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Common name: golden silk spider Scientific name: Nephila clavipes

This spider can be found throughout the Gulf States and as far north as North Carolina and as far south as Argentina. It derives its name from the golden colored silk it uses to spin webs. The golden spider has been called a "writing spider" because of the thick band of silk it sometimes builds across the web.





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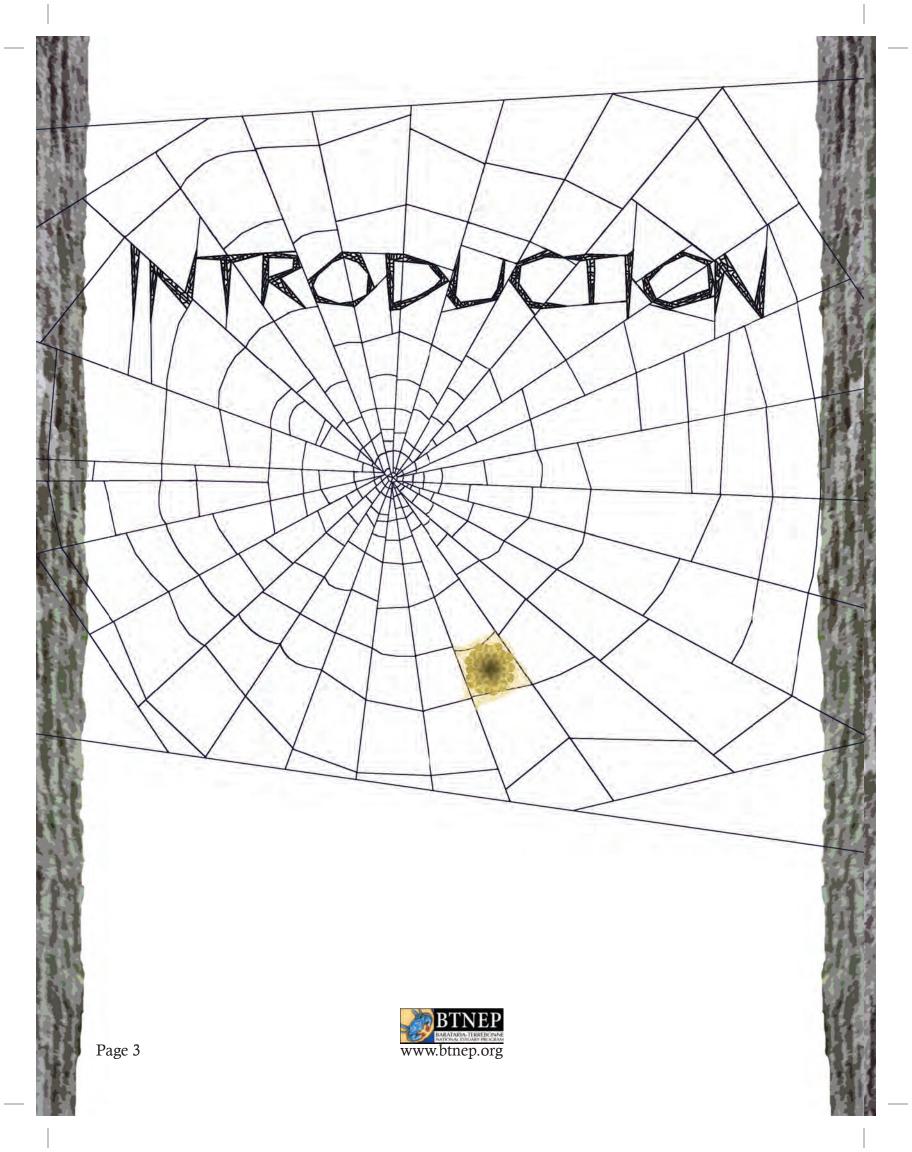
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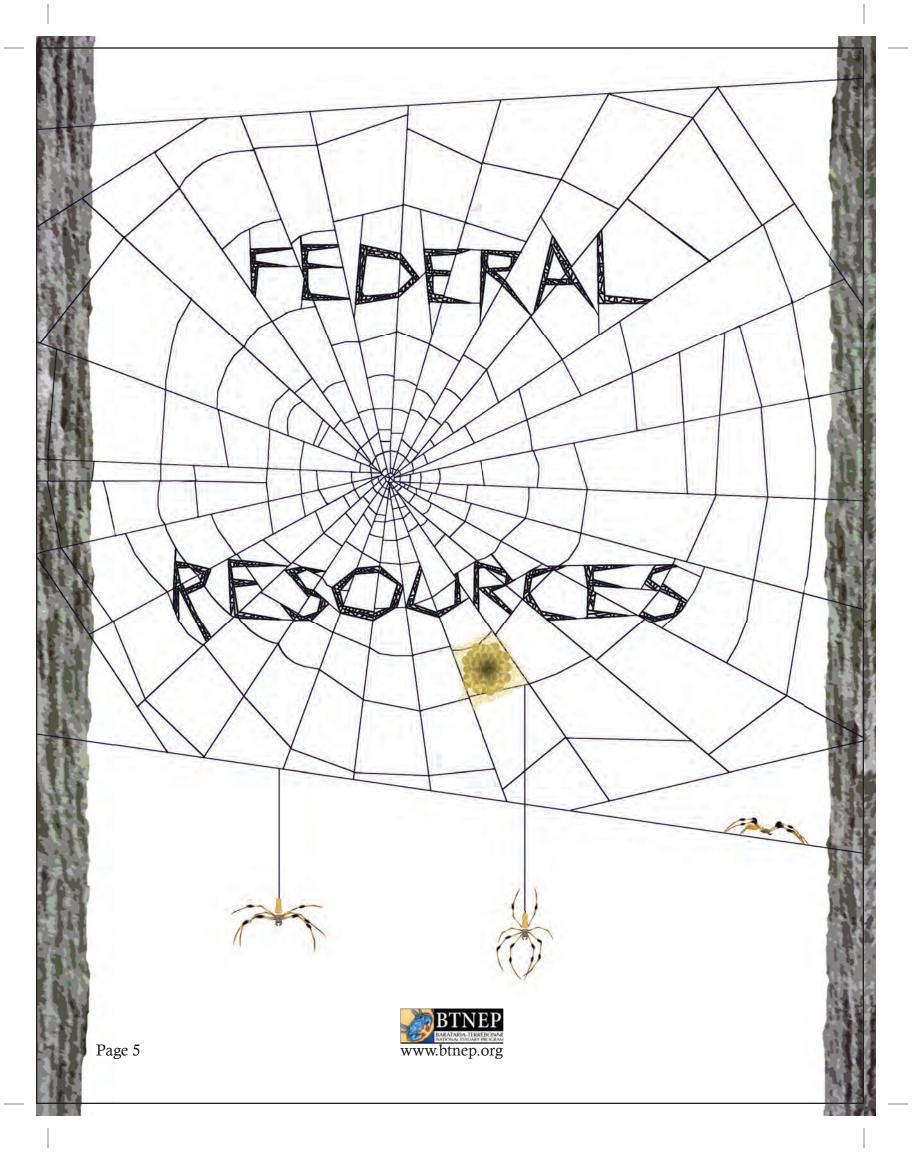


