



State of Louisiana
Department of Environmental Quality



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ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

MEDIA ADVISORY

- WHAT:** Kick off for the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) Drinking Water Protection Campaign in Acadia Parish
- WHEN:** Thursday, April 1, 2004
- WHERE:** Rayne Civic Center Ballroom
- TIME:** 6:30 p.m.
- WHY:** The program is aimed at increasing public awareness, informing the public of the steps each person can take to protect the integrity of their drinking water sources and elevating the level of participation in the effort. The event provides a forum for Acadia Parish residents to learn water protection and conservation tips they can use at home that make good health and economic sense. There will also be an opportunity to sign up to volunteer to serve on committees to work with the community in creating a sustainable drinking water program. Private citizens, community groups and members of business and industry in Acadia Parish are all welcome.

The voluntary program is designed to assist communities in protecting their drinking water sources. It is an extension of the Louisiana Wellhead Protection Program, which DEQ has run for more than a decade. The Wellhead Protection Program has received numerous awards and certificates of recognition from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for excellence and efficiency. The pilot program kicked off last year in Avoyelles Parish and was well received by the community. The goal of the initiative is to expand to other parishes in Louisiana.

"Protect Drinking Water One Drop At A Time."