

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources Newsletter

Louisiana Department of
Natural Resources



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Geocaching in the Atchafalaya Basin – And the first to find is

Congratulations to Bryan Reviere of Opelousas, the first to locate all 24 caches hidden throughout the basin as part of the Geotrail.

The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources' Atchafalaya Basin Program has added a new attraction to draw in and educate visitors to the Basin through the creation of the Atchafalaya Geocache Series – a geocaching scavenger hunt that highlights important historical, natural and man-made features of the Basin tied to the water flow that sustains it.

The region is defined by water and the Atchafalaya Basin Program developed this cost-effective approach to bring awareness and attention to the story of how that water has historically shaped the Basin and how that water is managed to maintain the crown jewel of Louisiana's natural resources.

According to Don Haydel, Atchafalaya Basin Program Director, the staff identified 24 locations in and around the Atchafalaya Basin that are integral to the water story, and then placed geocaches at each of these locations. Geocaching is basically a real-world treasure hunt in which people use GPS-enabled devices to navigate to specific locations.

The Atchafalaya Geocache Series is an opportunity for people of all ages to explore the Atchafalaya Basin – designed so that all locations are accessible by the public and can be reached without needing a boat. Locations range from near the Old River Control Structure in the North to Morgan City in the South, highlighting such things as access point to the Basin and water control structures such as flood gates. Additionally, the first 200 people to complete the series are eligible to receive a limited edition Atchafalaya Basin Coin.

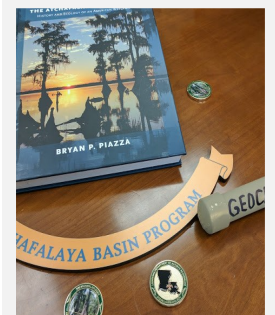
The Atchafalaya Geocache Series is now open to the public and is intended to be a permanent feature for the enjoyment of visitors to the Basin. It was conceived and implemented as a means of outreach and raising awareness as part of Atchafalaya Basin Program's efforts responsibility to conserve, restore, enhance and promote the Basin.



Pictured above are DNR Office of Coastal Management staff Sara Krupa, Donald Haydel, April Newman and Charles Reulet. Left photo: Krupa is shown constructing and weather-proofing each of the containers for placement on the Atchafalaya Geotrail.

Haydel said the entire project was the idea and brainchild of Sara Krupa, who routinely assists the Atchafalaya Basin Program in addition to her duties as an Office of Coastal Management supervisor. Krupa spent time under her carport preparing the containers, she created the Geocaching.com website for the project and took the lead on designing the GeoCoin that top participants will receive after certification of finding all the hidden caches.

Sara, April, and OCM Interagency Affairs Manager Charles Reulet traveled, selected, and installed the containers at each site. Congrats to them for initiating such an exceptional and exciting project! Learn more about geocaching on our website : <http://www.dnr.louisiana.gov/index.cfm?>



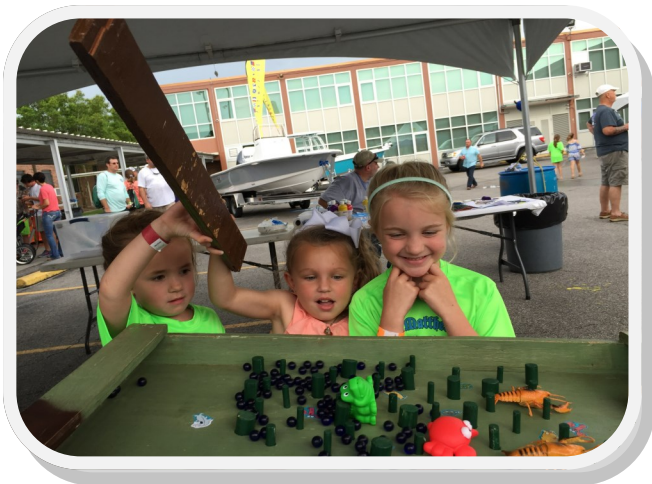
GREEN at home and at work – Let's Make Recycling an Everyday Thing

Three Reasons to Recycle Metal 1. **PRESERVING RESOURCES:** One of the main reasons for you to recycle is because by recycling you can help preserve resources. Not only will you be aiding in the reduction of natural resources that are being used but you will also use fewer resources within your home. If you recycle more there's less landfill trash and that helps the environment.

