Greetings from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Office of Coastal Management.

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Permits/Mitigation Division Updates
- OCM will be holding a one-day seminar titled "Coastal Use Permitting in the Louisiana Coastal Zone" (click here for agenda). This seminar will provide coastal users with an overview of the CUP process (what OCM does and how/why OCM does it) and instructions on completing a Coastal Use Permit (CUP) application, navigating our website and locating information about applications and permits. The seminar is free but space is limited so we are requesting pre-registration in order to get a headcount. Click here to register you or your group. Please contact our office at OCMinfo@la.gov or 225-342-7953 with questions. If demand for the seminar exceeds available space, an additional seminar can be scheduled.

- OCM is pleased to announce some recent staff changes. Nicole Dandurand has taken the Western Section Permit Coordinator position, Andi Zachery has joined the Permit Section and Amelia Wolfe has joined the Mitigation Section. Please help us in welcoming our newest staff members.

Louisiana Clean Marina Program
- DNR certified three new Louisiana Clean Marinas: the Rigolets Marina in Orleans, the Venice Marina in Plaquemines and the Chamale Marina in St. Tammany Parishes respectively. The Louisiana Clean Marina Program promotes and celebrates voluntary adoption of measures to assist marinas and recreational boaters in protecting Louisiana’s waters. Marinas that are designated as ‘Louisiana Clean Marinas’ are recognized as environmentally responsible businesses and enjoy the positive goodwill and positive economic benefits of being able to promote their business as a Louisiana Clean Marina program participant. More information on how to become Clean Marina can be found on our website here.

OCM Coastal Resiliency Efforts
- In order to assist Louisiana communities in achieving greater coastal resiliency to tropical storms and the corresponding storm surge, riverine flooding and other disasters or emergencies, OCM staff participated in a workshop with the City of Iowa and the Southwestern and Chenier Plains Parishes (Cameron, Calcasieu, Iberia, St. Mary and Vermilion) in the formulation of community resiliency activities that would help better prepare for disasters and emergency events and help to lower risk insurance payments. At a follow-up workshop, groups reported out on and revised the community resiliency activities that were implemented in their respective areas. The types of activities implemented in Louisiana included:
  - performing additional follow up Community Resiliency Indexes (CRI) in the participating parishes to gauge resiliency improvement since the first CRI indexes executed approximately one year before,
  - performing additional Community Rating System (CRS) qualifying activities to enable representatives to receive discounts on National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) rates,
  - formation of a Southwestern and Chenier Plains Parishes CRS User Group that will coordinate activities and potentially qualify for even further lower NFIP rates,
  - purchasing identified preparedness equipment such as portable electric generators and reentry badge processing machines,
  - continuing to coordinate and hold planning meetings and drills with first responders and other parish emergency services personnel to further

  # Disaster Resilience
  # Gear Up
  # Protect Lives
  # Protect Property
  # Prepare Now
• continuing to survey critical area businesses, formulate critical business re-entry procedures, and provide disaster preparedness outreach and response equipment and plans,
• continuing to network with other local communities, state and federal emergency preparedness resource partners, and
• continuing public outreach meetings to area businesses and residents.

OCM staff continues to assist these and other Louisiana coastal communities with these types of disaster preparedness/community resiliency activities. If you would like to receive assistance or for further information please contact: Jon A. Truxillo at (225)342-3394 or at jon.truxillo@la.gov. More information about Coastal Resiliency can be found here.

CoastIt Notes is a publication of the Office of Coastal Management to inform permit applicants, the public and others of events and items that may impact them or their interaction with our office. This e-document is intended to improve customer service and awareness of OCM works and functions and includes announcements from all OCM divisions as issues arise.

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