



DISCOVER DEQ

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NEWSLETTER



August 2015 Issue Number: 43

What's Inside?

[DEQ aids effort to preserve coastal gem](#)

[Get geauxing in Baton Rouge with Geaux Ride ride-sharing application](#)

[Federal grant is designed to help bike program blossom one pedal at a time](#)

[Model litter ordinance presented to municipalities at the LMA Convention](#)

[DEQ-CID co-hosts environmental crime investigation techniques course](#)

[DEQ personnel begin by donating blood, keep giving at Camp Challenge](#)

[Abbeville Boy Scout earns Eagle rank with environmental project](#)

[Bayou Corne event marks third anniversary of sinkhole's formation](#)

[Keep Hammond Beautiful is the 'point of the spear' in combating litter](#)

[BREC promotes recycling](#)

[DEQ On The Move](#)

[Who's Who At DEQ?](#)

[LDEQ's 2nd Quarter Summaries](#)

DEQ remembers Katrina

Slideshow retrospective:

<http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/portals/0/news/pdf/DEQKatrina.wmv>

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DEQ aids effort to preserve Louisiana coastal gem

Grand Isle, the state's only inhabited barrier island, is a precious gem, and DEQ would like to help keep it that way. But being a barrier island poses some problems. There are not many places for things to go on a little island and that includes storm runoff. Nonpoint source pollutants such as oil, sediment (mud), fertilizers, pesticides, metals, litter, and bacteria from animal



DEQ Secretary Peggy Hatch, front center, jokes with dignitaries as she presents a facsimile check to the Town of Grand Isle at a ceremony Aug. 20. From left, Council Member Jay Lafont, Council Member Scooter Resweber, Town Clerk Ray Santiny, Mayor Dave Camardelle, Council Member Clifford 'Dixie' Santiny, Council Member Leoda Bladsacker, Hatch, Chief of Police Euris DuBois, Building Inspector Irvin Richoux and DEQ Deputy Secretary Alex Appeaning.

waste that get picked up in the flow stay on the island or its adjacent waters. But with the help of an \$853,000 Louisiana Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan, the government of Grand Isle will be in a position to do something about runoff issues.

"We are very happy to be a part of this ceremony," DEQ Secretary Peggy Hatch said at an Aug. 20 event marking the awarding of the loan. Hatch pointed out the federal money is essentially a grant under the loan forgiveness provision of EPA's Green Project Reserve, which requires all Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) programs to direct a portion of their capitalization grant toward projects that address green infrastructure, water efficiency, energy efficiency or other environmentally innovative activities.

Grand Isle Mayor David Camardelle said it took the combined effort of the Port Commission, the city of Grand Isle and DEQ to reach the goal. DEQ Deputy Secretary Alex Appeaning also attended the event and lauded Camardelle's cooperative spirit. "He believes in a team," Appeaning said.

The need for the loan, which closed on Aug. 6, was obvious, Appeaning said. Currently, potentially contaminated storm water is stored in a drainage canal along the northern portion of Grand Isle. The treatment of the runoff will decrease potential environmental impacts to the coastal marshes. The project will result in improved water quality for surrounding wildlife habitats and coastal fisheries such as migratory bird feeding areas and oyster beds.

The project at Ninety-West Park at Ludwig and Medical streets will achieve those aims

Continued on page 2



DISCOVER DEQ

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NEWSLETTER



August 2015 Issue Number: 43

by removing untreated runoff stored in a lateral drainage canal and routing it through a vegetated swale before allowing it to return to the environment. Submerged pumps will lift the water from the canal at pre-determined time intervals. The water will go into a small storage basin. The stored water will enter the swale at one end and flow through the vegetation and filtration media placed within the swale substrate. The flow through the swale will be gravity fed at a rate slow enough to increase filtration. The water quality will be improved prior to its introduction into the adjacent saltwater marsh in response to storm events and rising stages in the canal.

There is an energy saving feature of the project, too. Solar arrays (multiple solar panels) will offset and replace consumption of power by the pumps. The project will include a gazebo and fence and incorporates existing live oak trees into the design. Sidewalks and parking areas at the park will be reconstructed of pervious concrete, which will allow water to pass through to the medium below, reducing storm water runoff.

