

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources

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A Winning Combination: All-American, Scientist, Volunteer

Employee Profile Cornelius Williams

Office of Coastal Management
Coastal Resources Scientist
Baton Rouge



Meet the young, athletic, professional proud of achieving his dream job– Cornelius Williams, Coastal Resources Scientist 3 with the DNR Office of Coastal Management.

A graduate in Regulatory Science from the University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff, Williams grew up knowing that ‘nature rules’ in Pointe Coupee parish with sound family values and parents that encouraged academics first. Williams said that when he was young, it was “books and baseball”. His family was especially proud when he graduated as his high school’s Valedictorian and an Under Armour All-American Baseball player.

Williams appreciates and loves “everything outdoors” and believes he will make a difference in preserving the natural resources of our state in his career as a coastal scientist, particularly working in the marshes and coastal parishes. “I want to see future generations, enjoy what I have enjoyed all around the state including hunting and fishing like nowhere else in America”, Williams says.

Two and half years ago, he joined OCM, and he dove right into the work of Coastal Use Permitting with a clear understanding of the need to balance coastal activities with conservation efforts. He spends time in the field calculating mitigation and assessing impacts to coastal resources. “This is where I want to be, the work is important and I am a part of it,” he says with a big ole grin.

When speaking of baseball, thank goodness that Cornelius Williams came along, his leadership and coaching has propelled the department’s employee sports teams (Softball and Flag Football) into solid winners! The DNR Drillers became the 2014 Capitol City Complex League champions, while the DNR Dominators made the playoffs. The gleam in his eye lets you know right away that he knows how to win – with practice, patience and perseverance.

We salute Cornelius – his passion for the environment, his leadership qualities, and his volunteer spirit.

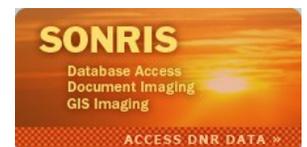


DNR and Louisiana CPAs

Present

**From SONRIS to Sunset
Conference**

August 26-27 New Orleans



A Message from Secretary Stephen Chustz

As Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources, I would like to thank all the men and women who work every day inside and outside of the department 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. Critically important are the many companies in the exploration and production industry that we regulate who approach regulation with a cooperative attitude that recognizes the balance of economic development with those of protection of our environment. Our goal is to provide a fair, predictable and effective regulatory system that affords opportunities for development and economic growth through the use of our natural resources while at the same time ensuring protection of public safety and the environment. That balance is the focus of our role as stewards of Louisiana's bountiful natural resources that are so critical to our economy, our environment and our culture, and I believe we have seen industry enhance its stewardship role working to achieve that balance. I appreciate the commitment and spirit of cooperation that I see from both our regulatory team, the regulated industry and interested stakeholders and welcome any suggestions on enhancement of the processes we use to gain and sustain that critical balance and foster continued improvements.

New Orleans SeaBrook Harbor and Marina gets Certification

DNR's Louisiana Clean Marina Program promotes and celebrates voluntary adoption of safety and beautification measures for marinas and recreational boaters in our state waters. Designated "clean marinas" are recognized as environmentally responsible businesses that enjoy the positive goodwill and economic advantage of being able to promote their business as A LOUISIANA CLEAN MARINA.

On May 20, the SeaBrook Harbor and Marina located in Orleans parish joined the list of certified marinas bringing the total to 19 marinas in the state of Louisiana.

SeaBrook's Owner Manager Jeff Montz and brother, David provided a tour of the operations to DNR and Port of New Orleans staff and visitors as they were being recognized for completing all requirements of the Office of Coastal Management's Clean Marina program.

Photos: SeaBrook Marina is located at 5801 France Rd. OCM Project Manager Jon Truxillo, Port of Orleans Business Development Manager Bo Ethridge, SeaBrook Manager Jeffrey Montz, DNR Public Information Director Phyllis Darenbourg, SeaBrook David Montz, and OCM Project Supervisor Sara Krupa, and not shown OCM Manager Charles Reulet.



Local Parish Coastal Management Efforts Align with Conservation Goals

The Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA) and the Louisiana State and Local Coastal Resources Management Act of 1978 (SLCRMA) are laws that direct state and local governments to have an increased level of responsibility for the management and regulation of the use of coastal resources, and since 1985, Louisiana local coastal parish governments have stepped up and exercised the right to take control of coastal use activities in their own backyards.

Three parishes — Jefferson, Lafourche, and Orleans were the first to establish a "Local Coastal Program" by following the guidelines of the CZMA and SLCRMA, allowing each the authority to grant permits for coastal use and giving them oversight of coastal waters and resources within its borders. By establishing a local coastal program, a local governmental entity has a more direct approach of managing and permitting development for activities like building camps, private docks, bulkheads, cattle walks, landfills, subdivisions, and maintenance of most private canals.

