



## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

BOBBY JINDAL  
GOVERNOR

PEGGY M. HATCH  
SECRETARY

**For Immediate Release**  
Oct. 22, 2013

**Contact:** Jean Kelly  
**Telephone:** 225-219-3966

### **DEQ's Drinking Water Protection Program moves to Ascension Parish**

BATON ROUGE – The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality has selected Ascension Parish as the next stop for its drinking water protection campaign, “Protect Drinking Water One Drop at a Time.” The program’s goal is to increase public awareness and participation in protecting their drinking water sources.

The campaign will kick off with two Ascension Parish community meetings; one for the east bank and one for the west bank. The community meeting for the east bank will be held Thursday., Oct. 24 at 5:30 p.m. at the Gonzales City Hall Council Meeting Room, 120 S. Irma Blvd, Gonzales. The meeting for west bank will be held Thursday, Nov. 7 at 6 p.m. at the Donaldson City Hall, 609 Railroad Avenue, Donaldsonville. The meeting will outline the program and provide the public the opportunity to get information, talk to the Drinking Water Protection Team members and sign up for the committee. The public is invited to attend and take an active role in ensuring clean drinking water for the future.

The Drinking Water Protection Program is a voluntary program designed to assist communities in protecting their drinking water sources. The campaign seeks to involve private citizens, community groups, water system representatives, local government officials, businesses and industry in the protection of the parish’s waters. The meeting will address the goals of the program and ways in which citizens may participate. Since clean water is essential for good health, DEQ’s Drinking Water Protection Team will share protection and conservation tips that residents can use in their homes and businesses.

DEQ is seeking volunteers to serve on committees to work with the community in creating a sustainable drinking water protection program. For more information, contact the Drinking Water Protection Team at 225-219-3510, or visit the DEQ web page at <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/AEPs>.