At the observance, Hatch presented Camardelle and the assembled city council members and staff, a ceremonial check as big as a blanket. Camardelle then turned the tables, presenting Hatch and Appeaning framed certificates proclaiming each an "Honorary Citizen of the Town of Grand Isle." The mayor then gathered the newly minted Grand Isle citizens and other dignitaries and loaded everyone on a bus for an impromptu tour of the island, including a visit to the site of the proposed project. As the tour progressed, the mayor voiced a claim that there is always a breeze blowing on Grand Isle, and as he pointed out sun-dappled playgrounds, beach views, historic structures as well as the homes of everyday citizens, he observed that every house has at least one outdoor swing. "Some have four," he said, "so they can take advantage of that breeze no matter what direction it comes from."

That's Grand Isle, a place of breezes and beaches, chatty citizens and palm-shaded subtropical gardens. Locals navigate the flower-bordered, narrow backstreets on ATVs, and the seafood is as good as it gets. Grand Isle is a precious gem, and DEQ wants to help keep it that way.



Grand Isle Mayor David Camardelle, left, presents DEQ Secretary Peggy Hatch with a framed certificate proclaiming her an 'Honorary Citizen of the Town of Grand Isle.'

Get geauxing in Baton Rouge with Geaux Ride ride-sharing application

If you have been caught in traffic, waited for hours for an accident to clear or just have a long, tiresome commute – Geaux Ride is a step in the right direction. Geaux Ride is a carpooling app, hosted by the Capital Region Planning Commission (CRPC), which allows participants to locate others in their same area to carpool to work. Geaux Ride is an easy-to-use, web-based rideshare application that allows a person to create a commute profile and find carpool matches. Online tools allow tracking of commuting and can figure actual monetary savings. Participants will also save wear and tear on their vehicles. Use Geaux Ride to search for others employees who live near you, have similar schedules and lifestyle preferences. Whether you carpool five days a week or one, it all helps.



Currently, three state agencies in the Capital Complex have installed a portal for the use of their employees: DEQ, the Department

Continued on page 3



of Transportation and Development (DOTD) and the Department of Natural Resources. CRPC is contacting other agencies and businesses to introduce the program and the app is available free for any business or group that would like to use it. The goal is to reduce the glut of traffic coming to downtown and surrounding areas, therefore reducing congestion and pollution.

There will be a kick-off event for Geaux Ride, 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16, at Town Square, North Boulevard, downtown Baton Rouge. Representatives will be on hand to provide and discuss information on Geaux Ride, and a free jambalaya lunch will be provided, first come, first served. A video about Geaux Ride will be introduced, and everyone is welcome. If it rains, the event will be held in the Oliver Pollock Room, Galvez Building, 602 N. 5th Street.

For more information about Geaux Ride and the app, contact CRPC, jtsukits@brgov.com or Jean Kelly, DEQ, jean.kelly@la.gov.

Federal grant is designed to help bike program blossom one pedal at a time

How would you like to be able to bike from one section of Baton Rouge to another and leave the bike there? That's what you can do in San Antonio, Chicago, Houston, Nashville and many other American cities as well as Europe. Bike-sharing is the concept and the reality. With bike share, bicycles are made available to the public at a nominal cost on a short-term basis, which encourages environmentally friendly transportation for short trips.

How do you start a bike-sharing program? Where would you put the kiosks for the bicycles? How would you pay for it? These are all valid questions, and ones that require thought and a little help. But help is on the way. Earlier this year, East Baton Rouge received one of 22 technical assistance grants from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to set up a bike-sharing program. The grant pays for EPA staff and national experts to come to Baton Rouge for a two-day workshop that would provide technical assistance on how a bike-sharing program could be established.



Rental bicycles await customers at an automated kiosk in San Antonio.

In late July, EPA sent Don Kostelec, from the American Institute of Certified Planners, and Sarah Dale, from EPA's Office of Sustainable Communities, to conduct the workshops. The first step was a community meeting held at the Louisiana Arts and Science Museum, in which the public could hear information, ask questions and offer thoughts and suggestions. They presented the building blocks for the program, and offered technical assistance to the state and local community.