The purpose of this publication is to provide information professionals with an organizational finding aid for locating information on wetlands and wetland related issues. The focus is primarily for assisting K-12 teachers; however, the resources will be helpful for assisting any population.

A large amount of wetlands information is funded with public monies. Because of this, many do not have copyright and/or are available free of charge. Many agencies do charge for the cost of postage, or may charge for the cost of reproduction. Even if these charges apply, a copyright still does not exist. When independent analysis is done or the information is sorted and presented in a unique way, then a copyright will apply. These are the materials that must be purchased.

Because wetlands information covers many different subjects and locations and the research is costly, it is not uncommon for Departments and Agencies to work together, as well as partnerships to be formed between Federal, State and local resources. This pamphlet is the best attempt to illustrate where the materials originated from or how they are funded, and to provide access.







The Department of Agriculture offers many resources on plants, invasive species and wetlands ecology. These are a few of the highlights, but by no means are the only resources available from this Department.





From the USDA homepage, look to the bar on the left and click "Natural Resources and Environment." On that page, click on "Plants Database."

http://plants.usda.gov

The search option for this page is in the upper left corner and may be searched using common names. Further down on the left, are options under "PLANTS Topics" that are links to searchable databases.

Also from the USDA homepage, in the center, is an option for "Invasive Species Gateway."

http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/

Along the left are options for plants, animals and at the bottom is a link to a resource library.







Back to the USDA homepage, choose the "Education and Outreach" option on the left, in order to find on the right, links labeled "Agricultural Library" and "USDA for Kids." Both are useful resources.

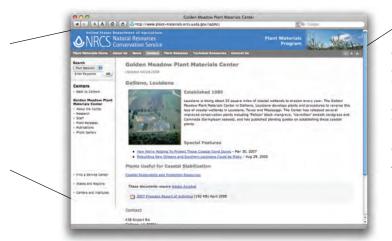
The USDA also hosts the website for the **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NCRS)**.

http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/

On the left, under the "States and Regions" option, you may choose "Louisiana" for news about local coastal projects.

On the right hand side are links for subject categories. Under "Animals," are links for Wetlands Reserve Program and Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program. Under "Water," you will find a link for the CWPPRA (Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act) Program.





The Golden Meadow Plant Materials Center website is hosted through the NCRS.

http://www.plant-materials.nrcs.usda.gov/lapmc/

Their website has many links listed on its main page and be sure to check out the "Publications" link on the left side.





Shipping and sea travel were once a significant means of commerce so NOAA is under the Commerce Department.

http://www.noaa.gov/

Louisiana Sea Gran

On the left side, locate "NOAA in your State." Go into that page and hit "Louisiana." There you will be given descriptions and contact information for the following:

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http://www.laseagrant.org

Located at LSU, their education portal (the link along the left side of their homepage), is called "La MER."

http://www.lamer.lsu.edu/

Many of their teaching resources may be purchased or downloaded.

Northern Gulf Institute (NGI)

http://www.northerngulfinstitute.org/home/ngi.php





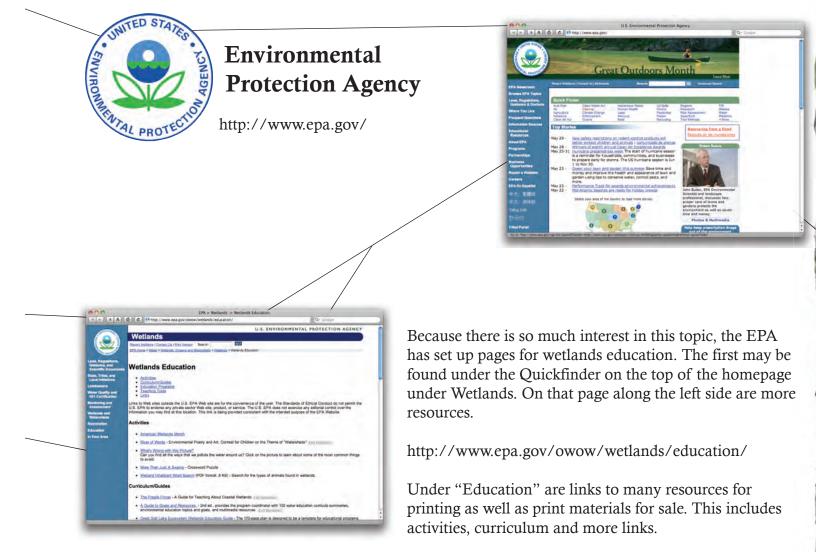


Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, Louisiana Coastal Management Program

http://www.ocrm.nos.noaa.gov/czm/czmlouisiana.html

There are many other resources listed on this page including a link to "Estuary Live" under Education and Outreach.

