

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Newsletter

Hurricane Season from Alberto to William in 2018

Top scientists from Colorado State University said a near-average season is likely for the 2018 Atlantic Hurricane Season that began June 1st - with 14 named storms, of which six are predicted to become hurricanes. A tropical storm becomes a hurricane when its wind speed reaches 74 mph. The region covers the Atlantic basin, which includes the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico.

“Now is the time to plan and prepare for the safety and security of your family, businesses and pets should severe weather strike Louisiana during this hurricane season,” said Gov. John Bel Edwards. “We’ve already had our first tropical threat along the Gulf Coast this year, and as we know from first-hand experience, it’s never too early to prepare. We must always be alert and heed all warnings from state, local, weather and emergency officials. Taking the time to put together your personal plans will help save lives.”

The Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) has several resources at www.GetAGameplan.org

Be sure to have a look and download the free *GetAGamePlan App*. Several other online resources are available so that you and your loved ones can prepare ahead of any storm.

www.weather.gov

www.ready.gov



LaHouse is celebrating 10 years with Open House in July

[LaHouse Home and Landscape Resource Center](#) will celebrate its 10th anniversary with a series of events, including LaHouse Anniversary Open House Saturday, July 14 (and again on November 10) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., with birthday cake, special exhibits, free publications and experts on hand to answer questions.

The exhibit house includes four climate-tailored building and foundation systems, three high-efficiency HVAC systems and a wide variety of materials, products, assembly methods and technologies with green, healthy and low-maintenance characteristics.

It is a part of the LSU AgCenter and is located on campus, the showcase home offers housing solutions to challenges of the Gulf Coast region. Its sustainable landscape has a walking trail and plant identification signs with horticulture exhibits and stormwater management features to prevent pollution, plus a number of other features. There is plenty of free print materials on many topics available while touring the facilities.

Self-guided touring is on Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and LaHouse is open on pre-announced Saturdays. Donations to continuing education efforts at LaHouse are accepted.

LaHouse Resource Center was funded by major sponsors including Paula Garvey Manship; Entergy of Louisiana; the La. Home Builders Association; and a several other donors. Initially funding was provided by its primary partners, the U.S. Dept. of Energy and La. Dept. of Natural Resources.

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources



dnr.la.gov

Happy 4th of July!



Louisiana/DNR



twitter

#ldnr



8 Principles of a Healthy Home

Coming Soon: Pipeline Safety Conference 2018— July 30 to August 3—New Orleans

DNR Office of Conservation Pipeline Safety Division will host the upcoming Pipeline Safety Conference, July 30 - August 3, at the Astor Crowne Plaza in New Orleans. The conference is co-hosted by the Louisiana Gas Association (LGA), New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, Arkansas Oil & Gas Commission, Arkansas Public Service Commission, Alabama Public Service Commission and Mississippi Public Service Commission, and includes 60 vendors. Hundreds of participants from across the country will attend, in particular, PHMSA's Associate Administrator and Region Director. Discussions include the status of each state's pipeline safety program, new regulations and various PHMSA initiatives that affect state programs and the pipeline industry.

The agenda includes tracks for gas transmission, gas distribution and hazardous liquids which cover 191/192, 195 and 199 topics and damage prevention. An optional track and vendor track are also available to attendees. Learn more and register online at [LGA](#).

According to OC's Pipeline Safety Director Steven Giambone, this year, Louisiana is the chair of the SW Region and will host its regional meeting, which is concurrent with the conference. Pictured is Conservation's Steven Giambone and PHMSA TQ instructor Wayne St. Germain at last year's conference.



September 18 -19

Lafayette, La.

1521 West Pinhook Road

<http://loga.la/fallmeeting/>

Don't Miss this opportunity for SONRIS Training...

Registration has begun for the Louisiana Oil and Gas 2018 Fall Meeting & Seminar which offers opportunities to network among colleagues, mentors and industry experts during this two-day meeting featuring industry speakers.

DNR SONRIS Training and Regulatory topics will headline Day Two of LOGA Event

The department is preparing to offer website database system training during the La. Oil and Gas Association's Fall Meeting to be held in September in Lafayette. Many industry professionals in Houston, Dallas, and other locations have requested classes to learn more about the **DNR SONRIS Data (Natural Resources Information System)** where millions of oil and gas records, well information, and much more can be easily retrieved at no cost to the user.

