



LEEC

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION COMMISSION

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Special eNews Bulletin

LEEC NEWS

ART AND LANGUAGE ARTS CONTEST

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 2016 calendar.

This year's theme is "Biodiversity in Our World."

Entries are due by April 25, 2015. Winners only will be notified by email no later than Friday, May 15, 2015. The list of winners for all categories will be posted on the LEEC website.

Download the entry form at <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/page/33526-louisianas-environmental-awareness-student-art-language-arts-contest/sala15entryform1.pdf>

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

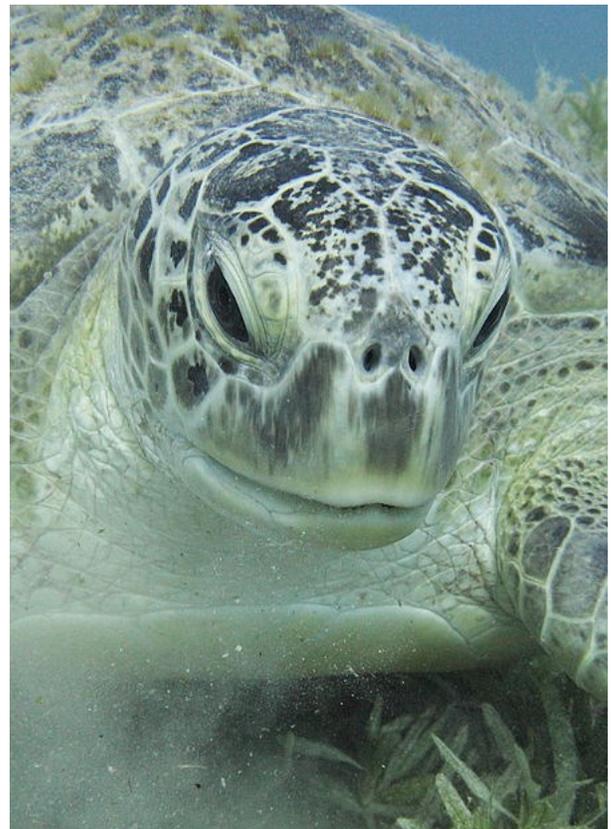
SHRIMP TASK FORCE VOTES TO REPEAL T.E.D. ENFORCEMENT BAN

In a significant vote at the Louisiana Shrimp Task Force meeting today, members came together and voted unanimously to support the repeal of legislation that prohibits LDWF agents from enforcing federal Turtle Excluder Device (TED) regulations.

Their motion was to, "Support legislation to repeal La. R.S. 56:57.2 (both sections) for a period of two years, after which time the Shrimp Task Force shall review the efficacy of the repeal and recommend to the Legislature whether to reinstate the prohibition of enforcement, or to permanently repeal the legislation."

Task Force Chair Mark Abraham told the Times-Picayune (<http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2015/04/louisiana-shrimp-taskforce-vot.html>) that the measure is largely symbolic, since shrimpers already abide by federal regulations. He added, "but having on the books that our own agents can't enforce TEDs sends the wrong message that Louisiana doesn't care about its own marine life."

According to Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries records, Louisiana's Gulf waters are home to five threatened or endangered species of sea turtles. You can see a list of all of Louisiana's rare, threatened and endangered species [here](#).



Green sea turtle image courtesy Alexander Vasenin via Wikimedia Commons.

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

NEW WATER MONITORING PROJECT BEGINS IN NEW ORLEANS

Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation and partners are beginning an unprecedented project to monitor the effectiveness of Green Infrastructure projects to manage storm water in New Orleans. Working together, the partners are monitoring storm water for bacteria, nutrients, metals, and other parameters before and after the installation of Green Infrastructure (GI) at several sites in Pontilly, New Orleans. The goal is to help clean the water entering the lake. See more about this and other LPBF activities at <http://www.saveourlake.org/>.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

LUMCON HOSTS COASTAL LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY COURSE

Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON) recently announced its 2015 Coastal Landscape Photography course/workshop. CLP is offered to enhance participant understanding of coastal environments and the rich coastal culture of Southeast Louisiana. This course can be taken for credit or as an informational workshop. CLP is designed for anyone who has a naturalist's interest or an interest in communicating and documenting our changing landscape through photography.

Dr. Gary LaFleur (Nicholls State University) and Dr. Dennis Sipiorski (SELU) are the instructors for this course and will lead participants in daily excursions to locations throughout the coastal zone of southeast Louisiana.

The course will be held May 17-22, 2015 at LUMCON's DeFelice Marine in Cocodrie, LA. Registration is \$350.

Find the application form online at http://www.lumcon.edu/education/university/summer/forms/CLP_App.pdf.

STUDENT OPPORTUNITY

EPA OFFERS FELLOWSHIPS FOR UNDERGRADUATE ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as part of its Greater Research Opportunities (GRO) Fellowships program, is offering undergraduate fellowships for bachelor level students in environmental fields of study. The deadline for receipt of applications is May 19, 2015.

Find out more at http://www.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2015/2015_gro_undergrad.html

LAGNIAPPE

T.R.E.E. TO HOST "B'EARTHDAY" PARTY APRIL 18

Teaching Responsible Earth Education is inviting people in and around the Covington area to spend the day celebrating the Earth at an event with environmental education activities, forest adventures, crafts and picnic-style food. Find out more at T.R.E.E.'s Facebook event page, <https://www.facebook.com/events/1412038429098818/>.

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