The next day, a full day workshop was held in which participants learned more and began to formulate a plan for funding, establishing partnerships and plotting routes. The group explored challenges and worked on action items for the bike share program. They learned there is no set equation – each city and circumstance is different. The cost – approximately \$10,000 for a bike set up – was discussed as well as mapping the stations, benefits and system elements.

Funding could come from memberships, grants, sponsors and partnerships. The participants set program goals. There was considerable interest from the public. The Downtown Development District, Capital Region Planning Commission and other groups were in attendance as well as many downtown workers and environmental advocates. Using bike share would certainly keep more cars off the road.



Model litter ordinance presented to municipalities at the LMA Convention

How do you combat litter in Louisiana? It is a daunting problem in a culture that says “Throw me something Mister.” The Louisiana Aquatic Litter Alliance, under the auspices of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s National Trash Free Waters program, developed a model litter ordinance to do just that. It is a handbook and template that can be used by municipalities large and small to implement an enforceable ordinance to encourage the public not to litter.

The ordinance, produced by citizens, environmental groups and governments, was developed over months of work and includes extensive information on how to set up a litter court to deal with offenders. It was introduced at the Louisiana Municipal Association Convention in Lafayette. DEQ and other groups manned a booth with information and USB flash drives for interested local governments to use.

The ordinance and litter issues were also presented to participants by Mike Daniels, criminal enforcement counsel for DEQ, who discussed the ordinance itself; Susan Russell, executive director of Keep Louisiana Beautiful, who spoke about what KLB does and the litter issue; and Rick Moore, litter enforcement officer for St. Tammany Parish, who talked about the litter court and how it operates successfully there.

You can get a copy of the ordinance and handbook at the EPA website (<http://water.epa.gov/type/oceb/marinedebris/>) or by contacting Gwen Berthelot at Gwendolyn.berthelot@la.gov or Jean Kelly at Jean.kelly@la.gov.

DEQ-CID co-hosts environmental crime investigation techniques course

Environmental crime investigations are unique and require special training. The crimes typically directly target ecosystems that affect everyone. A crime can be committed by a single person or a business hoping to avoid fees and skirt environmental regulations. The crimes are typically repeated over a long duration of time. Recognizing the early signs of criminal activity is essential for the state’s environmental protection agency and criminal enforcement staff. That’s why training is so important.

As a way to provide that training, the Southern Environmental Enforcement Network (SEEN) hosted an Environmental Crime Investigation Techniques workshop with the Criminal Investigation Division of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. DEQ partnered with SEEN to offer the four-day course in Baton Rouge. Registration was free to Louisiana law enforcement personnel.



DEQ-CID Attorney Mike Daniels gives a presentation on the basic elements of an environmental crime.

SEEN is a parent organization that covers twelve states in the southern region (Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Texas and Louisiana), so attendees came from all across the southern states. Criminal investigators and regulatory personnel from those states attended the event, which provided a unique networking opportunity. State environmental regulators could meet their counterparts and share ideas. SEEN paid for travel, lodging and meals for those who traveled from outside the Baton Rouge area.

The key to creating a successful workshop was having all the environmental regulators housed in one location for the week. This gives

[Continued on page 5](#)



DISCOVER DEQ

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NEWSLETTER



August 2015 Issue Number: 43

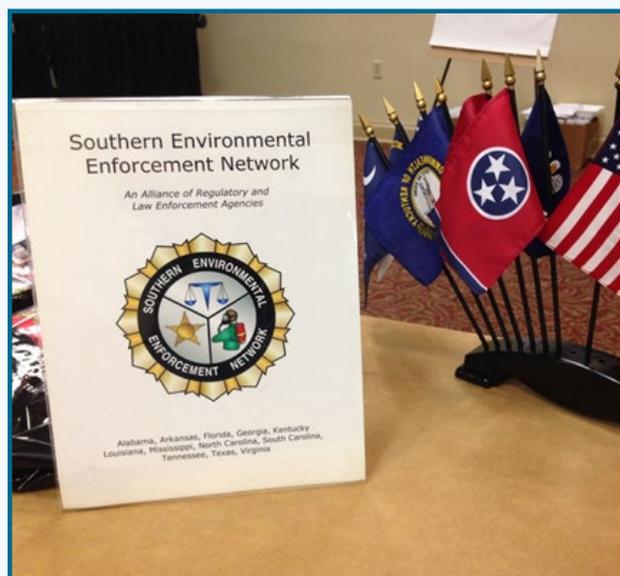
the attendees the opportunity to meet, compare notes and exchange contact information. The course covered specialized methods and techniques unique to investigation of environmental crimes. Topics included the criminal provisions of federal environmental statutes, environmental search warrant preparation and execution, personal protection and safety, environmental sampling and chemistry and the complicated task of preparing and presenting a case to the prosecutor.

