

LA Wetland Education Coalition

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<http://www.lacoast.gov/education/lawec/>



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1. 2005 EstuaryLIVE

Take your students on a field trip through our nation's estuaries without ever leaving your classroom on September 22 and 23, 2005! Celebrate National Estuaries Day 2005 by taking a free, interactive field trip through our nation's estuaries over the Internet. Estuaries are the magical places where fresh water from rivers mix with salt water from the ocean. EstuaryLive brings these precious ecosystems into your classroom and provides your students with a platform to take an active role in the learning experience- they can ask real time questions during the field trips; many of these questions are answered live during the program!

Naturalists from the National Estuarine Research Reserve System (<http://www.nerrs.noaa.gov>) and the National Estuary Programs (<http://www.epa.gov/nep/>) will take participants on guided tours through:

- Tillamook Bay National Estuary Program, OR
- NY-NJ Harbor Estuary Program, NJ
- Grand Bay NERR and Mobile Bay NEP, AL
- J. Cousteau NERR & Barnegat Bay NEP, NJ
- San Francisco Bay NERR, CA

Check out <http://www.estuaries.gov/themes.html> for more information about each of these field trips. Please visit <http://www.estuaries.gov> throughout the summer for updated information about this year's program, including the program schedule, details about how to participate in the program, registration information, curriculum materials and more! We look forward to exploring these unique ecosystems with your and your classroom next fall! EstuaryLive is an interactive educational program for students of all ages. For additional information, contact Becky Weidman, National Estuaries Day Coordinator [[<Rebecca.Weidman@verizon.net>](mailto:Rebecca.Weidman@verizon.net)].

2. Gulf of Mexico Alliance Community Workshop

The **Gulf of Mexico Alliance** has been formed to unite Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida on environmental issues related to the Gulf. The Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program will be hosting the Louisiana meeting in early September. Louisiana stakeholders and community leaders (including educators!) will gather to help identify priority needs to improve the Gulf of Mexico region.

In December 2004, the US Commission on Ocean Policy released recommendations for a new and comprehensive national ocean policy, emphasizing the need for integrated ecosystem-based management that transcends political boundaries. Today, the **Alliance** is setting an example by sharing science, expertise and financial resources to better protect the health of this complex ecosystem that is the Gulf of Mexico, while securing a lasting underwater legacy for future generations. Results of the **Alliance Community Workshops** (including Louisiana's) will be incorporated into a larger long-term Action Plan in response to the US Commission on Ocean Policy that will be unveiled at a November 2005 Ocean Policy Summit in Corpus Christi, Texas.

3. Plant Conservation Education Newsletter

Botanic Gardens Conservation International (U.S.) has launched a Plant Conservation Education E-mail Newsletter. "Education E-Update" is a free monthly email newsletter featuring the latest in plant conservation education news from BGCI and other plant-based education organizations. To join the subscription list, visit the website. Visit http://www.bgci.org/us/nl_signup.html.

4. Environmental Jeopardy

Earth Day Network (EDN) has created the first two in a series of three interactive games on environmental issues. Designed like the game show, each edition of Environmental Jeopardy focuses on a specific environmental theme with in-depth answers and suggestions for how to conduct further research. Both available editions can be downloaded for free by registering on the Teachers Corner of the EDN website, www.earthday.net. All new members get a hard copy of the original edition along with the official game board. Visit <http://www.earthday.net/involved/teachers/join-Network.aspx>.

5. Respect the Beach

Respect the Beach (RTB) is an exciting coastal educational program that includes field trips, classroom lectures, handouts, video, and hands-on projects designed to coastal watershed processes, shoreline ecology and coastal areas stewardship to K-12 students and community groups. Visit <http://www.surfrider.org/programs/respectthebeach.asp>.

7. LAWEC-L LISTSERVE INFORMATION

- **Description of this listserv:** A listserv serving educators interested in LA wetlands.
 - **To send a message of your own to the listserv:** email LAWEC-L@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU and type your message into the body of the email. The message will be distributed to ALL PARTICIPANTS subscribing to the listserv. As a participant, you are welcome to send messages to educators subscribing to the LA Wetland Education Coalition listserv. We ask that participants focus their emails on educational opportunities and materials *directly related to wetland education*.
 - **To UNSUBSCRIBE from this listserv:** email LAWEC-L@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU and enclose the following single line in the body of the email
unsubscribe LAWEC-L
 - **To SUBSCRIBE to this listserv:** email LISTSERV@LISTSERV.LSU.EDU, with only the following line listed in the body of the email:
subscribe lawec-l YourFirstName YourLastName
For example: subscribe lawec-l John Doe
- NOTE: You should not put anything in the subject line and should remove any automatic signatures from the email, otherwise the signup process will not work. You will get a return message indicating that you have been subscribed to the listserv along with information on other listserv operations you can perform (such as unsubscribe, etc.). If you have trouble, email Dr. Pam Blanchard at pamb@lsu.edu.

Please do not reply to the entire list unless you want everyone to read your message!

6. GRN Healthy Waters Workshop Scheduled for August 31 in Thibodaux, LA

The GRN encourages all residents of the Thibodaux area to attend our workshop, "Our Waters, Our Health: Protecting Drinking Water at the Source." Workshop participants will learn about opportunities to improve both public health and the environment through source water protection. They will also be able to review potential threats to the source of Thibodaux's drinking waters and start mapping out an action plan to address them. The workshop will be held at the Wetlands Acadian Cultural Center on **August 31** at 6 p.m. For details, please contact Vicki Murillo [504/525-1528 x204 or vicki@healthygulf.org].