Jon Truxillo serves as the Local Coastal Program Project Manager at the state level for DNR's Office of Coastal Management. He noted that the state's Louisiana Coastal Resources Program policies follow the Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation plan by putting conservation and no net loss of coastal resources from developmental activities first. "Besides striving to balance conservation and resources, these policies help to resolve user conflicts, encourage coastal zone recreational values, and determine the future course of coastal development," Truxillo said. The program aims to encourage multiple uses of resources and adequate economic growth while minimizing adverse effects of one resource use upon another without imposing undue restrictions on any user. "Establishing a local coastal management program demonstrates that the parish is serious about taking a dynamic role in the decision-making that shapes coastal management policy in not only their parish, but all of coastal Louisiana."

To date, there are ten parishes with programs - Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson, Lafourche, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. James, St. Tammany and Terrebonne.

Louisiana Clean Fuels celebrated 15 years - Honors five Clean Fuel Leaders for Good Work

May 21 was proclaimed Alternative Fuels Day by Baton Rouge Mayor “Kip” Holden. The City of Baton Rouge, along with the Department of Natural Resources were recognized for advancing clean fuels in the state through public education and funding.

During the Clean Fuels Award Gala 2015, five leaders were cited for their outstanding contributions to providing domestically produced clean burning fuel and fuel savings practices.

Municipality of the Year - City of Shreveport for Transit and Refuse Fleet

Clean Fuel Champion - United Parcel Service (UPS)

Fleet of the Year - Republic Services for Compressed Natural Gas Refuse Fleet

Runner Up Fleet - Ivan Smith Furniture for CNG Delivery Fleet

Innovative Project of the Year - IdleAir (For Cash’s Truck Stop’s electrified parking spaces)

To learn more about the celebration, award winners, and Clean Fuels, visit, <http://louisianacleanfuels.org/index.php>



Honored at the La. Clean Fuels Awards Ceremony were Robert Borne (La. Gas Assoc.), Paula Ridgeway (former DNR Energy Office Manager), Mayor Kip Holden, Harold Moise (PEC), Mike McDaniel (Baton Rouge Clean Air Coalition), and Paul Miller (DNR Energy Office Manager).

Pipeline Safety Conference and Training in New Orleans starts July 20

The upcoming Pipeline Safety Conference (July 20-24) will be hosted by the Louisiana Gas Association (LGA) and DNR Office of Conservation in New Orleans. Also participating as co-hosts are Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi and New Mexico with an expected 500 to 600 people to attend.

Pipeline industry personnel, federal and state regulators, company experts, and others come together annually to get updates and information and to discuss management, training and regulatory issues at the conference.

Providing a warm welcome this year will be Office of Conservation’s Pipeline Director Steven Giambone along with pipeline safety program managers from Alabama, Arkansas, and Mississippi. Also presenting at the conference will be staff from the Office of Coastal Management, La. One Call David Frey, and Clean Fuels Coalition Ann Shaneyfelt.

Hazardous Liquid and Gas Transmission/Distribution are the two primary topics for attendees to focus on. The conference opens with presentations from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) training specialists. PHMSA is the federal safety authority for ensuring the safe, reliable, and environmentally sound operations of our nation's pipeline transportation system.

Pipelines in Louisiana include transmission lines carrying energy products long distances, as well as distribution lines delivering natural gas to businesses and households in your neighborhood. The energy products carried in pipelines fuel our lives and our livelihoods. They heat our homes and schools, power our industrial base and enable our daily commutes.

For registration and more information, visit, www.LouisianaGasAssociation.org

CES stands for Conservation Enforcement Specialist

Doing essential field work for the Office of Conservation

The state Office of Conservation's Engineering, Administrative, and Regulatory divisions are responsible for managing the field district locations in Shreveport, Monroe, and Lafayette. Each district office has a District Manager and staff that support operations in the field including inspecting and enforcement duties. The Conservation Enforcement Specialists (CES) are like the wheels on a wagon— without them, the buggy is not going anywhere.

Thousands of oil and gas wells in our state are inspected or tested during the course of a month. In fact, in March of this year, over 2,239 wells were inspected by CES's working across the state. The CES men and women that wear "the uniform" are hard-working public servants that typically are not seen in an office, but their work is an important part of fulfilling the agency's regulatory and statutory responsibilities.

CES agents in Conservation's Injection and Mining division (IMD) are responsible for the permitting, inspection, compliance and enforcement of all wells and facilities under the authority of the Underground Injection Control program. The dedicated IMD CES field agents have a unique area of expertise and responsibilities, and in any given month, these professionals will inspect over 260 sites. They have the responsibility of inspecting injection wells and associated facilities ranging from on-site disposal of exploration and production wastes to hazardous waste disposal to salt cavern brine mining and hydrocarbon storage.

Office of Conservation's Pipeline division is responsible for implementing Louisiana's pipeline safety program. This program has regulatory primacy over the intrastate gas and hazardous liquid pipeline systems in the state through a certification with the U.S. Department of Transportation and is responsible for regulating over 400 pipeline operators. Pipeline CES professionals perform standard, specialized and accident investigation inspections on both gas and hazardous liquid pipeline systems. These systems are responsible for delivering gas to your homes, hospitals, schools, and crude oil and refined hydrocarbon products to our industrial plants and fueling stations.