Daniels presented information on the legal requirements and ramifications of putting together a criminal case once evidence is gathered and assessed. DEQ's Criminal Investigation Division took the floor and provided presentations on their areas of expertise. CID Manager Jeffrey Nolan and CID Investigator Ryan Brignac each presented a breakout session to the various state law enforcement personnel in attendance on environmental regulations as well as sampling techniques and chemistry. CID Investigators Maureen Kennedy and Keith Bates each gave presentations to the state regulatory staff members on how to prepare and serve search warrants, along with the pluses and pitfalls of interviewing potential suspects and witnesses.

Other presenters included EPA-CID Resident Agent in Charge Brett Spiers, Austin, Texas; Assistant District Attorney Patty Robertson; U.S. Department of Justice Senior Counsel Kris Dighe; Louisiana District Attorney's Association Counsel J.J. Williams; Louisiana State Police Trooper Steven Long; and Assistant U.S. Attorney Emily Greenfield from the Eastern District of Louisiana. Each presenter led the class through the particular legal processes involved in bringing environmental criminal cases to prosecution.

The course emphasized a "multi-disciplined, teamwork approach" which relies on the involvement of regulatory personnel, law enforcement officers and prosecutors working together to achieve results. Exemplifying this was a hands-on exercise, featuring three real-life scenarios – each of which was a small piece of a larger environmental crime puzzle. Attendees were selected randomly and placed into teams, with each team brainstorming ways to address many of the common "do or don't" decision-making questions associated with environmental investigations. In the end, the team's answers were shared with the class and analyzed in a practical discussion on how to ensure an investigator stays within the boundaries of the law.

The training provided important communication tools for those who serve as the "boots on the ground" when it comes to the investigation of environmental misconduct.



"The Environmental Crime Investigation Techniques Training brought together both civil inspectors and criminal investigators with the hope of impressing upon each the important role that they play in the criminal investigation of environmental crimes," said Mike Daniels, Attorney with DEQ's Criminal Investigation Division. "The Southern Environment Enforcement Network is the only organization providing this type of quality, hands-on training at no expense to the participants in the Southeastern United States."

Community service payments, paid by the defendant found guilty of an environmental crime, funded the course. Ironically, the training was fully paid for by the perpetrator of illegal conduct – thereby serving as a means of something good coming out of something bad, "paying it forward" in a sense.

The training session qualifies as a prerequisite to the Advanced Environmental Crime Training Program, which is regarded as the premiere advanced training course for environmental enforcement professionals throughout the U.S. and Canada. SEEN is currently conducting the class in other states, as the class rotates through the 12-state network as funds and logistics come available.

In addition to Louisiana, attendees came from across nine states within SEEN's jurisdiction.



DISCOVER DEQ

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NEWSLETTER



August 2015 Issue Number: 43

DEQ personnel begin by donating blood, keep giving at Camp Challenge

DEQ blood drives are always a good thing for the community, and there is one held three times a year. If you have ever wondered what happens when you donate blood at DEQ Blood Drives, you actually help fund Camp Challenge when you check the "From the Heart" club option on your donation form.

Camp Challenge is located in Leesville at the Lions Camp. It is dedicated to giving a summer camp experience to children who have a form of cancer or chronic hematological disorders, such as sickle cell anemia. The camp is for children ages 6-18 and includes their siblings. Camp Challenge is open to all children who reside in Louisiana and is free for all campers. It offers them an opportunity to experience camp activities such as swimming, canoeing, crafts and fellowship. Many of the volunteer counselors were campers themselves, and many others come back every year. There are medical personnel on-site to assist.