2. **REDUCING EMISSIONS:** The steady increase in the amount of carbon emissions that are being released each year is one of the main factors contributing to global warming. If you recycle you can aid in the reduction of carbon emissions which will reduce the levels of pollution in our atmosphere. Although we cannot undo the damage that we have done to the atmosphere, we can prevent any further damage by recycling more and wasting less.

3. **MANAGING ENERGY CONSUMPTION:** By recycling more metal you can lessen the demand for natural resources such as ore. It also takes far less energy to process recycled metal than it does to mine ore, purify it and then shape it. If we recycled all of our aluminum we could save up to 92 percent of the energy that we currently use in making aluminum from ore. We could save approximately 90 percent of the energy that we use for copper and 56 percent of the energy that we discard on mining and creating steel. This is one of the most important reasons to recycle metal.

OCM covering the coastal zone in Jefferson parish and BTNEP estuary



Learning is so much fun as you can tell by the look on these three young girls' faces in attendance at the **Jefferson parish Fish Fest at River Ridge** in May. OCM scientists Frank Cole and Kirk Kilgen were there to demonstration with an interactive model how swamps and wetlands work and the importance of them in our state's coastal zone.

Several Office of Coastal Management staff along with community volunteers, and Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program officials participated in planting over 600 young plants on the **Maritime Forest Ridge at Port Fourchon** in May. OCM's Frank Cole said the ridge is a BTNEP Restoration area.

A solid day of digging in the dirt was had by all. Coastal Management scientists are shown in picture above just after the plantings including Matt O'Neal, Craig LeBlanc, Kirk Kilgen, and two local volunteers. OCM's Brad Hester also took part in the event.

Conservation Office takes on new pipeline duties with passage of Act 218

The Louisiana Legislature, in the 2017 regular session, acted to transfer enforcement of the pipeline portion of the state's OneCall System from the State Police to the Office of Conservation. Part of the new duties for Conservation will be developing procedures for investigating and reporting complaints regarding violations of the OneCall law as it applies to pipelines, to include establishing a centralized complaint reporting point using a toll-free phone number available to contractors, excavators, pipeline owners or operators and the general public.

The law also requires that damage prevention education should be a component of all penalties and remedies imposed by Conservation.

The new law provides for a process and timeline for transition of the responsibilities from the State Police to Conservation through a memorandum of understanding entered into between the two offices.

*Currently, OneCall's Louisiana 811 promotes *Call Before You Dig * Wait for the Site to be Marked * Respect the Marks * Dig With Care*

A Message from DNR Secretary Tom Harris

As we begin a new fiscal year and deal with ongoing and emerging challenges, I would like to pause to give thanks to all the members of our team for the effort you put in and pay respect to the dedication you show day in and day out in service of the people of this state. It is important to me that we take a time out to acknowledge dedication and strong work ethics, because it is too easy to take those qualities for granted and forget to say a simple "thank you." 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.

I am always impressed by and appreciative of 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.

In a time of ever-tightening budget constraints and uncertainty in the industries we regulate, the people of this agency have shown initiative and flexibility in responding to the emerging challenges and changes, and I have faith that you will continue to do so.



Employee Appreciation Day held May 11, 2017. A number of employees received Service Award certificates for continuous agency service during Public Service week held this May. Shown are Secretary Harris and Technology Assessment Administrative Assistant Jan Janney; DCM Field Services Manager Robert Williamson with Asst. Secretary Keith Lovell; DC Mineral Production Specialist Gloria Roscoe with Commissioner of Conservation Richard Ieyoub; and DC Heath Borden with Commissioner.

DNR Website soon to have new look and improved function

The Office of the Secretary is excited to announce that a new department website will launch at the end of August. The new website will feature an updated, modern design. The site will be mobile responsive, so that site visitors on phones, tablets and desktops will all receive the same content in an appropriate style. This will also help with our information getting into Google and other search engines.