Back to the NOAA homepage (www.noaa.gov), click on the tab "NOAA Education" under features. In these pages, you will find many resources for education on a vast array of topics, including coasts and weather.





The EPA also funded *Wonders of Wetlands* (WOW), *The Planning of Wetlands* (POW) and other curriculum guides through Environmental Concern. http://www.wetland.org/

Estuary education is also linked through the EPA homepage, on the left under "Programs" or may be accessed at: http://www.epa.gov/nep/

On the left side are links to "Invasive species, reefs and ocean protection" and "Exploring estuaries." All these pages contain links to resources.



Also on the left, are links to the National Estuary Programs (NEP) homepage as well as to the homepages of each Estuary Program, one of which is **Barataria Terrebonne National Estuary Program (BTNEP)**.

http://www.btnep.org

The National Estuary Program (NEP) was established by Congress and is administrated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Located in Thibodaux, BTNEP is an excellent source for great materials that generally are free.

Their curriculum guides contain activities and bibliographies and have been aligned with Louisiana education curriculum content standards. They also have streaming video of their films and CDs, posters, booklets and many other materials.

Since they are funded through the government, they also work with other agencies such as National Parks, Wetlands Research Center, USGS and others. In these partnerships, they are able to create materials available for not only teachers, but anyone interested in this topic.





The EPA also hosts the Gulf of Mexico Program

http://www.epa.gov/gmpo/

On the left, click on "Educator and Student Resources," then go to "Educator Resources."

The first option on the Resources page is "EPA Wetlands Division Wetlands Education Materials (complete curricula, grades Pre-12)."

That page has many links to lessons and activities, organized by grade level.





Department of the Interior

http://www.doi.gov

The Department of the Interior is primarily responsible for conservation of land and resources. National Park Service, US Fish and Wildlife and US Geological Survey (USGS) fall under the Department of Interior.

On the left side of the front page are links to webcams at parks, as well as links to most of the following subagencies involved in wetlands education. Also, along the left side is a link to both teacher and children's resources.

National Park Service

http://www.nps.gov/

The National Park Service is responsible for the care of our parks, as well as local culture and recreation. On left side of their main page, click on "For kids and teachers."



Under "For Teachers" click "curriculum" and you may scroll down to Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, Louisiana as well as to other park sites. Jean

Lafitte National Park and Preserve may be accessed from this page. The options on the left side are all focused on that park.



There are also options for CDs ("Traveling Trunks") and planning field trips.

Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve may be accessed through their own website where other materials are available.

http://www.nps.gov/jela



On that page are links to all Preserves in the Jean Lafitte system:

Acadian Cultural Center , Lafayette Prairie Acadian Cultural Center, Eunice Wetlands Acadian Cultural Center, Thibodaux Barataria Preserve, Marrero Chalmette Battlefield and National Cemetery, Chalmette French Quarter Visitor Center, New Orleans

Check each location for programs and information that pertains to that park. Also available through Interlibrary loan is *Home Sweet Habitat* – a "traveling trunk" not listed on the website.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

http://www.fws.gov/

The USFWS is the steward of the nation's fish and wildlife resources.

On left side, halfway down the page, are links for "Questions", offering information on obtaining publications and other topics and a new "invasive species" link at the bottom of the main page.

Also along the left side is a link for "Wetlands". On that page there are publication links, and an educators page with links.

Aside from these resources, more are available at

http://www.fws.gov/nwi/links.htm

Here there are many links available for more information on specific topics and organizations. All the resources available are government agencies or receive government money.

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USGS (U.S. Geological Survey)

http://www.usgs.gov

On the right side of the homepage, under "Science in your backyard," select Louisiana in the dropdown. On that page are links for real-time water levels throughout the state that also includes a week-long graph.

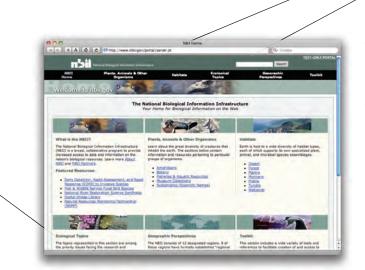
USGS National Wetlands Research Center (NWRC) in Lafayette, La. also has its own website.

http://www.nwrc.usgs.gov/

NWRC has a large lending library that may be utilized through your local public library, interlibrary loan. There is also contact information for the librarian. Under "Hot topics," there is a link for Louisiana land loss that has animation.

Under "Education/training" there is a link for the teacher's guide, *Fragile Fringe*. There are also chapters called "Resources" and "Further reading list" with bibliographies and contact information.



