

# LEEC NEWSLETTER

A COMPILATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION NEWS FROM LOUISIANA AND BEYOND



## LEEC NEWS



### 2017 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION STATE SYMPOSIUM

Registration is now open for the 2017 Environmental Education State Symposium to be held February 3 & 4, 2017 at the Baton Rouge Marriott.

#### HOTEL INFORMATION

To book a room at the Marriott using the special conference rate, visit <https://goo.gl/7L4LZR>.

#### PRESENTER PROPOSALS

Concurrent sessions will take place on Saturday, February 4, 2017 at the Baton Rouge Marriott. Session times will be approximately 50 minutes, with 10-minute breaks between. Visit <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/presenter-form> to submit a proposal. Proposals are due on or before Monday, December 5, 2016.

#### EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION

If you would like to represent your organization as an exhibitor at the symposium, please register at <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/exhibitor-form>.

### LEEC WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBER

Please join the Louisiana Environmental Education Commission in welcoming Jill Cowart to the board. Ms. Cowart has held the post of Math and Science Instructional Team Lead at the Louisiana Department of Education for the past two years. She replaces outgoing member Ann Wilson as the commission's LDOE representative.

### LEEC REPRESENTATIVES HOST FIRST WATERSHED WEBS FIELD EXPERIENCE

Thirty-nine students from Covington High School along with science teachers Steve Turner and John Boudreaux joined LEEC hosts Dinah Maygarden of UNO and Thomas Gresham of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries on the first Watershed Webs student field experience. Students tested water quality and collected debris on the shore of Lake Pontchartrain at Fontainebleau State Park.



Covington High students search the sands for debris at Fontainebleau State Park.

The field experience was conducted as a follow up to LEEC's summer Watershed Webs Workshops, sponsored by a NOAA B-WET grant, where Mr. Turner and dozens of other educators from around the Gulf region received instruction on water quality testing, using real-world debris data in the classroom and more. Keep up with LEEC's professional development offerings at <http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/professional-development-opportunities>.

# WEBINAR

## LIONFISH: ALIEN INVADERS FROM THE INDO-PACIFIC

December 1, 2016 at 5 p.m.

Join Kelly Drinnen of NOAA's Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary and Marlies Tumulo of NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries to learn about the impacts these voracious predators are having on Atlantic, Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico ecosystem. Learn what NOAA and its partners are doing to combat this invasion. A new lesson plan that you can bring into your classroom or facility will be featured.



Image from National Marine Sanctuaries

[Register for the webinar here.](#)

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## NSTA AREA CONFERENCE: SAVE THE DATE

On November 30—December 2, 2017, New Orleans will host the NSTA Area Conference on Science Education. You can save the date to attend or propose your own presentation.

Submit a session proposal at [www.nsta.org/conferenceproposals](http://www.nsta.org/conferenceproposals). Deadline is January 17, 2017.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Americans use 85,000,000 tons of paper a year; about 680 pounds per person. Recycling a single run of the Sunday New York Times would save 75,000 trees.

Source: [University of Southern Indiana](#).

# LAGNIAPPE

## THE CASE FOR FREE PLAY

A recent article in the New York Times presents the case for allowing children to take risks while playing outdoors. The piece features the Lanza family of Silicon Valley who have a unique, *laissez faire* philosophy on risky outdoor play.

Whether you agree or not, the article, [found here](#), is bound to provoke thought and discussion about just how much control parents should have over playtime.



Image from New York Times



### BUY A PLATE TO EDUCATE

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