The weeklong event is headed by Father Tony Richard of New Orleans, affectionately known as "Snoop Dog" to the campers. This year was the 13th year that a group of volunteers from DEQ, other agencies and the Blood Center traveled to Leesville to assist with the arts and crafts for the campers. DEQ personnel organize the trip, pick an environmentally friendly craft, work, dance and eat with the campers. This year, the craft was the creation of bookmarks.

Many DEQ volunteers return year after year to see the children and their progress. Each volunteer has a camp name such as "Little Tree," "Secret Squirrel," "Mis' Behavin'," "Faolan," "Ebay" and "Tinkle Bell." Suzy Potter, whose camp name is "Ms. Keeto," represents the Blood Center and organizes the event for the campers.



Campers at Camp Challenge pose with their bookmarks to say thank you.



DEQ volunteers arrive at Camp Challenge in Leesville to help campers make crafts.

"The Blood Center must rely on volunteer blood donors and Camp Challenge must rely on volunteers for both counselors and camp directors," Potter said. "It has been a privilege to interact, help bring joy and assist kids battling blood disorders such as cancer, sickle cell anemia, lymphoma and aplastic anemia. Camp Challenge will always be, and has been, an endeavor fully funded by financial donations and volunteers. And, it will always be free for the patient and their siblings. This year we donated almost \$5,000 to support the camp, thanks to everyone who donated."

Camp Challenge is funded by donations from individuals and companies. It also receives money from various organizations that put on fundraisers for the sole purpose of funding the camp.

Camp Challenge is a grassroots nonprofit organization. If you would like to donate to Camp Challenge, go to the website at www.campchallenge.org.



Abbeville Boy Scout earns Eagle rank with environmental project

Boy Scout Troop 85 of Abbeville was on the streets of Abbeville Saturday, Aug. 1, assisting Luke Roger with his Eagle Scout Project. A requirement for Boy Scouts seeking to obtain the highest rank of Eagle is to plan and conduct a project that benefits their community in some way. Luke's project was to place markers on storm drains which state "No Dumping, Drains to River." The storm drain markers promote awareness about river contamination which emanates from polluted stormwater or nonpoint source pollution.



Luke Roger with a storm drain marker.



A drain marker



Roger demonstrating how to mark storm drains.

More than half of the nation's waterbodies are impaired; one of them is the Vermilion River. According to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the leading cause of river impairment is from nonpoint source pollution that can come from storm water.

Since the storm drains in Abbeville are routed directly to the river not the wastewater treatment plant, grease, oil, pet waste or yard clippings dumped into the storm drains go straight to the river. Roger's goal is to raise awareness about storm water pollution and ultimately help the Vermilion River to recover from its impaired status.

On the east side of the Vermilion River, 311 markers were placed in the downtown and surrounding areas of Abbeville, covering 75 square blocks. To accomplish the project, Roger received a grant from DEQ which provided 250 of the storm drain markers. More than half of Abbeville's Troop 85 assisted with the drain markings.

Bayou Corne event marks third anniversary of sinkhole's formation

Residents of Bayou Corne and local and state officials gathered at the Assumption Parish Community Center in Napoleonville on the third-year anniversary of the sinkhole that developed in 2012 at Bayou Corne.

Filmmaker and producer Victoria Greene, who sponsored the event, presented a new trailer from her upcoming documentary, "Forgotten Bayou: Life on the Sinkhole." The film is a retrospective of how the sinkhole developed and its aftermath, along with insight into the response effort and an overview of the current situation. Included are interviews from the local residents who were most affected by the event.

"Our hope is that the evening will give current and past Bayou Corne and Grand Bayou residents the opportunity to look toward the future and visit with old friends, neighbors, officials and community leaders," Greene said. "It is also a way to educate communities, should an accident like this happen in the future."

Speakers at the event were Rep. Karen St. Germain; John Boudreaux, Assumption Parish Director of Homeland Security and the Office

[Continued on page 8](#)



of Emergency Preparedness; Assumption Parish Police Jury President Martin Triche; Assumption Police Juror Henry Dupre; and Assumption Parish Sheriff Mike Waguespack. Four residents related their experiences to the audience and the Rev. Andrew Merrick with St. Elizabeth and St. Jules Catholic churches in Assumption Parish offered an opening and closing blessing. Music was provided by singer and former Bayou Corne resident Mona Dugas.

