LEEC

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION COMMISSION

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A Weekly Compilation of Environmental Education News from Across Louisiana

LEEC News

12TH ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS STUDENT ART & LANGUAGE ARTS CONTEST

The LEEC is happy to announce Louisiana's 12th Environmental Awareness Student Art & Language Arts Contest. This year's theme is "Watersheds From My Back Yard to the Ocean."

Louisiana students ages 5-18 are invited to submit visual or written work centered around the theme. Entries will be judged; winners will receive a cash prize and be featured in our 2015 calendar.

For contest rules, entry form, and additional resources, visit www.wlf.la.gov/artcontest.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM CALL FOR PRESENTERS AND EXHIBITORS

Presenters and Exhibitors are invited to register for the 17th Annual Louisiana Environmental Education Symposium to be held February 21-22,2014 at the Shreveport Convention Center, 400 Caddo St., Shreveport. This year, the emphasis will be on the concepts of watersheds, preserving water quality, and managing land to reduce impact on our aquatic resources. The theme for this upcoming conference, therefore, is "**Watersheds: From My Back Yard to the Ocean**."

The event is presented by the Louisiana Environmental Education Commission, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and the Louisiana Environmental Education Association, sharing the goal of creating a comprehensive and balanced environmental education initiative that results in a literate citizenry who will make informed decisions to effectively solve existing problems, prevent new ones and maintain a sustainable environmental for future generations.

Use the documents linked below to register no later than December 16, 2013.
Contact Assistant Environmental Education Coordinator Thomas Gresham at tgresham@wlf.la.gov or 225-765-0124 with questions or requests.

Exhibitor Information
Presenter Information
Exhibitor Registration Form
Presenter Registration Form

WATERSHEDS
FROM MY BACK YARD TO THE OCEAN

Louisiana Environmental News

CRCL REQUESTS VOLUNTEERS FOR BIG BRANCH NWR RESTORATION

The Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana (CRCL), Restore America's Estuaries, and The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are inviting volunteers to participate in a marsh grass planting October 16-19, 2013 at Big Branch National Wildlife Refuge, near Slidell. Volunteers will plant nearly 25,000 plugs of marsh grass during this 4-day event to help restore eroding marshes along the Northshore of Lake Pontchartrain. This project will assist in stabilizing the marsh soils in the hopes of preventing future erosion and creating wildlife habitat.

For more information or to sign up, visit:
https://www.thedatabank.com/dpg/316/personal2.asp?formid=event&c=3258214

FREE E-MAGAZINE TOUTS ECOTOURISM IN SOUTH LOUISIANA

Bayou Teche Journal is dedicated to inspiring those who travel French Louisiana seeking to connect with its people, experience their culture and cuisine, and understand their active lifestyle. The journal highlights opportunities for boaters, bird watchers and wildlife naturalists, casual and racing kayakers and canoeists, outdoor enthusiasts and adventurers, cyclists, photographers, cinematographers, writers, philosophers and folks who just love Acadiana.

Get the latest issue here. Or visit http://www.bayoutecheexperience.com/

National Environmental News

EARTH SCIENCE WEEK

From representing land formations and travel routes, to illustrating weather patterns and population distributions, maps are used in many different ways. During Earth Science Week, October 13-19, celebrate how maps and mapping technology are used to show how our planet's systems interact by "Mapping Our World."

NATIONAL CHEMESTRY WEEK

Energy issues are big news these days so take advantage of National Chemistry Week's "Energy: Now and Forever!" theme to start a conversation in your classroom. During October 20-26, talk about the science behind different energy sources including fossil fuels, electricity, biomass, nuclear, solar, geothermal, and wind . Find more information at http://sciencenetlinks.com/collections/national-chemistry-week/ .

RFIP OPENED FOR COASTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The EPA Gulf of Mexico Program has opened their Regional Partnerships Request for Initial Proposals. For more information follow the link http://www.epa.gov/gmpo/.

SPOOKY SCIENCE!

Science Net Links has many resources for classroom teachers looking to engage students with Halloween-themed lessons. Activities and resources include bugs in the night, jumping spiders, the science of mummies, skull diversity, the search for aliens and many more.

Workshops & Webinars

MESSAGING, MARKETING AND MEDIA TO ENGAGE GIRLS IN STEM

The National Girls Collaborative Project is hosting a webinar with a focus to encourage more girls to pursue education and careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. Explore research-based exemplary practices for engaging girls in STEM and effective messaging, marketing and media that excites them about the possibilities of STEM careers. This webinar will include relevant findings and strategies from Changing the Conversation: Messages for Improving Public Understanding of Engineering and other resources and publications. The event will take place Thursday, November 14, 2013 from 12-1 p.m.

Register at http://www.ngcproject.org/messaging-marketing-and-media-engage-girls-stem.

Conferences

NAAEE CONFERENCE NEWS

North American Association for Environmental Education conference goers will be using Twitter to discuss interesting ideas and events going on at their October 9-12 conference in Baltimore. To view the discussion, search for #NAAEE2013 or follow the official NAAEE Twitter feed @NAAEEStaff.

Keynote addresses will be streaming live from the conference. A schedule of speakers is available on the conference website at http://www.naaee.net/conference/program/keynotes .

Opportunities

NOAA'S TEACHER AT SEA PROGRAM

The program will accept applications for its 2014 Field Season from October 1-31, 2013 via its online application system. Please direct any questions about the application to teacheratsea@noaa.gov.
Editor's note: As of the time of publication of this newsletter, NOAA's site was unavailable due to government shutdown.

SAMSUNG SPONSORS SOLVE FOR TOMORROW CONTEST

Samsung and its partners are asking teachers to participate in its annual contest to promote Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education, a key academic challenge in our country. For more information, visit http://www.samsung.com/us/solvefortomorrow/home.html . The application is available at http://www.samsung.com/us/solvefortomorrow/home.html#solveForTomorrowApp .

SEE TURTLES FUNDRAISER

The conservation organization See Turtles is hosting a fundraising contest for its Billion Baby Turtles project. Teachers compete for a a free spot on EcoTeach's Costa Rica Biodiversity Field Expedition, among other prizes. For more information visit http://info.seethewild.org/school-fundraising-contest .

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LouisianaEnvironmentalEducationCommission