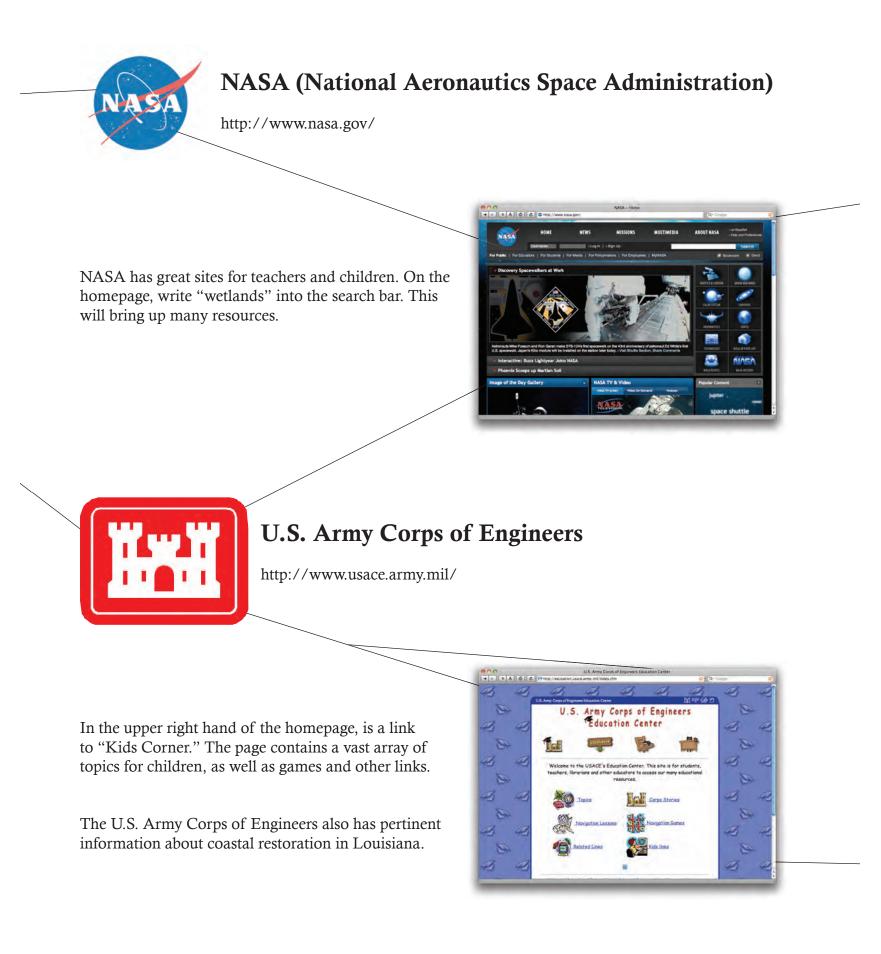


NBII (National Biological Information Infrastructure) is administered under USGS.

