

LA Wetland Education Coalition

Wetland News for November 19, 2004



1. Environmentalist pessimistic about changes at beach
2. 3rd Annual Building Bridges Education Expo to be held Saturday, January 8, 2005
3. Audubon Nature Institute launches Wild-Lab.com with LA Wetlands for Grades 5-7!
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1. Environmentalist pessimistic about changes at beach

A recent article in the Baton Rouge Advocate newspaper details the problems of beach front development. To read the article, go to http://2theadvocate.com/stories/111504/new_beach001.shtml

2. 3rd Annual *Building Bridges* Education Expo to be held Saturday, January 8, 2005

The Expo brings together educators from all walks of life – classroom teachers, informal educators, school administrators, homeschoolers, scout and youth group leaders, and more—to enjoy informative presentations, an educational exhibit hall, and valuable networking opportunities. For just **\$15**, educators receive admission to the Expo, lunch, various educational materials from our exhibitors and presenters *and* the chance to earn up to five Continuing Learning Units. Exhibitors and presenters from a wide variety of educational organizations will share their ideas for curriculum enhancing activities, educational partnerships, exciting field trip destinations and much more. The Expo will be January 8, 2005, from **9:00 am to 3:30 pm at Grace King High School in Metairie, LA.**

Visit the Expo website at www.buildingbridgesexpo.org to download flyers, registration forms, or additional contact information; prices increase to \$20 after December 22nd, **so don't delay!**

3. Audubon Nature Institute launches Wild-Lab.com with LA Wetlands for Grades 5-7!

Audubon Nature Institute has created WILD-LAB which will be a collection of online educational curricula that fulfill nature science standards and benchmarks for Louisiana. WILD-LAB has launched its first curriculum: **The Louisiana Wetlands for 5 - 7 Grades...** The students will go step-by-step through the curriculum watching presentations, doing research, and answering questions. **Wild-Lab.com** is a series of online earth science activities that launched in September 2004. It is a highly-interactive educational experience and a completely free service from the **Audubon Nature Institute** here in New Orleans.

EDUCATORS can:

- Sign up your students as individual users or in work groups
- Monitor student progress through the curriculum
- See what STANDARDS and BENCHMARKS have been achieved at each step
- See which TYPES of problem-solving techniques (i.e. "communication", "resource access &

- utilization", etc.) were needed for answers
- And it's all FREE

HOW TO BEGIN:

- go to wild-lab.com and read the **Overview**
- **register** and create your class
- print the **handouts** for your students and let them go WILD

4. NOAA's National Marine Sanctuaries Launches New Education Website

NOAA's National Marine Sanctuary Program education mission is to enhance public awareness, understanding and appreciation of the marine environment. With that in mind, a new education website has been launched. Take a Sanctuary Tour of image galleries or explore the section for teachers, which includes curriculum, online activities, professional development opportunities, high tech learning, multicultural programs and much more. You can also take a virtual dive in a submersible, download puzzles, read online story books and engage in digital labs just for fun. For more information, check out <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education>.

5. Almost 200 people from around the country paddle Bayou Lafourche

06:31 PM CST on Sunday, November 14, 2004

Associated Press

NAPOLEONVILLE, La. — As the band belted out "Pretty Woman" from a bayou dock, someone in one of the scores of canoes and kayaks floating nearby shouted "Aiiieeeee!" It was part of a four-day paddling celebration of Bayou Lafourche, starting Friday in Donaldsonville and ending Monday in Lockport.

Almost 200 people from around the United States joined for at least one day, seeing "the nation's longest Main Street" from water level and learning about the history and importance of Louisiana wetlands.

For four years now, the Barataria-Terrebone Estuary Program has organized Paddle Bayou Lafourche to promote wetlands conservation and efforts to preserve this bayou.

To read the remainder of the article, go to:

<http://www.wvltv.com/local/lafourche/stories/111404ccjrwwllafourche.59202c7a.html>

6. Cat Island cypress tree is largest tree east of the Sierra Nevada Mountains

NEW ORLEANS. The largest tree, of any species, east of the Sierra Nevada mountain range is a bald cypress tree growing in the Cat Island National Wildlife Refuge near St. Francisville, Louisiana.

The tree- 100 feet tall and 17 feet wide, with a circumference of 53 feet – is quite an attraction. But it's only the largest of many bald cypress trees that hikers can see in the 9,700 –acre reserve.

Many of the trees are between 500 and 1,000 years old and were mature when West Feliciana Parish was first settled by Europeans in the 18th century, refuge officials say.

To read the rest of the story, visit the Baton Rouge Advocate at <http://www.theadvocate.com/>. To learn more about Cat Island National Wildlife Refuge, visit <http://southeast.fws.gov/CatIsland/>.

7. LAWEC-L LISTSERVE INFORMATION

- **Description of this listserv:** A listserv serving educators interested in LA wetlands.
 - **To send a message of your own to the listserv:** email LAWEC-L@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU and type your message into the body of the email. The message will be distributed to ALL PARTICIPANTS subscribing to the listserv. As a participant, you are welcome to send messages to educators subscribing to the LA Wetland Education Consortium listserv. We ask that participants focus their emails on educational opportunities and materials *directly related to wetland education*.
 - **To UNSUBSCRIBE from this listserv:** email LAWEC-L@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU and enclose the following single line in the body of the email
unsubscribe LAWEC-L
 - **To SUBSCRIBE to this listserv:** email LISTSERV@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU, with only the following line listed in the body of the email:
subscribe lawec-l YourFirstName YourLastName
For example:
subscribe lawec-l John Doe
- NOTE: You should not put anything in the subject line and should remove any automatic signatures from the email, otherwise the signup process will not work. You will get a return message indicating that you have been subscribed to the listserv along with information on other listserv operations you can perform (such as unsubscribe, etc.). If you have trouble, email Dr. Pam Blanchard at <pamb@lsu.edu>.

Please do not reply to the entire list unless you want everyone to read your message!