Much like the workshop hosted by DNR in November of last year at its LaSalle Office building in Baton Rouge- the same topics will be covered and many of the "How-Tos" of working in the SONRIS system will be presented on the second day (Sept. 19) of LOGA's seminar. If you want to know how to get GIS data and maps, access reports and tests, find well registrations and production reporting - be sure to be a part of and register for the fall meeting that focuses on doing business in the state.

DNR Office of Conservation plans to have all District Office Managers attend along with other key personnel from its Environmental division to help with any regulatory or operations questions that attendees might have. The Office of Mineral Resources and Office of Coastal Management will also have key staff members presenting on the state's mineral leasing program and coastal zone permitting. Find out more online at <http://loga.la/fallmeeting/>

Oil and Gas Industry Outlook

BP's annual Energy Outlook 2018 states the global energy mix is the most diverse the world has ever seen, with oil, gas, coal and non-fossil fuels each contributing around one-quarter. Renewables will be the fastest-growing fuel source, increasing five-fold and providing around 14 percent of primary energy.

Additionally, BP officials recently noted that the number of electric cars will grow to around 15 percent. "This is the area that is most exciting because, as technology advances, so does the availability of electric cars to the masses, making it an affordable option for consumers," said BP Texas City Plant Manager Pete Nowobilski.

La. Energy Facts Annual 2017

DNR's Technology Assessment Division has printed its Facts Annual that maintains Louisiana as first in OCS crude oil production, OCS natural gas, and first in LNG terminal capacity in terms of rankings of energy producing states.

Included in the booklet is the 21st edition of the state's crude oil refinery survey report that covers data on Louisiana's sixteen refineries and looks at the total U.S. refinery operating rates since 1991.

If you are researching oil and gas production, drilling, revenue, reserves, prices, electric utilities, coal and lignite, and general energy statistics, contact: TAD Economist Edward O'Brien @ 225-342-8573. For a look at all of the division's data and publications, go to this link, www.dnr.louisiana.gov/tad

A Message from DNR Secretary Tom Harris



As we start the new fiscal year, I would like to share some thoughts I have on the work our team at DNR does. I believe this agency has a strong core of staff members with a passion for their jobs and for the state that we all serve, and I continue to be amazed and impressed by the dedication and commitment of the men and women of this agency to maintaining our shared mission of balancing the promotion of sustainable use of the natural resources of our state with the work of enforcing regulations that ensure that use is carried out in a responsible manner that is protective of the environment and the people of Louisiana.

Despite the constant concerns of ever-tightening budgets and the ever-shifting methods and processes of the industries we regulate, the people who make up this agency have continued to respond with initiative and flexibility in effectively maintaining high standards in managing the activities under our jurisdiction. Every part of this agency does work that is important – the work of our coastal office in ensuring that development in the coastal zone can continue to support our economy while not sacrificing more of our fragile coastline; the work of the Office of Conservation in managing the drilling, production, transportation and storage of oil and gas; as well as protecting groundwater and managing exploration and production waste; the work of our Mineral Resources staff in ensuring the state receives its appropriate share of oil and gas produced from state lands and waters; and

the work of our State Energy office in helping track the statistics used in planning budgets and forecasting energy trends, as well as management of energy efficiency programs.

While we tend to think first of those divisions that interact directly with the public and industry, I never forget the people who do the work that makes all the rest of what we do possible, handling payroll and health insurance, taking care of the budgeting and managing the contracts and grants for DNR. Without the efforts of these parts of the team, the rest of the agency cannot do its job. Every job matters, and everyone here depends on someone else's work at some point. And despite the re-shuffling of roles and what seems to be a steady erosion of funding and personnel over the past several years, this team still gets it done every day, and I am proud to serve with you.

From DNR Human Resources Office: Training mandate, policy changes are on the way

There is a new legislative mandate, Act 270 of the 2018 Regular Legislative Session, which outlines training requirements by public servants for purposes of preventing sexual harassment. Such legislation incorporates the previous requirements of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 107 of the 2012 Regular Legislative Session by requiring all public servants to complete one (1) hour of training during every year of public employment, but now goes a step further. It also requires supervisors and those designated to investigate complaints of sexual harassment to complete additional education and training. Further details are forthcoming soon, so employees are encouraged to be on the lookout for revisions to HR Policy 10-A, Preventing Sexual Harassment, and promulgation of a new comprehensive Training policy (HR Policy No. 6).