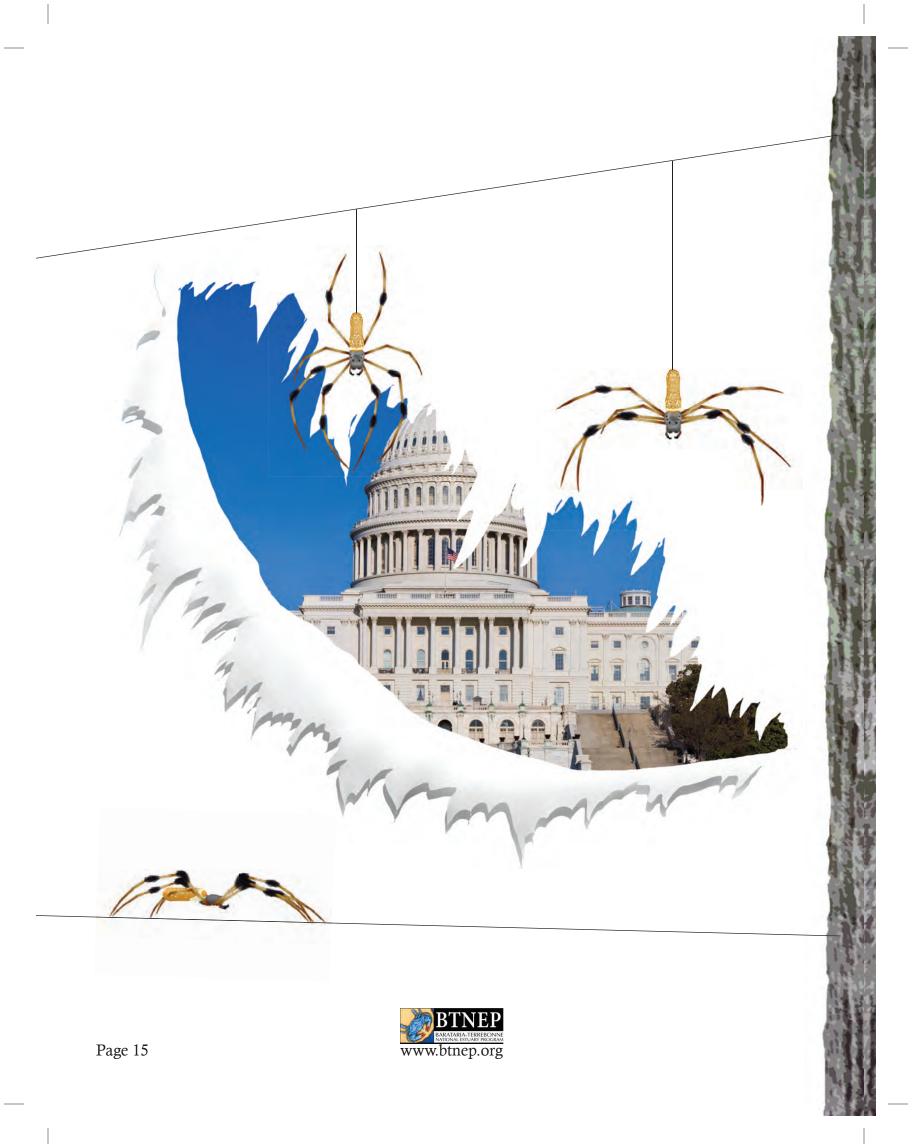
http://www.nbii.gov/portal/server.pt

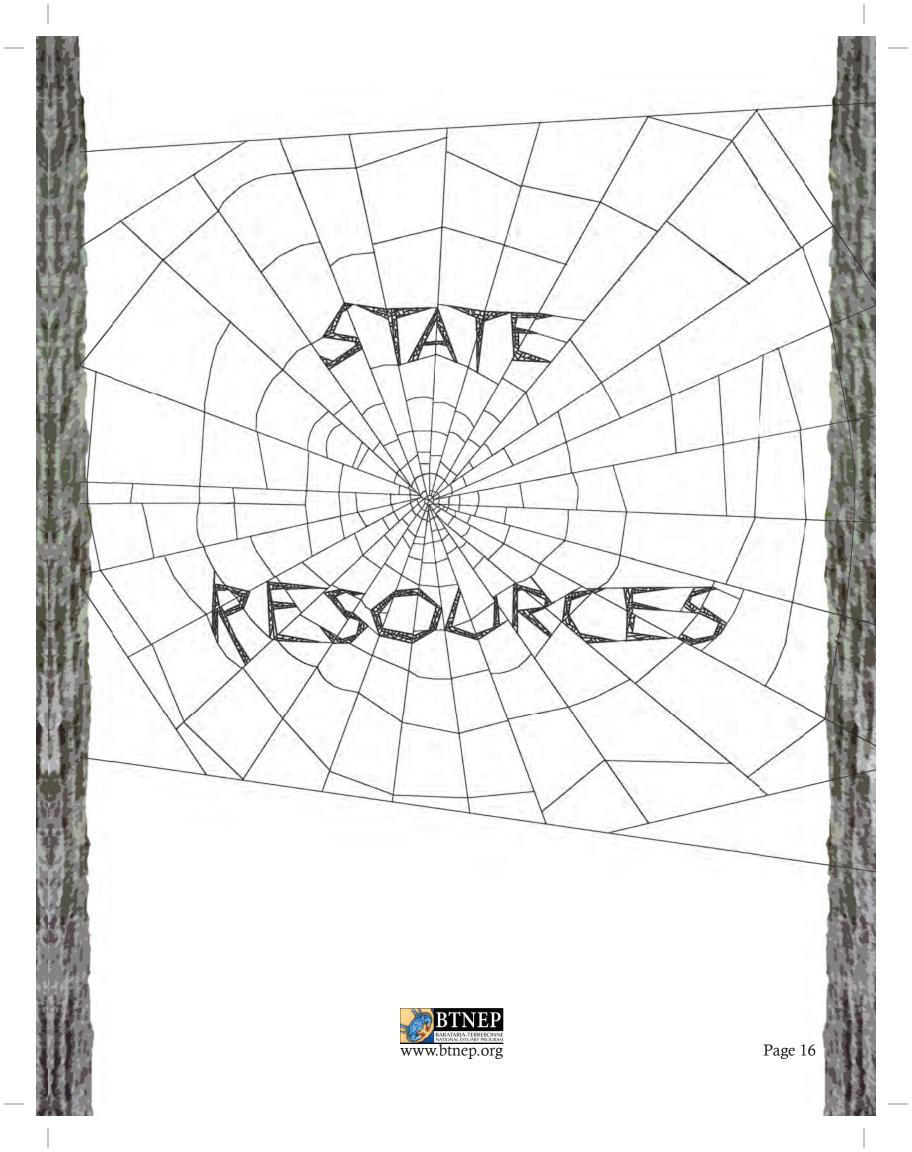
There is a link for the gulf region under "Geographic Perspectives" and other links under "Ecological Topics." This website contains a host of information not only for Louisiana but for the region.













Department of Environmental Quality

http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/

The Department of Environmental Quality provides citizens with information about air, land, and water related topics.



From the homepage, click "Info for citizens" (on left side). From there select Educational resources, halfway down the page. The following useful options can be found:

- EPA's Environmental Kids Club
- EPA Students and Teachers Page
- EPA Educational Resources

AAGC

DEQ

Many other links of resources are available on these pages.



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Louisiana Department of Natural Resources

www.dnr.louisiana.gov

On the left side of the home page, click on "Newsletters" for copies of *Louisiana CoastLines*. This publication contains information on coastal issues and workshops available.



Further down the left side is a link for "Teachers, Students and Kids."

On this page are numerous links for wetlands education.

Coastal Kids Corner

http://lacoast.gov/education/kids/Index.htm

Links for free materials for students can be found in the center of the page.

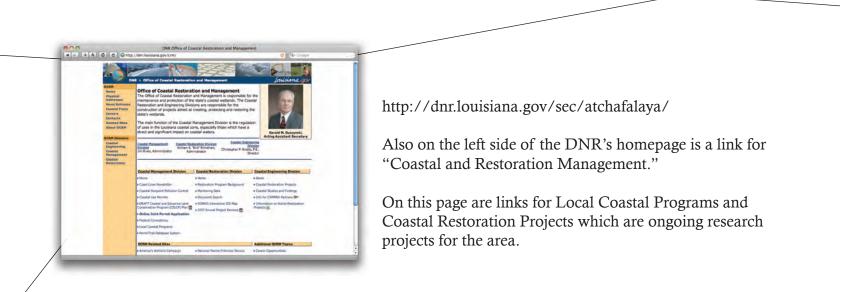
Along the left side are links providing access to the periodical *WaterMarks*, and Coastal Wetland Planning Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA). This site provides information to citizens about coastal restoration projects. Click on "project" to learn more. Further down is a link for Louisiana Wetland Education Coalition (LaWEC).

On the right side there is an option for "Educational Links" which contains another pathfinder for educational materials. Beneath the "Educational Links," are resources for teachers for preparing lesson plans.





Atchafalaya Basin Foundation, part of the DNR, publishes materials that are sent through the depository system and also have lesson plans and activities online. These can be accessed under the "Education/Lessons" tab.



Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism

Office of State Parks

Assistant Secretary P.O. Box 44426 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4426 1-888-677-1400 toll free phone 342-8111 in the Baton Rouge area www.lastateparks.com or http://www.crt.state.la.us/parks/

Website offers information on State parks, with calendar of events and children's pages. On the left side, scroll over "News and Activities," to find Calendar of Events, which has a list of organized activities; and Teachers Guides which has contact information for all the sites as well as an overview of



Also on the left there is an option for "Louisiana Outdoors Outreach Program." LOOP is a resource for hands-on and teaching activities.

Finally on the "Kids Page" option are resources for printing and other activity options.



teaching options.



Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

http://www.wlf.state.la.us/

Under "Education/Research" and "Experience Wildlife" there are education resources. From this website, access is given to *Louisiana Conservationist* under their bookstore.

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries site also provides information on hunting and fishing, threatened and endangered species of Louisiana, and learning opportunities for adults and children.



Project WILD also sponsored through WLF.

http://www.projectwild.org/



This intense curriculum provides teachers who attend the workshop great ways to get students interested in outdoor learning.