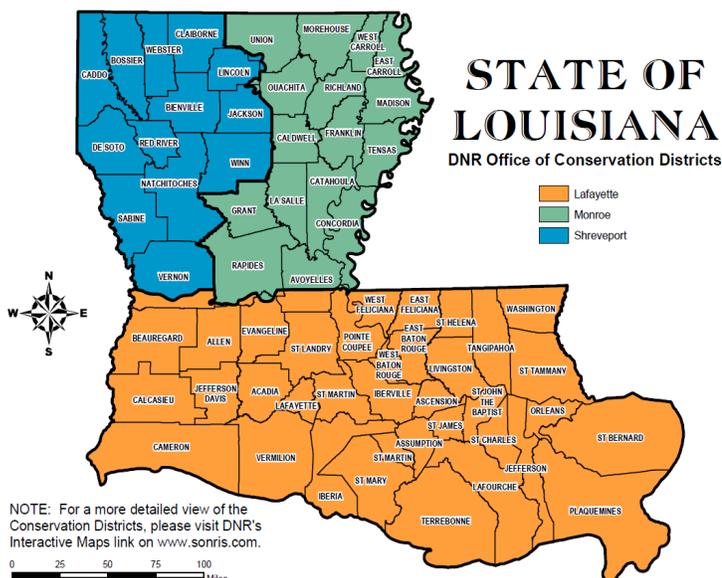
The entire CES staff is a powerful and ever present force in the workplace ensuring protection of the environment as well as the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the state of Louisiana.



CES Bret Barras inspecting the blowout preventers on a workover rig in the Napoleonville field in Assumption parish.



CES Mike Theriot at production facility in Vermilion parish discussing 29-B regulations concerning firewall and venting requirements.



Conservation's Lafayette District Office Manager Richard Hudson, 825 Kaliste Saloom Road, 337-262-5777; Monroe District Office Manager Jim York, 24 Accent Drive, 318-362-3111; Shreveport District Office Manager Jackie DeVall, 1525 Fairfield Avenue, 318-676-7585.

GET A GAME PLAN this Hurricane Season 2015

Fuel Team stresses fueling-up well in advance of a storm in the Gulf

Fast approaching is the 10th Anniversary of Hurricane's Katrina and Rita. These devastating storms, no doubt, changed forever the state's tactics for planning, preparedness, and response and recovery in the wake of emergencies. In the words of the current administration, today, we are a better prepared state—smarter, stronger, safer and more resilient than ever before.

With the beginning of the 2015 Hurricane Season on June 1st, the Louisiana Fuel Team held its annual meeting to prepare for the upcoming months ahead. Expectations announced by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), forecast a quiet outlook, predicting six to 11 named tropical storms with the possibility of three to six becoming hurricanes this season.

The Louisiana Fuel Team is comprised of representatives from the oil and gas distributors, marketers, transporters, refiners and multiple state agencies. The Fuel Team serves as a centralized coordinating group for managing the many aspects of the fuel supply chain to ensure the availability of fuel to the public during mass emergencies such as evacuations prior to hurricane landfall and post-hurricane return and recovery.

"The Fuel Team represents a cooperative effort between state government and industry that allows for constant communication on where fuel demand is most critical and how best to deal with challenges of supplying that fuel in times when road conditions, power availability and other factors can rapidly change the situation," DNR Secretary Stephen Chustz said.

Fuel Team members include the Louisiana Motor Transport Association, Louisiana Oil Marketers and Convenient Store Association, Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, state Department of Agriculture and Forestry, and DNR Office of Coastal Management.

"The main thing we want citizens to do is to take early steps, when it's known that a storm is entering the Gulf of Mexico, to fuel up their vehicles and obtain fuel for other equipment well in advance to avoid long lines and potential supply crunches that can be created when too many people take last minute actions," Chustz said.

Gov. Jindal's Get a Game Plan encourages citizens to be guided by the preparedness instructions found at <http://www.getagameplan.org/>

Natural Resources Employee Appreciation and Celebration Days

DNR Employees enjoyed several special events during the first week in May. The week is recognized as national Public Service Week. The Human Resources office's staff worked very hard, holding fundraisers during the year in preparation of weeklong activities honoring our employees. La Cap Federal Credit Union helped to hold a delicious ice cream social day, while Pete's Lagniappe Catering served up one of the best menus for a luncheon on Thursday at the State Museum.

Special thanks was given to O.C. Smith of the Office of Coastal Management, for spinning up some delightful pink cotton candy, so pleasing to the taste buds!

Amelia Wolfe, also with the Office of Coastal Management, became the newest member of the DNR All Star club. She was saluted for the wonderful volunteer work she does with children helping them to learn and appreciate our forest and natural resources. The program is called Biggz Kidz and is associated with the YMCA.

Congratulations was in order for two outstanding employees with 35 years of state service, respectively - Ronald Day, Office of Conservation and Warren Powell, Office of Mineral Resources.

Photos top and middle: Office of Conservation Commissioner Jim Welsh and a few employees during the ice cream social. Below Amelia is shown teaching about trees.