Current office web content managers will be retrained on some new backend tools and refreshed on existing tools in early August. If there is any input or comments that you have about the agency's website or new ideas for content and presentation, you are welcome to pass on those comments to the Public Information Office.

The website functions as the "electronic front door" of the department and its success is dependent on everyone's participation in keeping the content accurate, up-to-date and comprehensive. We can't wait for the new one to launch!



Annual Regional Regulatory Training held in July

Office of Conservation's Pipeline Safety hosted and attended the annual Pipeline Conference held in New Orleans where some 300 professionals meet for training and accreditation.

Pipeline Director Steven Giambrone provided the Welcome Address and spoke on Damage Prevention in the field. Shown are several staff members- Wayne Leget, Troy Laurent, Andrew Wascom, Taylor Thomas, Rebekah Byrne and Mitchell Buffington.

Why you should care about Liquefied Natural Gas?

Taken from a published report in ShareAmerica, Michael Buchanan, July 2017

When you switch on a light or fire up the stove, do you think about where your energy comes from? Probably not, until the lights go off.

Technology allows natural gas to come from anywhere in the world — in liquid form. In the past, producers transported natural gas only through pipelines. Today, liquefied natural gas, commonly known as LNG, can be chilled and safely transported via specialized tanker ships and delivered anywhere with LNG facilities. That's a big deal for countries' energy security.

What is LNG?

Natural gas, which consists mostly of methane fuel located under the Earth's surface, is expansive. But if you cool it to a chilly minus 162 degrees Celsius, natural gas turns liquid. Natural gas takes up 600 times less volume in its liquid form, which makes it easy to store and ship anywhere in the world.

After extraction, natural gas is purified and turned into liquid. Liquefied natural gas can be transported across oceans by massive tankers. After delivery, LNG is "re-gasified" and delivered to power plants, homes and businesses.

Liquefied natural gas can be carried across oceans in tanker ships using specialized double hulls. These vessels are huge — up to 345 meters long.

After delivery, LNG is turned back into a gas — either at an onshore plant or a floating platform — and piped through existing gas networks.

The LNG shipping industry has an exemplary safety record, according to a report from Sandia National Laboratories, a U.S.-funded research and development center. LNG has been transported safely for more than 40 years.

One reason for the good safety record is that LNG is only flammable if vaporized, and is less flammable than other fuels. Also, LNG tankers are built to be more robust than typical fuel tankers.

The LNG tanker fleet is young and growing, with about 55 percent of vessels younger than 11 years old.

The ability to store and transport liquefied natural gas in specialized ships allows for a global marketplace for natural gas. Exporters can step in to provide stable sources of the fuel

and are already creating more efficient and transparent markets where buyers can get better prices.

Japan and Korea are the world's top two LNG markets. But European countries also are increasingly importing LNG to diversify their energy supplies and strength their energy security.

The U.S. Department of Energy on June 29 approved two long-term applications to export additional natural gas from the Lake Charles LNG terminal in Louisiana. "It's a great announcement," President Trump said.

Since February 2016, more than 130 cargoes of American LNG have left the Gulf Coast to more than 20 countries. The administration plans to bolster energy exports as part of its "Unleashing American Energy" plan.

Recently, LNG companies created the La. Export Association partnered with the World Trade Center of New Orleans: G2, Lake Charles LNG, Magnolia LNG, Tellurian, and Venture Global. Associate members include LOGA and Mid Continental Oil and Gas.

STEM exhibit at Children's Museum in Lake Charles is elaborate, educational, and fun

Sasol and the Lake Charles Children's Museum opened a new STEM-focused exhibit, called Chem Corner, earlier this month. The exhibit offers a glimpse into daily life at an industrial facility and aims to teach children about local industry and stimulate interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Chem Corner takes visitors on a journey through a mock industrial facility to teach children about manufacturing processes and important jobs performed on an industrial site. Along the way, kids learn about safety, teamwork and science through interactive games and challenges. The exhibit follows the manufacturing process from raw materials to everyday products used in homes.