The event offered a venue in which residents, friends and former neighbors of Bayou Corne could have the opportunity to speak with each other as well as with local and state officials about the sinkhole.

The sinkhole at Bayou Corne began with a report of bubbles rising in the bayou in late May 2012. The situation came to a head on Aug. 3, when it was determined that a sinkhole had formed. That day, a mandatory evacuation was announced in the Bayou Corne community, with nearly 350 residents being told to leave their homes. Three years later, the mandatory evacuation order remains in effect and only a few homeowners remain.

Three years later, the site could still pose a problem due to seismic activity and environmental changes but partnering agencies are conducting various oversight operations. Environmental scientists from DEQ continue to participate in weekly air monitoring and conference calls with the Unified Command Group. The mission is to ensure the public is kept safe and that the area continues to undergo environmental monitoring efforts.

The documentary was created out of a desire to follow the families through the ordeal as they share their stories. The filmmaker's hope is to shine a spotlight on how disasters affect a community. In the end, their point is that there are no winners. For more information, visit www.Forgottenbayou.com.



Victoria Greene takes questions from the audience just prior to the start of the trailer for her film on Bayou Corne.

Keep Hammond Beautiful is the 'point of the spear' in combating litter

Litter in Louisiana is an overwhelming problem, but there are many groups – the “boots on the ground” – doing their part to restore and beautify the state. One of them is Keep Hammond Beautiful (KHB) and the coalition of groups that help.

Recently, the members of Keep Hammond Beautiful, affiliate of Keep Louisiana Beautiful, held a trash cleanup day in the Hammond area. They had 34 volunteers, who collected 45 bags of trash, worked a total of 78 hours and had seven groups participate. The value of this effort was \$1,758.90.



Keep Hammond Beautiful members at the February cleanup

KHB members think of themselves as the point of the spear focusing on the effort to beautify the city and rid it of litter. With support from the city administration and workers, the Hammond Garden Club, the Hammond Daily Star and Tangi! Clean have done much over

Continued on page 9



DISCOVER DEQ

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NEWSLETTER



August 2015 Issue Number: 43

the past decade. Hammond has even won the Cleanest City Contest, sponsored by the Federation of Louisiana Garden Clubs, for the last nine years, with the highest point total accumulated in the history of the contest.

At the heart of keeping the city litter-free is Keep Hammond Beautiful. In 2014, KHB held 10 city cleanup days and during that time 525 volunteers joined in trash pickups. Those volunteers accumulated 1,193 hours of public service and gathered 641 bags of trash. Additionally, they gathered numerous discarded tires, furniture and other large objects. In addition to this effort, the city's inmate litter control program cleans streets from time to time. Also joining in the effort are misdemeanor offenders who are ordered by the court to perform community service through litter pickups.

While ridding the city of litter is important to Keep Hammond Beautiful, the group does not limit its activities to only this effort. The group presents lessons in being good shepherds of the earth to young students twice a year at the Shell Training Center in nearby Robert, and on other occasions when asked to do by schools or children's museums. Outreach on this issue is essential.

"Working with Keep Hammond Beautiful for the past seven and a half years has been a rewarding and fulfilling experience, and I think our efforts to help keep our city free of litter and more beautiful have been successful," said Dori St. Cyr, executive director KHB. "With the help of the city administration, city workers and volunteers, we have made our city a better place for all its citizens. I want to thank Keep Louisiana Beautiful for all their help and support they give us."

However, no matter how highly visible the efforts are, and the constant reminders to not litter, the litter problem will never totally go away. But this reality does not discourage or deter the members who remain steadfast in their dedicated efforts to "Keep Hammond Beautiful."

EBR Recreation and Parks Commission promotes recycling

Fitness and recycling - do they go together? Well, the Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge, or BREC, has devised a new twist to interest people in recycling, combining environmental awareness with personal fitness - the "Run, Ride, Row" recycling poker dash event at Baton Rouge City-Brooks Community Park on Aug. 8.

