



LEEC

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION COMMISSION

What's Inside!

LEEC News, Youth Corner, Volunteer	1
Grants	2
Grants cont.	3
Events & Conferences, Employment	4
Resources	5
Workshops & Webinars	6

A Weekly Compilation of Environmental Education News from Across Louisiana

LEEC NEWS

"Give A Whoop!" Teacher Workshop—Saturday, September 14, 2013

Learn about the **WHOOPING CRANE** reintroduction program and the crane's amazing journey back from the brink of extinction! Geared toward middle/high school teachers and informal educators, this workshop will explain the complexities and challenges of the reintroduction program, demonstrate the new classroom lesson activities, and engage participants in field work related to habitat identification using GPS units. **Receive:** 10 GLE aligned lessons, \$75 stipend, GPS unit for your classroom, breakfast & lunch, up to 7.5 CLUs. Complete attached registration form and mail it, along with your \$25 check to be reimbursed, to: Carrie Salyers, LDWF, 102 Magnate Dr. Suite 201, Lafayette, LA 70508 **Contact:** Sue Ellen Lyons, slyons@holycrosstigers.com or Carrie Salyers csalyers@wlf.la.gov with questions. **Thank you, Chevron, for sponsoring this workshop!**

YOUTH CORNER

Spirit of Innovation Challenge [Deadline: October 24]

The Spirit of Innovation Challenge provides an opportunity for teams of students to create commercially viable products or services to address issues of global sustainability for the benefit of humanity. This annual competition is free and available to students, ages 13-18, worldwide. Beginning Aug. 22, teens are invited to "Get Your Genius On" in the Conrad Foundation's Spirit of Innovation Challenge. Teams from afterschool programs, science clubs, homeschool organizations, and charter schools are also encouraged to participate. Deadline for the 2013-2014 one-page abstract qualification round is October 24. <http://bit.ly/15281qt>

Designing a Resilient Community

Students participate in project-based learning over several days as they assess their community's ability to respond to crises that threaten both natural and human systems. Then they develop ideas for redesigning their community to be more resilient. [Click here](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Lower Ninth Ward Food Action Coalition Seeks Volunteers

The Lower Ninth Ward Food Access Coalition is seeking volunteers to conduct door-to-door surveys that will help develop solutions outlined in their Food Action Plan: mobile grocery store, healthy corner store, and school-based grocery store. For more information, [click here](#).

Come Build A Marsh!

LPBF needs volunteers to help build wetlands in New Orleans on the shore of the lake along Bayou St. John. Volunteer work days: 8:00 am-noon on Thursday 7/25, Friday 7/26, Saturday 7/27, Thursday 8/1, Friday 8/2, Saturday 8/3, Thursday 8/8, Friday 8/9, Saturday 8/10. This is fairly strenuous physical labor in New Orleans summer heat, mostly filling and moving sand bags that weigh up to 60 pounds. We recommend old work clothes & old sneakers. E-mail saintjohnwetland@gmail.com for information and to sign up.

GRANTS

LOUISIANA GRANTS:

Keep LOUISIANA Beautiful 2013-14 Grant Announcement [Deadline: August 26]

2013-14 Keep Louisiana Beautiful Healthy Communities Grant applications are being accepted from **August 5 through August 26, 2013** for projects to be completed between September 2013 and June 2014. Governmental agencies, nonprofits, public and private schools and school districts, and KLB affiliates may apply. Youth-focused organizations may also apply if using a 501c3 organization as fiscal agent. KLB grants fund programs and projects aimed at litter prevention and waste reduction through educational and community-based initiatives. The application and guidelines are posted at www.keeplouisianabeautiful.org. Direct questions to info@keeplouisianabeautiful.org.

Quality Science & Math Grant Program 2013-2014 [Deadline: September 13]

Looking for a way to purchase classroom math and science materials? Are you in need of funding to support equipment for your great ideas? Wish you could implement some ideas seen during last year's conferences or professional development training? The answer might be waiting for you through the Quality Math and Science Grant (QSM) Program. <http://www.seasystem.net/cgi-bin/qsm/>

Awesome Foundation \$1,000 Grants

Awesome NEW ORLEANS awards monthly \$1,000, no-strings-attached grants to applicants in the Orleans Parish area. The focus of Awesome New Orleans will be to provide funding for civic media (community information and engagement in media) related grants eight months of the year and four months out of the year, funding will be open for other types of socially minded projects. For more information and to apply for grant, [click here](#).