The exhibit is now open to the public during regular museum hours. It is located at 327 Broad Street in Lake Charles. The museum also has an outstanding Louisiana Wetlands exhibit featuring the Crabbing Pier, Miss Sunshine & King Louie Shrimp Boats, Calcasieu Cove, and Down the Bayou.

Chem Corner integrates an industrial setting, a vital sector of the Lake Charles and Louisiana economies, among other local businesses featured in the museum. Sasol seeks to help kids learn about the wealth of opportunity created by manufacturing companies in Southwest Louisiana.

Other Children's Museums in Louisiana are located in New Orleans, Hammond, Lafayette, Thibodaux, and Monroe—and soon to open on August 22 —The Knock Knock Children's Museum in Baton Rouge at City Park.



About the Sasol LA. Project: *Sasol has operations in Arizona, Louisiana, Pennsylvania and Texas. It is currently constructing a world-scale petrochemical complex near its existing site in Southwest Louisiana. The project will roughly triple the company's chemical production capacity in the U.S. and enable it to build on its strong positions in robust and growing global chemicals markets. (Source: Company's website.)*

OMF focused on managing agency's day to day operations, accounting and budget

Over the past several months, the department has experienced a number of personnel changes in its Office of Management and Finance due to both employee retirement and reorganization efforts with the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority.

A warm welcome is extended to all new employees joining OMF, who are dedicated to their jobs providing expertise in handling budget matters, accounting, grants, and administrative services that keep DNR operating smoothly and effectively.

Accounting Administrator Karen Young began working at the department in June 2014, having had a successful career run in the private sector at Our Lady of the Lake hospital and Postlethwaite & Netterville in Baton Rouge. She was born in Ohio, lived throughout the Midwest and has lived in Louisiana for over 16 years.

Pictured right: Administrative Program Director David Guidry, Accountant Supervisor Christopher Bahm, Accountant Administrator Karen Young, Accountant Manager Latangia Brimmer, and Accountant Manager Benjamin Spears.



Current Office of Management and Finance employees are Jonathan Helis, Rose Rogers Gant, Christopher McGee, Natasha Andreyeva, Marreo Kimbrough, Jamienshia Allen, Raymond McKnight, and Tonyetta Jackson.

Welcome Office of Mineral Resources Assistant Secretary Jamie Manuel

Jamie S. Manuel joined the department in June. He earned a Juris Doctorate from the Paul M. Hebert Law School at Louisiana State University in 2001. Following graduation, he joined Gordon, Arata, McCollam, Duplantis & Egan, attorneys of New Orleans, as an Associate in the oil and gas section where he remained for four years. After Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Manuel returned to Baton Rouge and took a position with the office of the Louisiana Attorney General, serving as Special Counsel for the Louisiana Mineral Board. And in 2006, Manuel joined the firm of Mayhall Fondren Blaize and managed the firm's oil and gas litigation for the majority of the eleven years he worked there.

He has written several articles for oil and gas publications and given educational seminars for oil and gas professionals, including presentations given at the 56th, 59th and 61st Annual Louisiana Institute on Mineral Law.



Mark the Calendar for Coming Events

August 3

Compensation Redesign Plan by State Civil Service

LaSalle Office Building , Baton Rouge

September 19-20

La. Oil and Gas Association Fall Meeting with DNR Updates

DoubleTree Hilton, Lafayette

October 18

LSU Energy Studies—New Energy World Summit

Dalton J. Woods Auditorium, Baton Rouge

Office of Mineral Resources - State Mineral Leasing Program Stats

FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	July 2017
142 Leases	90 Leases	62 Leases	14 Leases
\$14 million	\$5.5 million	\$1.9 million	\$1.7 million

DNR Education and Outreach Geaux Team

State Energy's Edward O'Brien and Conservation's Teri Tharp joined PIO Phyllis Darenbourg as they traveled to Natchitoches Summer Day Camp to teach natural resources conservation lessons to over one hundred kids. O'Brien brought along a solar panel for demonstration and Tharp had each student to fashion water cycle bracelets. Darenbourg also visited three locations of Baton Rouge's BREC Camp Sunshine to talk about the importance of coastal wetlands and the Water Wise program.

