The Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation will host the 11th Basics of the Basic meeting on **October 24th-26th, 2013**. The meeting will be held at the Lindy Boggs Conference Center at the University of New Orleans Research and Technology Park. LPBF is announcing a call for research papers to be presented at the conference, in the form of a presentation or poster. To qualify, the research must have been



conducted in the Lake Pontchartrain Basin (east bank of the Mississippi River from the Mississippi/Louisiana boarder to the Bird's Foot Delta), or strongly relevant to the Lake Pontchartrain Basin.

The following list of topics includes, but is not limited to, areas of interest for paper submissions: Seal level rise/Climate change, BP Oil Spill, Sate Master Plan, Diversions including legacy, impacts to species, invasive species, Mississippi River hydrostudy, Hurricane Isaac, Flood protection system, Carbon sequestration, Hypoxia/Dead zone/Water Quality, Wetland wastewater assimilation, MRGO, Community engagement in science, Central Wetlands, Environmental policy

Submissions should be 3-5 pages with figures to be included in the proceedings upon acceptance. Please send submissions as either a word or PDF file and indicate whether the submission is intended as a poster or presentation. Submissions and questions should be sent to: Theryn Henkel, therynhenkel@gmail.com. **Submission Deadline: July 19, 2013**

SAVE THE DATE: 2013 KLB Annual Conference—September 19-20, 2013

Please mark your calendar and come help celebrate KLB's 10th anniversary at our Annual Conference, September 19-20 at Kean Miller law firm in City Plaza II in the heart of downtown Baton Rouge. The conference will begin at noon on Thursday, September 19 and continue through Friday morning, concluding with the Annual KLB Awards Luncheon at noon. 2013 Conference Chair Steve Gruesbeck and his committee are planning a program to recognize the achievements of youth and community leaders of all ages, civic groups, businesses and governmental supporters who've helped keep Louisiana beautiful. Lt. Governor Jay Dardenne, a staunch supporter of KLB and our mission, will launch the conference as keynote speaker. **Make your hotel reservations now.** Hotel Indigo, a charming boutique hotel located in the business/arts/entertainment district downtown, is this year's conference hotel. An easy walk to the conference venue, Indigo offers European amenities while being a "green engage" facility reflecting its commitment to environmental sustainability. KLB has secured a group rate of \$109 single/double. Valet parking is \$16/night, or you may use the public garage next to the hotel. To make your reservation, follow the link below and use the code **KLB** to receive the conference rate, or simply call them at 1-877-834-3613. [KLB Conference On Line Hotel Reservations](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Teacher Workshops at Red River National Wildlife Refuge Bossier City

<http://www.fws.gov/northlouisiana/RedRiver/>

1. Making Nature Connections - 6 professional development hours

Develop and rekindle your own "sense of wonder" and help children make deeper connections with the world around them. Experience the Look-Move-Build-Sketch planning tool for multi-faceted arts exploration. Then using a jeweler's loupe, thinking by analogy and changing scale we investigate the wonder curriculum of The Private Eye Program. Date: July 18 Time: 9 AM-3:30 PM

2. B is for Birds & Flying Wild - 12 professional development hours

Learn about wild birds - conservation, identification, classification, adaptations, habitat niches, life cycles and migration. Be a bird sleuth! Set up a bird feeding station or bird-friendly garden at school. Plan a flying wild bird festival with your students. Combines citizen science, service-learning and common core standards. Dates: July 23 - 24 Time: 9 AM-3:30 PM

3. Explore Biodiversity - 6 professional development hours

We define the term, using the acronym H.I.P.P.O. Through interactive lessons, we dig deeper into biodiversity issues of habitat loss, invasive exotic species, pollution, pollinators, and endangered species. Date: July 31 Time: 9 AM-3:30 PM

For more information or to register, contact Terri Jacobson at 318-742-1219 or terri.jacobson@fws.gov

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Submit Your Photos for Summer in America's Great Outdoors