The contact for Louisiana is: Project WILD Coordinator Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries P.O. Box 1909 La Combe, LA 70445-1909 Tel: (985) 882-9601 Fax: (985) 882-9320

Along the top of the homepage are tabs for Curriculum and other teaching resources.



Louisiana Geological Survey



http://www.lgs.lsu.edu

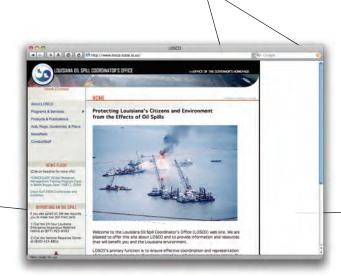
Louisiana Geological Survey is the geological research institution in the state of Louisiana.





Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office

http://www.losco.state.la.us/



The state legislature created the Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office (LOSCO) which serves as the single point of contact for all programs and information related to oil spills in Louisiana.

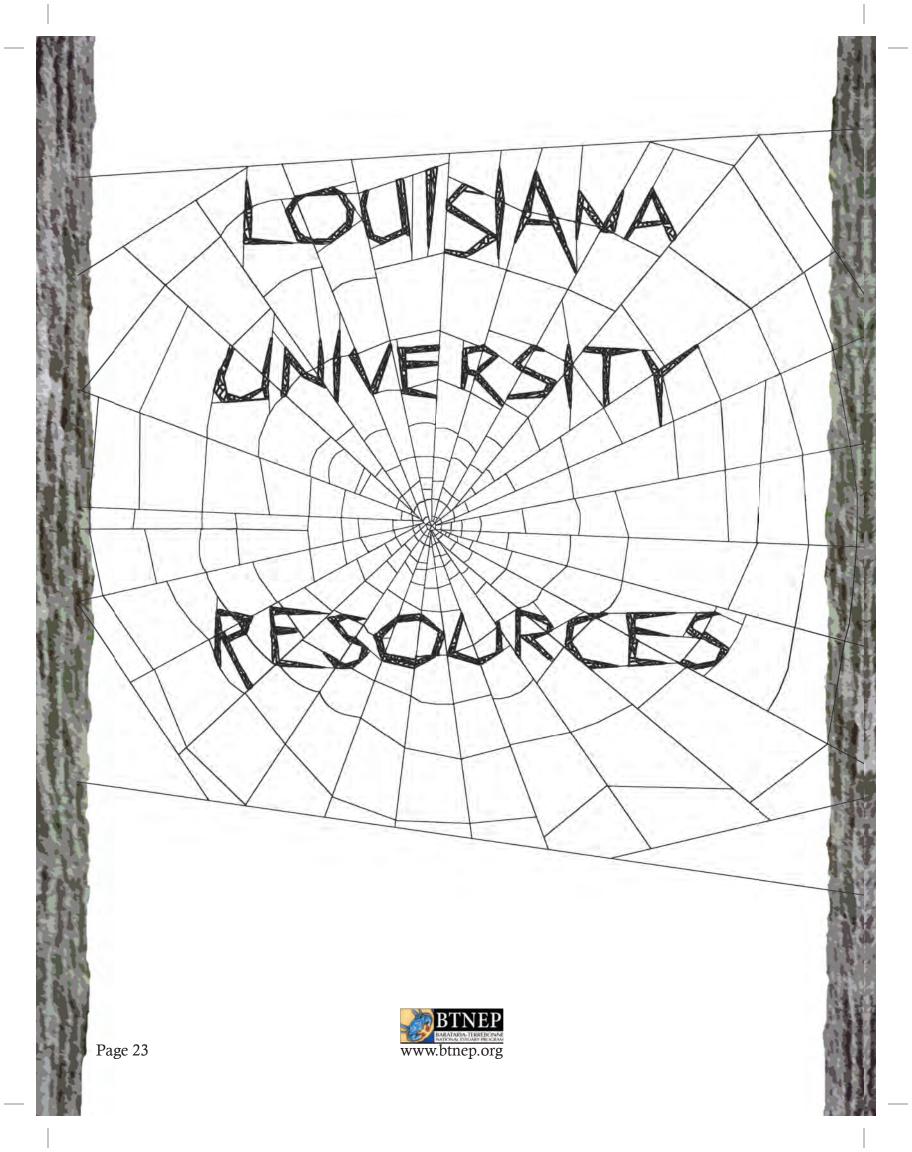
On the left under "Programs & Services" select "Education."

Scroll down for an extensive list of resources on coastal management issues and links related to children.

Under "Products & Publications" is information on the projects related to coastline management and restoration. At the bottom of the page is contact information for publications.





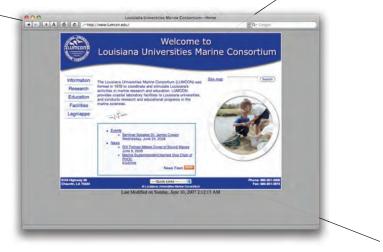




Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON)

http://www.lumcon.edu

The Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON) was formed in 1979 to coordinate and stimulate Louisiana's activities in marine research and education. LUMCON provides coastal laboratory facilities to Louisiana universities, and conducts research and educational programs in the marine sciences. At the bottom of the main page is a drop-down menu where "Bayouside Classroom" may be selected. In addition to the resources on this page, you may also select "LUMCON Marine Education" on the left side for more learning resources available.