Ploggers tackling big problem in our communities and hopes momentum will continue

Plogging is the act of picking up litter while jogging. Originating in Sweden, plogging is literally sweeping the streets! Many say this video which went viral online <https://youtu.be/XZvYW7iTAj0>—has helped to inspire the efforts now underway by walking and jogging enthusiasts all across America.

Plogging combines cardio and strength in your workout with every squat you take picking up litter off the ground. According to [Life sum](#), in 30 minutes of plogging—a typical plogger will burn 288 calories. Keep America Beautiful is supporting plogging in everyway and is hoping to keep the momentum going. Here is a recent article from [KAB](#)— explaining more about this eco-friendly workout trend. See this link, <https://www.kab.org/news-info/>

In Baton Rouge, there was the first Mid City Plogging night hosted by Elifin Realty company held on June 13. In July, Elifin is planning another event—so stay-tuned and let's hope that more and more communities are willing to organize and get ploggers together to hit the streets for some serious litter busting!



Future Scientists, Geologists, Biologists looking ahead to their STEM careers one day

There's a bright future ahead when you absorb knowledge like a sponge at a young and tender age. And, at many of the department's educational outreach events, it has been quite apparent that plenty of our future leaders, engineers, and scientists are eager and excited about what they will eventually contribute to the world when they grow-up. The agency's Geaux Team has been on the move in the past months teaching student groups and young campers the importance of their studies in science, technology, engineering, and math—STEM. DNR Geaux Team staffers include Coastal's Heather Evans, Donna Thompson, Jessica Diez, Frank Cole and Kirk Kilgen. Also, Conservation's Teri Tharp and Office of the Secretary's Edward O'Brien and Phyllis Darensbourg.

Here are some of the places and children the DNR Geaux Team has been happy to serve.

Black Bear Festival in Franklin

Ocean Fest/Oceans Day, Audubon Zoo, New Orleans

Jeff Fish Fest and Rodeo in Metairie

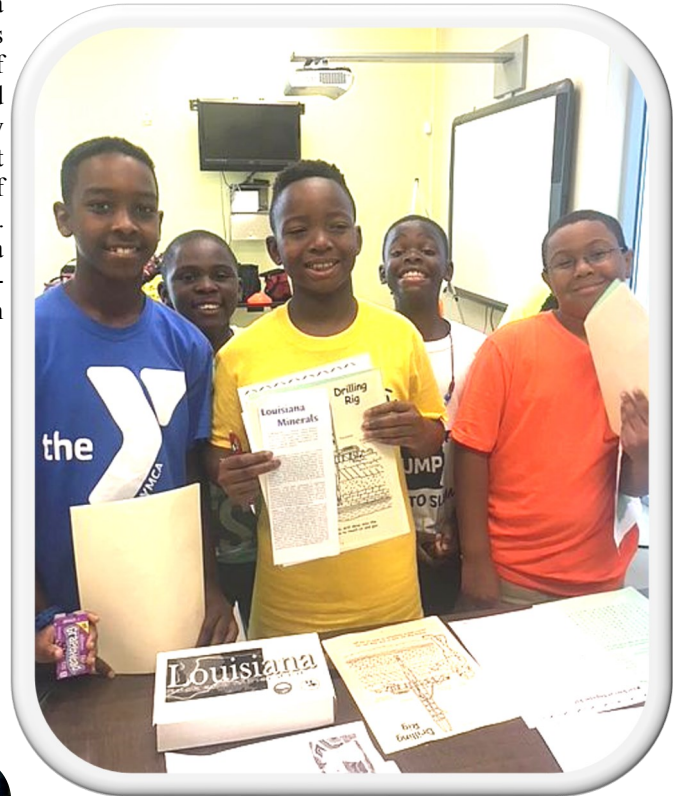
City of Natchitoches, Summer Day Camp

ExxonMobil YMCA, Summer Day Camp, Baton Rouge

Summer Reading Program, Opelousas-Eunice Public Library

Photo: Mrs. Butler's day campers at the ExxonMobil YMCA this summer were very enthusiastic about learning how a drilling rig operates as well as naming many of the rocks and minerals of our state and where they might be found.

This first-class YMCA-facility was built in 2010, and is located on 2.8 acres of land in North Baton Rouge.



In State-cation adventure at Avery Island— Tabasco is celebrating 150 years young!

[AVERY ISLAND, La. \(AP\)](#)

By: Beth J. Harpaz, Travel Editor, June 13, 2018

One of the world's most famous condiments, Tabasco, celebrates its 150th birthday this year.