The U.S. Department of the Interior manages some of America's most breathtaking national parks, national wildlife refuges, and other public lands. They are inviting you to join their new photo project, *Summer in America's Great Outdoors*. They are creating a large photo collection of all the fun and exciting things people can do on America's public lands this summer. Many people do not know about all the amazing places across the country they can enjoy – places that belong to all Americans. With your help, they'll help people better understand the great opportunities for fun this summer in their own backyards and across the country. **Send your hiking, camping, fishing, biking, sightseeing, and other outdoor recreation photos by [clicking here](#)** and include a short description of the location, so they can properly identify all the great public lands across the country. Take a look at the photos already submitted on our [Summer in America's Great Outdoors Flickr group](#), where they will be highlighting these photos all summer.



Did you know ?

Use bars of soap instead of liquid, it costs less and conserves oil used to produce plastic and reduces waste.



Ceiling fans can be used in occupied rooms to make the family more comfortable. Energy Star® ceiling fan/light combination units are about 50% more efficient than conventional units because of improved motor and blade design. This can save you \$15 per year on electricity bills plus savings on heating and air conditioning when your fan is being operated. *Ceiling fans cool people, not rooms.* (LDNR)

RESOURCES

Building Better Marinas

The Clean & Resilient Marina Guidebook is now available as a free download from the Gulf of Mexico Alliance website, providing marina owners with useful information on tools and recommended best practices at marinas. [Read more](#)

Released by the Coastal Community Resilience Priority Issue Team, the guidebook can be found on the GOMA website: <http://www.gulfofmexicoalliance.org/issues/resilience.php>.



GULF HYPOXIA UPDATE: Large Dead Zone Predicted for the Gulf of Mexico

Maryland Center for Environmental Sciences (UMCES) issued a press release announcing the 2013 Hypoxia Forecasts for the Gulf of Mexico and Chesapeake Bay. Scientists are expecting a very large "dead zone" in the Gulf of Mexico and a smaller than average hypoxic level in the Chesapeake Bay this year, based on several NOAA-supported forecast models. [Read more](#)

Dr. Mark Benfield's Research on the World's Longest Fish Receives International Attention

LSU Professor of Oceanography & Coastal Sciences' oarfish research captures media and public attention

A scientific article published by Mark Benfield and a team from LSU's Department of Oceanography and Coastal Sciences, was published online by the prestigious **Journal of Fish Biology**. This paper documented five observations of healthy oarfish from the northern Gulf of Mexico by oceanographers at LSU. The **oarfish**, or *Regalecus glesne*, which means king of the herrings, is the **world's longest bony fish**. Unfortunately, **little is known about their behavior** because they live in the open ocean, well beyond the continental shelves. Most of what we know comes from dead or dying oarfish that wash up on beaches, **until now**. This research is part of the global SERPENT Project, a research partnership between academia and the oil and gas industry that uses industrial remotely-operated vehicles, or ROVs, to study deep-sea biodiversity. To read the whole story, please visit [LSU's media release](#)

LESTA (La Earth Science Teachers Association) on Facebook

Attention science teacher and others interested in fostering interest in the Earth & Space sciences, LESTA (La Earth Science Teachers Association), has created a FB group. Message me if interested so I can add you! Don't "do" FaceBook, no proble. Contact Sue Ellen at hctigermama@yahoo.com if you're interested in keeping the Earth & Environmental Sciences alive in Louisiana! Even if you are not a formal educator, they would still like you to be part of our group because we believe you have something valuable to share.

NOAA RESTORE Act Science Program Website

The NOAA RESTORE Act Science Program website is now live (restoreactscienceprogram.noaa.gov). On the website, you will find information about the Program, announcements about upcoming events, answers to frequently asked questions, and the current draft of the Program's Science Plan. This Framework will serve as the basis for continued engagement with partners in the region, whose science needs will be the driving force in the development and execution of the NOAA RESTORE Act Science Program, and form the foundation for the Science Plan which will guide the implementation of the Program. Please subscribe on the website to receive alerts and announcements about the Program. For more information: noaarestorescience@noaa.gov

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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www.wlf.la.gov/eec



LouisianaEnvironmentalEducationCommission