The event highlighted the announcement of the addition of 30 recycling bins at both City-Brooks Community Park in Baton Rouge and at Wampold Beach near the LSU campus. The bins were provided through a grant by Dr. Pepper-Seven Up and Keep America Beautiful. "In place since mid-July, the bins are single-stream use where people can deposit plastic bottles and aluminum cans in the same recycling bin," said Amanda Takacs, naturalist with BREC's Conservation Department. "While we cannot accept glass at this time, we will accept paper that is not food-soaked."

As a fun way to promote the bins while incorporating a fitness element, BREC held a solo triathlon as well as a Run and Ride event where participants exercised their way to the finish line - but not before visiting at least five recycling bins on the way.



Photo by Megan Williams
A recycling bin sits along the shoreline of University Lake in Baton Rouge.

Starting at 8:30 a.m., the Run and Ride race consisted of two-person teams, where each team was allowed one bicyclist and one runner,

Continued on page 10



participating side-by-side. Rules allowed for switching back and forth between running and riding as often as the team needed. The course began and ended at the Baton Rouge Gallery, with the run and bike path following Dalrymple Drive to the May Street Beach at the end of City Park Lake and back, a total distance of approximately 2.5 miles.

Beginning 15 minutes after the Run and Ride started, the triathlon kicked off as a solo event in which each competitor completed the run, followed by a kayak or stand-up paddle board rowing event in City Park Lake. Upon successful negotiation of the lake's buoys, paddlers beached their watercraft and hopped on bicycles for the final leg back to the Baton Rouge Gallery.

To spice up the competition, both events incorporated a game of poker that remained in play throughout the entire race. During their bicycle ride to the finish line, competitors in both events stopped to pick up a playing card at each of the five designated recycling bin poker stations along the course. At the end, each team presented their poker hand for comparison against the others under standard poker rules. Awards were presented to the top three male and top three female teams in each event, along with an award for the best poker hand overall.

Registrants received a T-shirt and free entry into the trash bash after party, which featured live music, acro yoga that combines acrobatic with yoga, admission to the Baton Rouge Gallery and refreshments were provided by Mockler Beverage.

"We ended up with 30 triathlon competitors which was the maximum that we could accept and four run and ride teams. Overall, it was a great turnout," said Takacs. "We had a little over 20 volunteers and 10 staff members working the event as well."

DEQ On The Move



Jason Efferson, DEQ financial services; Scott Templet, DEQ engineer; Jeff Jackson, Acadiana Regional Office; Sierra Trabeau, DEQ financial services; and Linda Hardy, technical assistant to the deputy secretary, hand out information on DEQ and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and other outreach areas at the LMA Convention at the Cajun Dome in Lafayette



Who's Who At DEQ?



Noelle Chalona - geologist – Office of Environmental Compliance

Chalona graduated from the University of New Orleans with a Bachelor of Science in geology. She joined DEQ in July as a geologist in the Underground Storage Tank Remediation Group. Before that she worked as a consultant in the private sector.

A native of New Orleans, Chalona lived in various countries growing up. She is married, has two girls and resides in Hammond. She likes to run, read books, listen to music, camp, ski, and run around after her kids with their busy schedules. Chalona is a diehard Saints fan and bleeds black and gold.

Paula Lang – environmental scientist – Office of Environmental Compliance

Lang graduated from Louisiana State University with a Bachelor in Biological Science and a minor in Agricultural Business. She joined DEQ in July as an environmental scientist in the Radiation section of the Assessment division. Before DEQ, she worked as a production manager for five years and most recently worked in the class action legal field for the past four years.





DISCOVER DEQ

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NEWSLETTER



August 2015 Issue Number: 43

Louisiana Department Of Environmental Quality's 2nd Quarter Summaries

2nd Quarter 2015 Enforcement Actions:

<http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/DIVISIONS/Enforcement/EnforcementActions.aspx>

2nd Quarter 2015 Settlement Agreements:

<http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/DIVISIONS/Enforcement/SettlementAgreements.aspx>

2nd Quarter 2015 Air Permits:

<http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2922/Default.aspx>

2nd Quarter 2015 Water Permits:

<http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2899/Default.aspx>

2nd Quarter 2015 Solid and Hazardous Waste Permits:

<http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/divisions/wastepermits.aspx>

