

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Newsletter



dnr.la.gov

Employee Training Benefits, Requirements and Opportunities

By: Rikki Nicole David, DNR Human Resources Director

Training is an important investment that benefits both DNR and its employees. It increases the quality and efficiency of work performed, as well as helps to avoid costly errors and lost time due to errors. Moreover, training demonstrates that employees are valued, which, in turn, leads to greater job satisfaction and engagement. It is only in and through our competent, well-trained staff that DNR can continue to promote the sustainable and responsible use of the State's natural resources for the citizens of Louisiana now and in the future.

With this in mind, the State of Louisiana has various training requirements and opportunities available for state employees. The Legislature enacted laws effective January 1, 2012 and January 1, 2013 which require all employees to complete two hours (one hour of each) of training pertaining to Ethics and Sexual Harassment, respectively, during each calendar year of their public employment.

All supervisors must complete certain Minimum Supervisory Training (MST) requirements depending on the supervisory group to which their job title is assigned. MST is offered by the Comprehensive Public Training Program (CPTP), which is a centralized training service established by the legislature in 1979 to "upgrade professional, technical, and managerial skills of state employees." Once completed, supervisors are subject to one hour of continuing education, which must be completed during each performance year.

In addition to required training, employees are encouraged to explore the Louisiana Employees Online (LEO) system for additional, optional courses that may be beneficial for improving their skills and competencies. For example, there are LEO web-based courses to help develop an employee's technical skills in Microsoft Office, including Excel, Word and Access, as well as "soft skills," such as critical thinking, customer service, and conflict management.

Training our staff benefits the employee, the department, the state and our citizens.



2016 United Way Drive is Underway

Through the ease of payroll deduction—you have the option of donating to the LASCCC and making a difference for your community.

LASCCC.org and contact DNR HR @ 219-3853 for more information.

DNR Employees are Generous Givers!

The mission of the Department of Natural Resources is to ensure and promote sustainable and responsible use of the natural resources of our state so that they are available for the enjoyment and benefit of our citizens now and in the future.

Message from Department of Natural Resources Secretary Thomas Harris



As Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources, I appreciate the efforts put in by all the men and women of this agency to ensure and promote sustainable and responsible use of the natural resources of our state so that they are available for the enjoyment and benefit of our citizens now and in the future.

In particular, I would like to give an extra thanks to those who participate in DNR's outreach efforts with the public. The regulatory roles played by this agency in development of natural resources, protection of our coast and preservation of the Atchafalaya Basin, among others, are critical, but there also exists a need to make sure the public is informed and educated about our what we do and the natural resources we protect. I recognize that making time to prepare presentations and visit schools and other events, while still maintaining a regular workload, is not easy. But the role of educating the public and introducing young people to scientific and environmental concepts is a worthwhile one and I thank you for making that extra effort.



DNR Geaux Team members spent the past months reaching into the young minds of hundreds of youth from Baton Rouge to Lafayette. While summer camps traditionally offer outdoor physical activities- our staff traveled to a number of science camps offering lessons on rocks and geology, coastal resources and wetlands, groundwater and aquifers, and alternative energy sources.

Photo Left: Coastal Louisiana and Hurricane Preparedness was the topic of discussion to a larger than usual audience of young campers at Comeaux Parks and Recreation Center in Lafayette. **Photo Center:** Kids-Possible youth group in Baton Rouge learn about rocks, fossils and gemstones. **Photo Right:** DNR staff including April Newman and Jon Truxillo (OCM), Teri Tharp (OC) Donna Thompson (OCM), and Matt Reonas (OC). Other Geaux Team staff are Edward O'Brien and Phyllis Darensbourg (OS) and Jesse Deroche (OCM).

DNR Human Resources Staff Contact Information

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Rikki Nicole David, HR Director	Administration; Policies; Special Pay (SER's, 6.5g)	342-4522	Rikki.David@la.gov
Bobbie Scott, HR Supervisor	Administration; Funding Changes; Drug Testing; Badges	342-8232	Bobbie.Scott@la.gov
Sherri Gregoire, Attorney	Discipline/Counseling; FMLA; Safety	219-3853	Sherri.Gregoire@la.gov
Marilyn Joseph, HR Analyst	Insurance; Retirement; Payroll (PPA's); Workers' Compensation	342-2134	Marilyn.Joseph@la.gov
Jennifer Dyer Ginn, HR Analyst	Recruiting; Position Descriptions; PES; New Hire Orientation; Training	342-9088	Jennifer.Dyer@la.gov

Our State of Recovery and Rebuilding— Helping One Another in Times of Need

By: Mollie Montelaro and Phyllis Darensbourg, Office of the Secretary

We need one another. This statement could not be more meaningful than it is right now. It is wonderful to see how Louisianans react in times of tragedy- with humility, hopefulness, generosity, charity and simply – Humanity.