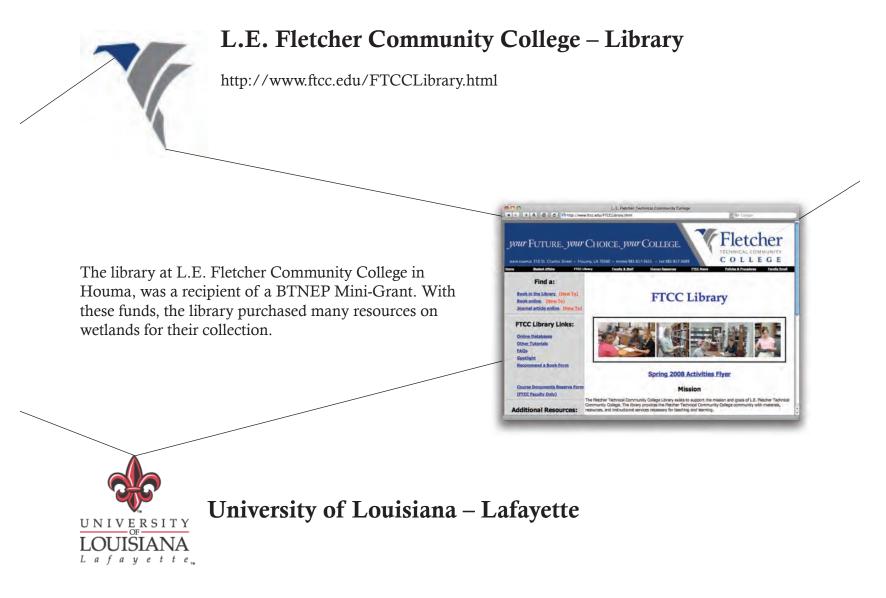
Nicholls State University

www.nicholls.edu/biology

Located in Thibodaux, La., Nicholls State University offers studies in Biology and participates in research relevant to coastal restoration and ecology.







Center for Cultural and Eco-Tourism

http://ccet.louisiana.edu

Inside the "Cultural Tourism" option, are links to information on the history and culture of south Louisiana. There are also options for other regions of the state.

Under "Eco-Tourism" are links to activities and centers that offer attractions.

Other options on the front page contain information and exhibits that can be seen at the Center.





Center for Ecology and Environmental Technology

http://ulceet.com/site.php



Scroll over "Research" on the left and select "Collaborative centers" for links to academic research facilities dealing with wetlands issues.

Center for Inland Water Studies

http://water.louisiana.edu/

The Center is an academic department at ULL. On the top, there are options to view the professors, research, the facilities and news items.





Loyola University New Orleans

http://www.loyno.edu/



On the left side, scroll over "Centers and Institutes" and select "Center for Environmental Communications." On the left side of this page are numerous options. Be sure to investigate : "Resources and Links" for links to wetlands topics separated by topic. The list is quite extensive.

McNeese State University

http://www.mcneese.edu/

On the top, click on "Alumni & Community." In the center of this page, under "Local Partnerships" is an option for Louisiana Environmental Research Center. Under "Links" on the left side, are options for many wetlands resources. Also along the left, are links for other publications, technical advisors, and projects related to wetlands restoration.





University of New Orleans – Pontchartrain Institute for Environmental Sciences

http://www.pi.uno.edu/



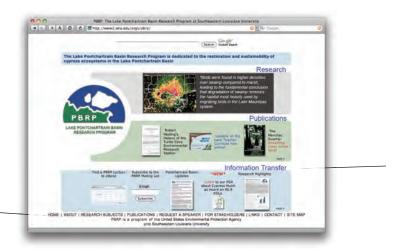
On the left side, click on "Education." Listings for outreach activities and curriculum offered by Pontchartrain Institute are located on that page.

Southeastern Louisiana University

http://www.selu.edu

On the banner across the top of the homepage, is a tab for Research.

On that page, is a link to the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation. The Foundation offers information and publications on Lake Pontchartrain.







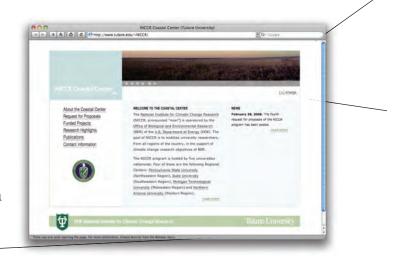
Also from the Southeastern University Research page is a link to the Turtle Cove Environmental Research Station.

On the upper left corner are links to information about field trips and educational resources.

Tulane University

http://tulane.edu/

In the center of the homepage, under "Schools and Colleges," choose "School of Science and Engineering." From there, on the left, is an option called "Research." On this page, in the center, is a link to the National Institute for Climate Change Research (NICCR) On the left side of this page are options for information on projects and publications.





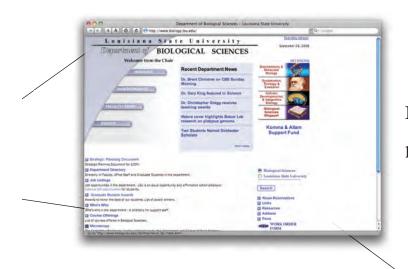
Louisiana State University

There are many resources available at LSU. Some include the LSU Agricultural Center and the Office of Research and Economic Development, School for the Coast and Environment, Geology Department and Geophysics Department. Below are examples of some websites that relate to wetland studies:

