

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 3rd, 2015

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Bayou Vermilion District is honored for its 30+ years of dedication to keeping the Vermilion clean
Bayou Vermilion Preservation Association to host free Clean Streams lecture August 11th at
Vermilionville

LAFAYETTE, LA – Media and the public are invited to a free “Clean Streams” event held at Vermilionville (300 Fisher Road in Lafayette, across from the airport) on Thursday, August 11th at 11:30 a.m. Hosted by the Bayou Vermilion Preservation Association (BVPA), the “Clean Streams” lecture series focuses on the BVPA’s mission of litter-free water, fish and wildlife, improved water quality and recreation along the Vermilion.

In the month of August, the BVPA will honor the Bayou Vermilion District (BVD)’s 30+ years of work to keep the Vermilion clean. Since 1984, it has been BVD’s mission to beautify, conserve and manage sites along the Vermilion, ensuring the preservation and enhancement of the natural and cultural resources for the citizens of Lafayette Parish. In addition to managing boat, canoe and kayak launches as well as public parks along the Vermilion, BVD is most well-known for its four-member Bayou Operations team, which works to improve the quality of the Vermilion five days a week, year-round, regardless of weather conditions.

BVPA President Charles Wyatt reported, “BVPA will recognize the unsung heroes of the Bayou Vermilion District who play a huge role in keeping our river clean.”

On average, BVD’s Bayou Operations team removes approximately 1,000 55-gallon barrels of floating debris from the Vermilion per year, which includes items such as water bottles, soda cans, fast food wrappers, etc. The team also removes large items, such as furniture, appliances, propane tanks, televisions, swing sets, etc. –an average of 500 per year. Tire dumping is also a major issue in Lafayette Parish, as BVD removes approximately 250 tires per year from the river.

The August 11th “Clean Streams” lecture’s speakers include Bob Cole, a past president of the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce who was instrumental in the creation of BVD and who will provide the history of the organization. Following Cole will be Dr. David Cheramie, Chief Executive Officer of BVD who will speak on its current activities and BVD Board of Commissioners Chairman Rodney Richard, who will speak on its goals for the future.

The BVPA is a 501(c)3 whose mission is to create awareness for the natural environment by providing education and outreach to the general community about ways to conserve, protect and enjoy the Bayou Vermilion Watershed. For more information, visit BayouVermilionPreservation.org.

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