Friday, August 12 will forever mark the beginning of the "Historic Flood of 2016" an unnamed storm system that wreaked havoc and disaster over twenty parishes in south Louisiana and caused 13 deaths. There seems to be something to the saying that when things are at their worst that we are often at our best.

For the 35 DNR employees that are experiencing loss and having to rebuild and replace their homes and possessions, we want you to know that the DNR family is here for you.

An amazon.com wish list will be created to capture the particular needs for employees. Please send all wish list requests to mollie.montelaro@la.gov. These items may include linens, kitchen supplies, cleaning products, among other necessary goods. Please specify sizes and amounts when necessary.

On the DNR Intranet (FOR EMPLOYEES ONLY), the Office of the Secretary has created a H1A (Helping One Another) Listing in which employees may post their particular needs for goods or services. This would work somewhat like Craigslist and its purpose would be to serve our DNR family during this time of recovery. Please send requests to dnrinfo@la.gov



News from Coastal Protection And Restoration Authority

CPRA Employees have recently moved to a new building location at 150 Terrace Avenue in Baton Rouge, a move that puts in motion the development of the state's Water Campus. Johnny Bradberry is Chairman of CPRA and Michael Ellis serves as the Authority's Executive Director.

New Coastal Master Plan- How to address sea level rise over the next five years will be the focus as the new Coastal Master Plan 2017 is being developed. 52 projects are being considered as the process is ongoing through January. Final plans are to be presented to the Legislature in the Spring. Coastal Master Plan 2017 hopes to place emphasis on communities in need, flood risk reduction and resilience, and broadening partnerships outside of government entities.

Breakthrough in funding Southwest La Projects- This August, the Army Corps of Engineers moved forward a final report allowing funding from Congress to be used to elevate homes for hurricane protection and for ecosystem restoration in Vermilion, Calcasieu and Cameron parishes. With near future approval from Congress to spend billions of dollars in this effort, some 15,000 acres of wetlands would be protected and some 4,000 homes and businesses would be eligible for a program to reduce risk of flooding with elevations and flood-proofing measures.

Keep Louisiana Beautiful

Ten Cities Honored for Beautification Projects

Congratulations to the City of Abbeville, City of Alexandria, Town of Farmerville, Village of Fenton, City of Gretna, City of Hammond, City of Lake Charles, Village of Loreauville, City of Natchitoches, and City of New Orleans for initiatives that enhanced the cleanliness and appearance of their cities. Pictured right is the City of Natchitoches, established in 1714, the oldest settlement in the Louisiana Purchase.



The Business of LNG – Terminal in Cameron Parish making headlines

The first liquefied natural gas tanker ship passed through the expanded Panama Canal last month, hauling LNG from Cheniere Energy's Sabine Pass liquefaction terminal in Cameron Parish. Cheniere Energy's terminal began exporting LNG this year and was the first U.S. facility in the lower 48 states to ship LNG overseas.

“The transit of the first LNG vessel through the new Panama Canal locks is a milestone in the waterway's history,” said Panama Canal Administrator and CEO Jorge L. Quijano. “LNG trade will greatly benefit from the expansion, and we look forward to welcoming even more LNG vessels through our great waterway. This transit marks the beginning of a new era that will result in cleaner and lower cost energy for the world.”

The expanded Panama Canal can handle 90 percent of the world's LNG tankers, officials say, which will have a major impact on global LNG flows and offer advantages for shippers.

With the U.S. poised to become one of the world's top LNG exporters in the next five years, the canal will allow vessels departing for Asia from the East and Gulf Coasts to cut their round-trip voyage times by nearly 23 days in some cases. That could make U.S. gas deliveries to major Asian importers more competitive, officials say.

Likewise, U.S. vessels heading for the western coast of South America from the U.S. Gulf Coast will be able to cut their travel time by using the canal.

So far, the expanded canal has handled 53 vessels since it opened June 26, including 22 liquefied petroleum vessels, 28 container-ships and two vehicle carriers.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or FERC is responsible for authorizing the siting and construction of on-shore and near-shore LNG import or export facilities under Section 3 of the Natural Gas Act.

There are more than 110 LNG facilities operating in the U.S. performing a variety of services. Some facilities export natural gas from the U.S., some provide natural gas supply to the interstate pipeline system or local distribution companies, while others are used to store natural gas for periods of peak demand.

In the 2015 Regular Session, HB 400 granted the Commissioner of Conservation authority to regulate Liquefied Natural Gas Facilities and the process of rule-making will soon begin.