NATIONAL GRANTS:

Toshiba America Foundation Grants for Math and Science [Deadline: August 1]

This grant contributes to science & math education by investing in teacher designed projects for students in grades 6-12. Grant requests for \$5,000 or less are accepted on a rolling basis, throughout the calendar year. Grant requests for \$5,000 or more are accepted and reviewed twice a year - **August 1st and February 1st** each year. Please visit <http://www.toshiba.com/taf> and apply now!

American Honda Foundation Youth Education Grants [Deadline: August 1]

The American Honda Foundation has grants of up-to \$75,000 to youth education programs focused on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Be sure to review some of the winning entries from last year. The next round of applications is due August 1st. [Click here](#) for all details.

2014 RSVP Competition [Application Deadline August 9]

RSVP offers a diverse range of volunteer activities that serve communities to create measurable impact, benefit volunteers through the service experience, and create community capacity. RSVP volunteers serve with commitments ranging from a few hours to 40 hours per week. Through this competition, the Corporation for National and Community Service seeks to increase the impact of national service in 270 specific communities across the country. CNCS intends to fund RSVP grants that support volunteers 55 years and older serving in a diverse range of activities that meet specific community needs and respond to National Performance Measures. For more information, [click here](#).

Project Learning Tree GreenWorks! [Deadline: September 30]

Do you have an idea for a school/community native plant garden, a forest improvement project, a streamside restoration plan, a recycling program, or energy conservation project for your students? Need funds to implement it? Apply for a Project Learning Tree GreenWorks! grant. Grants are available in two award levels: 1) the popular and traditional GreenWorks! grants up to a maximum of \$1,000 and 2) GreenWorks! grants up to \$3,000 for registered PLT GreenSchools! (free online registration). <http://bit.ly/13BDBHt>

[GRANTS, CONT.](#)

Captain Planet Foundation Grants [Deadline: September 30]

The Captain Planet Foundation primarily makes grants to U.S.-based schools and organizations with an annual operating budget of less than \$3 million. Grants are made for activities that promote and support high-quality educational programs that enable children and youth to understand and appreciate our world through learning experiences that engage them in active, hands-on projects to improve the environment in their schools and communities. Preferential consideration is given to requests seeking seed funding of \$500 or less and to applicants who have secured at least 50% matching or in-kind funding for their projects. [Click here.](#)

EPA Funding Opportunity—Healthy Schools: Environmental Factors, Children’s Health and Performance, and Sustainable Building Practices [Deadline October 8]

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as part of its Science to Achieve Results (STAR) program, is seeking applications proposing research that will inform school (K-12 educational facilities) building design, construction and operation practices in order to foster safe and healthy school environments and maximize student achievement and teacher and staff effectiveness. For more information, [click here.](#)

Lowe's Toolbox for Education [Deadline: October 15]

For the 2013-14 school year, Lowe's will give priority to meeting basic necessities, with a preference for funding requests that have a permanent impact, such as facility enhancement (both indoor and outdoor) as well as landscaping/cleanup projects, and encourage parental involvement to build a stronger community spirit. Any individual public K-12 school or non-profit parent group associated with that public K-12 school is eligible to apply. The requested grant amount must be between \$2,000 and \$5,000. Deadline is October 15; however, if 1,500 applications are received before application deadline, application process will close. <http://bit.ly/195qDKm>

Pollination Project Invites Applications From Social Entrepreneurs for Seed Grants [Applications Reviewed Once Per Week]

The Pollination Project is accepting applications from individuals working to make their community and the world a better place in the areas of arts and culture, community health and wellness, the environment, and justice. Seed grants of up to \$1,000 will be awarded to social entrepreneurs for projects in the early stages of development, including those that promote compassion toward all life (people, planet, animals), environmental sustainability, justice in all its forms, community health and wellness, and social change-oriented arts and culture. Only applications for seed funding, as opposed to ongoing operational or program costs of a nonprofit organization, will be accepted. For more information, [click here.](#)

World We Want Foundation Seeks Applications for Social Change Projects [Applications Accepted on a Rolling Basis]

The World We Want Foundation is accepting applications from organizations that represent youth making positive social change in their communities and around the world. Grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to youth between the ages of 13 and 25 who want to make a difference through a range of social action activities, including community service projects, service-learning projects, and social ventures. Qualified applications must have a project team of one or more youths, a partner organization that supports and sponsors the team, and a project mentor to guide and advise the team. For more information, [click here.](#)

US Fish & Wildlife Service Seeks Public Comment on Genetically Modified Crops in Refuge Farming Programs—Comments Due July 28th