Edmund McIlhenny created the famous pepper sauce in 1868 on Avery Island, Louisiana. The company is still headquartered there, and it is still run by McIlhenny's descendants.

But whether or not you're one of those pepper fiends who shakes Tabasco on everything from eggs to burgers, Avery Island is a fun destination with a neat history. Tour the Tabasco museum and factory, try free samples of Tabasco-infused goodies, dine on Cajun food

and consider trying a bloody mary (spiked with Tabasco, of course). There's also a unique nature preserve called Jungle Gardens where you'll learn the story of how Avery Island helped save an entire species of bird from disappearing in the U.S.

Despite its name, though, Avery Island is not an island. It's a salt dome, a geological phenomenon in which an underground bed of salt pushes up the terrain. That salt is used to flavor Tabasco.

TABASCO HISTORY- As the story goes, McIlhenny planted some pepper seeds he'd been given and liked the peppers they grew. He mashed them up with Avery Island salt, let the mixture age, then added vinegar and packaged the result in bottles designed for cologne.

The spicy sauce was a hit.

Museum exhibits include vintage bottles along with the wooden barrels still used to age the sauce. A greenhouse displays some pepper plants, though the peppers are now mostly grown outside the U.S. The sauce is bottled here, though, and you'll get a good look at the factory where a stream of bright red bottles flies past. The factory can produce up to 700,000 bottles a day, and you'll see the day's tally on a digital ticker. Read the full story, at this link, [Making Tabasco's 150th birthday...](#)



The Top Louisiana Agricultural Products include Seafood, Poultry, Soybeans, Rice, Sugarcane, Corn, Cotton, Sweet Potatoes, Cattle, and Dairy products

“Happy Retirement “ as one chapter ends and another begins for several employees

A Breakfast Retirement Party

In June, a number of well-wishers visited and celebrated **DNR Human Resources Manager Bobbie Scott**, who is leaving the agency after 28 years of public service. Bobbie said that her ‘motorcycle wheels’ are gearing up for a trip to the Great Smoky Mountains in Tennessee! She is pictured standing with Daniel David (with State Civil Service) who joined in the farewell get-together. Bobbie is also shown waving goodbye alongside HR Specialist Kayla Kirby, who prepared a beautiful parting gift basket in her honor.

A sincere and heartfelt goodbye from our DNR family also goes out to **Office of Conservation Retirees- Deborah Wells, 10 years; Lyn Decuir, 28 years; Teresa Rougon, 24 years, and to Debra Persick with 34 years of state service!**



Fuel Team Meets in June for Preparedness

The LOUISIANA FUEL TEAM recently held its annual meeting to discuss this year’s hurricane season outlook and to discuss new strategies, needs, and improvements for the [Louisiana Fuel Team Playbook](#).

According to DNR Office of Coastal Management Asst. Secretary Keith Lovell, the fuel team is comprised of volunteer members from multiple governmental agencies and representatives from the private sector and trade organizations. Lovell serves as the Fuel Team Coordinator and OCM’s Sara Krupa is the Assistant Technical Coordinator. Partner-

ing agencies are La. GOHSEP, DEQ, DAF, DOTD, and the PSC.

Private sector Fuel Team members include industry representatives from the refiner and supplier sector, supply and terminal sector, retail sector, and tank truck carrier sector.

A GIS database of gasoline and diesel fueling stations located across the state can be viewed online. Volunteer businesses provide current information on the availability of fuel which is especially important before during and after a storm.

Learn more about the workings of the [Fuel Team](#).

Report on Lease Sale Figures

State Mineral and Energy Board

June 2018 Mineral Lease Sale

\$993,666.

Total FY 2017-18 = \$4.6 million

Total FY 2016-17 = \$1.9 million

Total FY 2015-16 = \$5.5 million

Next Board Meeting and Lease Sale

July 11, 2018

Welcome New Member of the Board

Byron L. Lee of Harvey, La.

Lignite mining operations in state undergo periodic inspection



DNR Office of Conservation geologists ensure proper mining and surface reclamation at the Five Forks Mine in north Louisiana. This is one of several mining operations under state government oversight. Photos were taken in March of this year, provided by Dr. Abby Alkire, Geologist Supervisor, Injection & Mining Division. On far right, taken in April, the massive dragline being moved across a bridge to a surface mining site helps to transport and dismantle materials. Surface Mining section staff also include geologists Luzma Mata de Leder and Danielle Duhé.