(Excerpt taken from The Advocate on 7/29/16)

LOGA Fall Meeting and Seminar in Lafayette – September 20-21

While budget constraints barred the department's popular SONRIS To SUNSET fall conference this year, many potential attendees and patrons have an opportunity to get a mini-version of the conference at the upcoming La. Oil and Gas Association's Meeting and Seminar taking place in Lafayette at the Doubletree Hilton Hotel, 1521 W Pinhook Rd in September. During Day 2 of the seminar, a number of speakers will cover topics included in past SONRIS-conferences like the state's permitting and regulatory compliance, OMR's mineral lease form, and OC's injection well permitting. Staff from the department's offices will be on hand and will serve as speakers for the seminar. DNR Secretary Thomas Harris and Commissioner Richard Ieyoub are scheduled to offer remarks during the lunchtime address to participants.

Get SONRIS to SUNSET Updates in September

Spread the word and let industry personnel know that there's another option to getting valuable information and state agency updates on doing business in Louisiana – check it out at **LOGA.la** and Register at <http://louisianaoilandgas.memberzone.com/events/details/loga-fall-meeting-seminar-2016-86>

Conservation's Production Audit staff work nonstop with operators, industry, SONRIS Online

The Office of Conservation's Production Audit section audits oil and gas production and transportation reports on a daily basis.

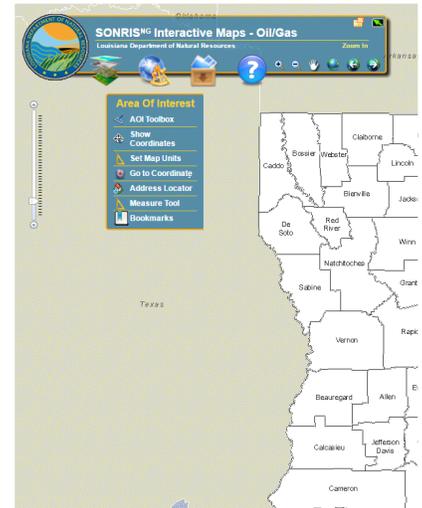
Production Audit is organized within the office's engineering division and is responsible for auditing producer reports, transporter reports, plant reports and refinery reports which serve as a basis for the collection of severance tax and the basis for the collection of royalty income from state-owned lands and water bottoms by the Office the Mineral Resources.

This section collects the annual Production Fee and Organization Report Fee, issues Compliance Notices to resolve audit discrepancies, in addition to sending Compliance Orders linked to other regulatory issues of the division.

Members of the oil and gas industry including Operator/Producers, Oil Transporters, Gas Transporters, Gas Plants and Refineries are required to file an OR-1 FORM - Organization Report- and must do so online. In the SONRIS database system, operators enter their applications and once their submissions are approved, they receive an OOC Code Number which sets up their permanent record with the department.

Production Audit Manager Becky Henry has nineteen years of service in the section, advancing to that position in 2012. As manager, she knows how to get the work done quite effectively, and the public (our customers) consistently give her praise for her responsiveness and problem-solving. Henry works with a dedicated staff including supervisors, specialists and analysts. The phone calls that come in daily to this office about doing business with the state, about fees, well information, and other operator questions are clearly and timely handled with satisfaction.

At present, there are 948 operators in the state with oil and gas wells. Each November the section is responsible for sending invoices to operators to pay their annual fees, and in 2015, Production Audit Manager Becky Henry reported some 1,529 invoices were completed in the database and invoices were printed and mailed to the industry.



A Salute to Conservations' Production Audit Team Mineral Production Manager **Becky Henry**

Lafayette District Group
Linda Miller
Sharon Allement
Christina Normand
Bettina Schupp
Caroline Wells

Monroe District Group
Lisa Babin
Clay Arceneaux
Brain Mascari
Karen Montgomery

Shreveport District Group
Stacey Massey
Roger Price
Lorraine Gedric
Jeffrey Wells
Theresa Moreau

Upcoming Events — Mark Your Calendars

81st La. Shrimp and Petroleum Festival
September 2 — Labor Day Weekend
Morgan City

La. Water Resources Commission Meeting
September 8
LaSalle Office Building, Baton Rouge

CNG Fuel System Inspection Training
September 7-8
Baton Rouge Community College, Automotive Center

Keep Louisiana Beautiful State Conference
September 28-29
DEQ Galvez Center, Baton Rouge

La. Science Teachers and La. Association of Math Teachers
Joint Conference
October 24-26
River Center, Baton Rouge

Our Coasts, Our Future, Our Choice Summit
Restore America's Estuaries
December 10 -15
Hilton Riverside, New Orleans