The United States Department of the Interior, Fish & Wildlife Service is preparing a Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) to evaluate the future use of genetically modified crops on national wildlife refuges in the Southeast Region that allow farming. These refuges use farming as a wildlife management tool to meet refuge-specific goals and objectives. For more information and to submit a comment, [click here.](#)

EVENTS/CONFERENCES

New Science Teacher Academy

The New Science Teacher Academy, cofounded by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) and Amgen Foundation, is a professional development initiative created to help promote quality science teaching, enhance teacher confidence and classroom excellence, and improve teacher content knowledge. Designed as a career-enhancing program for middle school and high school science teachers in their second through fifth year of teaching, the year-long professional development and mentoring program offers unique support and resources throughout the year, with the intention of heightening teaching skills and content knowledge and easing the often difficult initial years as a novice teacher. The Academy provides each teacher with a year-long, discipline-specific mentor; web-based content development courses and other resources; membership with full benefits in NSTA; attendance at the 2014 National Conference on Science Education, including air travel, lodging, meals and registration fees. Hundreds of teachers will be chosen to participate in the 2013–2014 Academy and take advantage of cost-free, consistent online professional development activities along with face-to-face educational experiences. **Deadline: August 1, 2013** <http://www.nsta.org/academy/>

Project WET USA Water Education Conference—August 7-9, 2013, Denver, Colorado

The Project WET USA Conference will offer five conference strands, a full array of speakers, pre-conference field experiences and dedicated networking opportunities...all within easy reach of some of the best fishing, hiking, biking, and other outdoor recreation anywhere. The conference begins on Tuesday evening with an opening night dinner, keynote speaker, and reception perfect for networking and continues through Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday with presentations, keynote speakers, and vendors. Tuesday evening's keynote speaker will be Tom Cech, Director of the One World, One Water Center for Urban Water Education and Stewardship. **Learn more and register [here](#).**

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Water Words That Work Seeks Communication Training Contractor

Water Words That Work, LLC (<http://waterwordsthatwork.com>) seeks a long-term, part-time, work-from-home contractor to offer communication webinar trainings to conservation professionals. [Click here](#).

Mississippi River Delta Restoration Campaign Seeks Communications Coordinator

The Communications Coordinator for the Mississippi River Delta Restoration Campaign will play a key role in building nationwide awareness and support for restoration of the Mississippi River Delta on behalf of Audubon, the Environmental Defense Fund, and the National Wildlife Federation. The coordinator will work closely with other staff members to create and produce content for web and print, conduct media outreach, and distribute key information to campaign staff. While the coordinator will work under the National Audubon Society, subject to all its human resource policies and benefits, s/he will have a primary reporting role to the director of the campaign collaborative who operates under supervision of a joint steering committee. For more information, [click here](#).

Louisiana Wildlife Federation—Coastal Outreach Coordinator

Louisiana Wildlife Federation (LWF), a statewide organization representing a broad constituency of conservationists including hunters, anglers, campers, birders, boaters, and other outdoor enthusiasts who believe in conservation and protection of our state's natural resources, is seeking a dynamic and dedicated individual to serve as the LWF Coastal Outreach Coordinator. For position description, qualifications, salary/benefits, [click here](#). TO APPLY: email cover letter and resume including availability date, salary expectations, and list of references from previous employers to Rebecca Triche, Executive Director at jobs@lawildlifefed.org. Apply only if you have the skills, experience, and qualifications in description. Resumes will be considered until July 31, 2013 or until the position is filled. Learn more about the LWF at www.lawildlifefed.org.

RESOURCES

Pavlof Volcano Eruption

For earth science teachers, CNL World has posted a new resource on Pavlof Volcano in the Aleutian Islands on the IceEarth website: icearth.cnlworld.org. The volcano recently erupted in May and June with a spectacular image acquired from the International Space Station. This image and four page synopsis discuss the geology, eruption, and impacts of Pavlof, and provides a briefing on the International Space Station. For environmental science teachers discussion is presented on the effect of airborne volcanic ash on air traffic and aircraft. A series of inquiry questions are presented as class activities and further explorations. The resource is free for use and download.

National Geographic Education: Collections

The National Geographic Education website has a number of collections dedicated to different areas within the natural sciences. Topics include ocean education, ecosystems, natural disasters, endangered species, and much more. Resources can be selected by grade, subject, type, and more. [Click here](#).

