

# LEEC NEWSLETTER

A COMPILATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION NEWS FROM LOUISIANA AND BEYOND



## LEEC NEWS

# SAVE THE DATE! FEB. 3 & 4, 2017

The 2017 Environmental Education State Symposium, the region's premiere environmental education conference, will be held **February 3-4, 2017** at the Baton Rouge Marriott. This year's theme will be "Protecting Louisiana's Endangered Species."

Formal, non-formal and informal educators, and folks in related industries from Louisiana and surrounding states are invited to join in as participants, presenters and exhibitors.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Venise Ortego at [vortego@wlf.la.gov](mailto:vortego@wlf.la.gov). If you would like to host a 1-day short course, see the article below.

Check our [symposium website](#) in the upcoming weeks for more information about submitting concurrent session presentation proposals, exhibitor instructions and registration information.

## PROTECTING LOUISIANA'S



## ENDANGERED SPECIES

*This year's symposium logo depicts three species considered rare or endangered in Louisiana: the diamondback terrapin, Le Conte's thistle and the Louisiana pine snake.*

**DID YOU KNOW** that the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries maintains a comprehensive list of rare Louisiana plant and animal species?

Visit <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/wildlife/species-parish-list> to view the species list, including state and global rarity ranking, and links to fact sheets for many species.

## SHORT COURSE PRESENTER PROPOSALS

The LEEC is currently accepting Short Course proposals for Workshops, Tours, or Workshop/Tour Combos to coincide with the 2017 Environmental Education State Symposium. Short Courses will be held Friday, February 3, 2017 in and around Baton Rouge, LA.

Presenters should plan for no fewer than 7 contact hours with participants. Tours or offsite workshops should be within reasonable driving distance from the conference hotel, the Baton Rouge Marriott at 5500 Hilton, Baton Rouge, LA 70808.

If you have an idea in mind, please take a few minutes to fill out our easy, online proposal form. The deadline for proposals is Sept. 16, 2016.

Find the form at <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/2017-short-course-proposal-form>.

# ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

## NATIONAL ESTUARIES WEEK SEPT. 17-24

Since 1988, National Estuaries Week has celebrated the many ways we benefit, from healthy, thriving coastal ecosystems. All throughout the country, local organizations including Restore America's Estuaries member groups, National Estuarine Research Reserves and National Estuary Programs organize special events, like beach clean-ups, hikes, canoe and kayak trips, workshops and more to recognize the special role these places play in our everyday lives. National Estuaries Week is a terrific opportunity to learn more about estuaries and the perfect excuse to spend time on your local bay!

Find out more at [Restore America's Estuaries](#).

# STUDENT OPPORTUNITY

## USFWS WILD THINGS ART CONTEST

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is inviting students ages 5-18 to paint or draw native Louisiana species for its Wild Things Youth Art Contest and Exhibition.

Artwork must be original recent work, not computer generated, scanned or traced. Artwork entered in a previous year cannot be re-entered. Artwork **MUST BE** matted. Artwork must **NOT** be framed or have name, initials or title on front.

Entry deadline: Friday, Sept. 30, 2016. [Download the flyer and entry form here](#).



# LAGNIAPPE

## JOIN GIRL SCOUTS FOR A "BIG" EVENT

Girl Scouts Louisiana East presents Believe in Girls (BIG) on Saturday, September 24, 2016 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registered Girl Scouts grades K-12 are invited to attend. Membership registration must be completed by September 2, 2016.

The event kicks off the year with hands on activities and presentations showcasing organizations which foster and encourage Girl Scout involvement and education throughout the year, focusing on Girl Scout Initiatives such as STEM, Healthy Living, Financial Literacy and our Outdoor Legacy.

Find out more at [http://www.gsle.org/en/events-repository/2016/the\\_big\\_event.html](http://www.gsle.org/en/events-repository/2016/the_big_event.html).

## SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

September is National Preparedness Month and this year the theme is "Don't Wait, Communicate. Make Your Emergency Plan Today". USEPA is highlighting several steps that utilities and communities can take during this month to prepare for an emergency that may impact water services.

Find risk assessment and emergency management information at <https://www.epa.gov/waterresilience/national-preparedness-month-2016>



### BUY A PLATE TO EDUCATE

Support the LEEC by purchasing an Environmental Education specialty plate at [www.expresslane.org](http://www.expresslane.org)

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