EPA Launches Harmful Algal Bloom Video Public Service Announcement Series

EPA last week released the first of three video public service announcements to raise awareness about the potential public health impacts of harmful algal blooms, which are a manifestation of nutrient pollution. The first video, "When in Doubt, Stay Out," talks about protecting human and pet health from potentially toxic algal blooms. The video is available on EPA's YouTube channel and the other video PSAs will be posted in the coming weeks. Watch the video here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=goPMNzDmJDg>

EPA Features Locally Led Efforts in Urban Water Restoration via Video Series

EPA has released Urban Waters Voices, a series of 12 video interviews featuring locally led efforts to restore urban waters in communities across the United States. These videos feature local efforts and strategies to improve urban water quality while advancing local community priorities. This week's video features Marjorie Mayfield Jackson, Executive Director of the Elizabeth River Project, describing some of the challenges faced by communities along the Elizabeth River in Virginia (e.g. legacy contamination from maritime activity and flooding) and how the organization uses voluntary action and cooperation to promote cleanup efforts. [Watch the video](#).

Plastic Paradise

Filmmaker Angela Sun travels to the Midway Atoll to uncover the mystery of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch in this independent documentary *Plastic Paradise*. <http://plasticparadisemovie.com>

Dream of a Nation Classroom Resources

This educator's web platform provides a range of resources, essays, and lesson plans aligned to state standards to help teachers effectively explore a range of critical civic issues in the classroom. [Click here](#)

Energy Literacy Resource

Focus the Nation has recently published "The WATT? An Energy 101 Primer" as an ebook. Available on multiple platforms, it provides a comprehensive overview of energy in the United States. It offers a clear and visually engaging overview of energy, covering some basic units and equations; the supply, demand and cost of energy; the history of fossil fuels; and renewables and other innovations. [Click here](#)

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.

Socioeconomic Effects of Klamath River Dam Removal

July 24, 2013, 12:00-13:00 Eastern Time; NOAA HQ SSMC-3 10th Floor Large Conference Room 10836

Estimation of Surface Fluxes of Carbon and Heat from Atmospheric Data Assimilation

August 14, 2013, 14:00-15:00 Eastern Time; Conference Center, NOAA Center for Weather and Climate Prediction (College Park, MD)

Pollinator Attraction: How Do Non-Native Plants Change Pollination of Berry Plants Across Alaska?

August 20, 2013, 10:00-11:00 AKDT; Online Access Only

Cloud and Precipitation Assimilation Activities at the JCSDA

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

Register for one of two NEED Educational Events in New Orleans Wednesday October 2

Energy4me Teacher Workshop: The Society of Petroleum Engineers and the US NEED Project invite classroom teachers grades 4-12 to attend a FREE one-day, energy education workshop.

High School Student STEM Event: SPE and Energy4me are educating the next generation of aspiring engineers, scientists and managers about the oil and gas industry. Approximately 200 high school math and science students will see firsthand the exciting opportunities the oil and gas industry can offer.

Both sessions will be at the Morial Convention Center as part of the SPE Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition For more information www.spe.org/go/atce/energyeducation

Register at: <http://www.spe.org/atce/2013/pages/education/teacher/index.php>

Oyster Reef Workshop—August 7th and 8th

The Oyster Reef Workshop will include presentations from experts in the field of oyster reef restoration and study. Topics that will be covered include: Historic and current extent of oyster reefs, oyster reef ecology and ecologic benefits to other fisheries, technical nature of reefs including wave attenuations and shoreline stabilization, oyster reef restoration project development, permitting and liability for artificial reefs and presentations about oyster reef restoration projects executed by NGO, academia and government agencies. The Workshop is free to attend, however, please register so the attendance can be accommodated.

Registration Deadline is Friday, August 2nd.

To Register: email therynhenkel@gmail.com with your **name and affiliation**. **Box lunches will be provided for a \$10 fee.** If you will be purchasing lunch **please indicate your preference of roast beef, ham, turkey or vegetarian sandwich** for both days (you can reserve a different sandwich for each day). We do have lunch time speakers so if you are not purchasing lunch please bring one as there will not be time to go off site. **Location:** University of New Orleans, Research & Technology Park, Lindy Boggs International Conference Center, Room 152, 2045 Lakeshore Drive, New Orleans, LA.

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/>

VENISE ORTEGO *Coordinator*
(337) 948-0255 vortego@wlf.la.gov

JULIET RAFFRAY *Assistant Coordinator*
(225) 765-0124 jraffray@wlf.la.gov

Visit us online at:

www.wlf.la.gov/eec



[LouisianaEnvironmentalEducationCommission](#)