Center for Energy Studies

http://www.enrg.lsu.edu/





Department of Biological Science

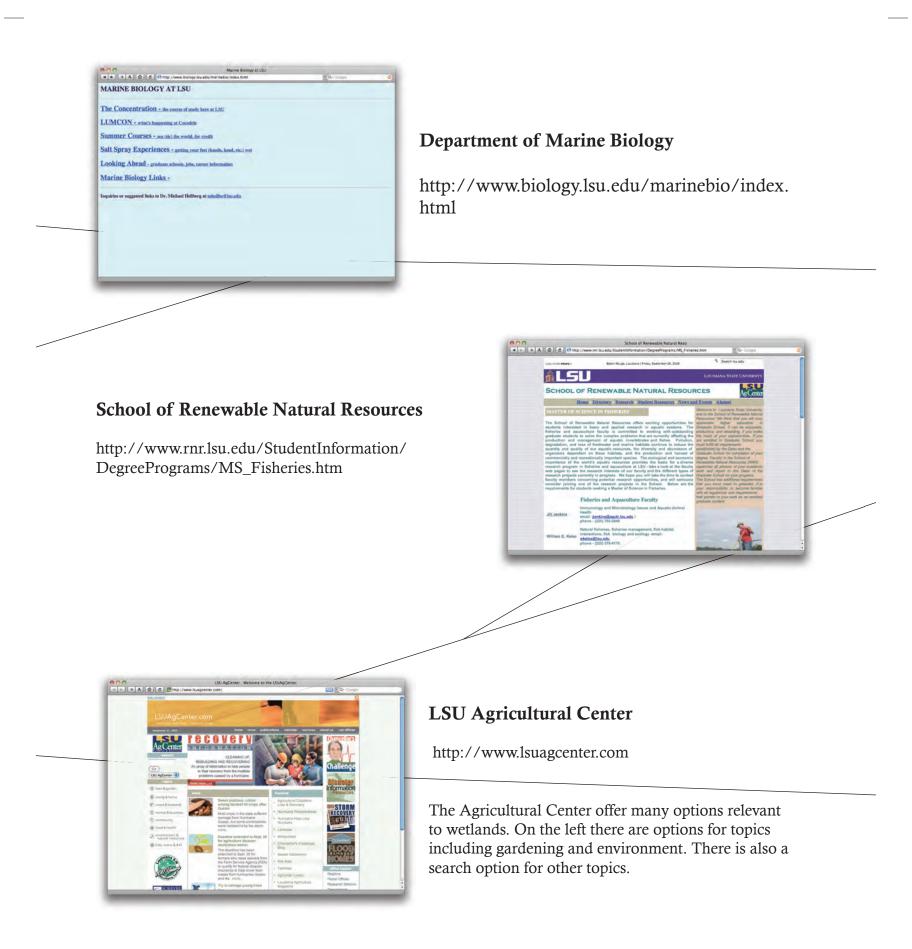
http://www.biology.lsu.edu/

Department of Environmental Science

http://info.envs.lsu.edu/









LSU Office of Research and Economic Development

http://www.research.lsu.edu/cilp.shtml

This page contains numerous links to research programs and facilities, many of which are relevant to wetlands issues.



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Office of Research& Economic Development

LSU

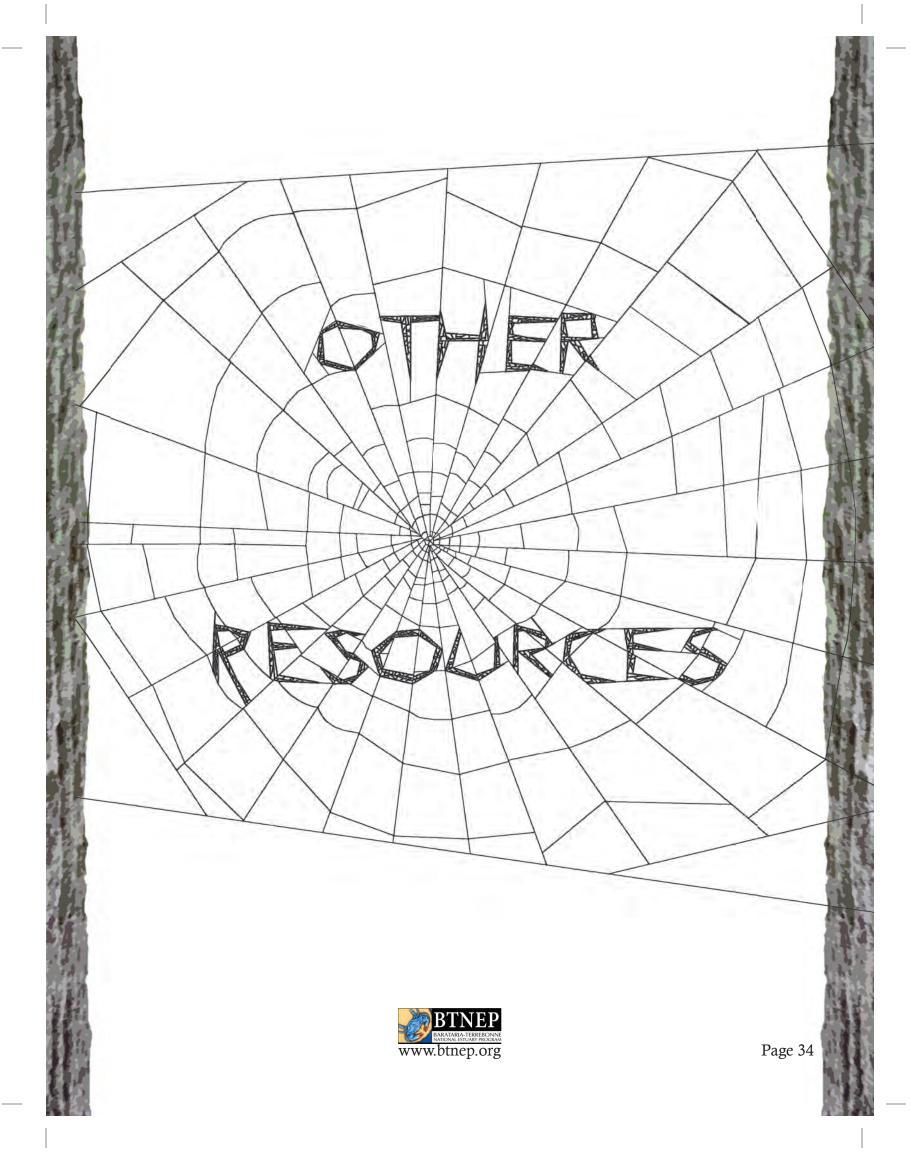
ch Centers, Institutes, Labs & Program











Audubon Institute

http://www.auduboninstitute.org/site/PageServer



At the top of the main page, click "Education." In the first paragraph is a link for "Wetland Express," along with other educational resources. Wetland Express is a traveling exhibit.

Cajun Coast Visitors & Convention Bureau

http://www.cajuncoast.com/home.html

P.O. Box 2332 Morgan City, LA 70381 112 Main St., Patterson, LA 70392 800-256-2931 or 985-395-4905 985-395-7041 FAX info@cajuncoast.com

On the left is an option for "Recreation." On that page are options for publications and resources on paddling, birding, and other activities.

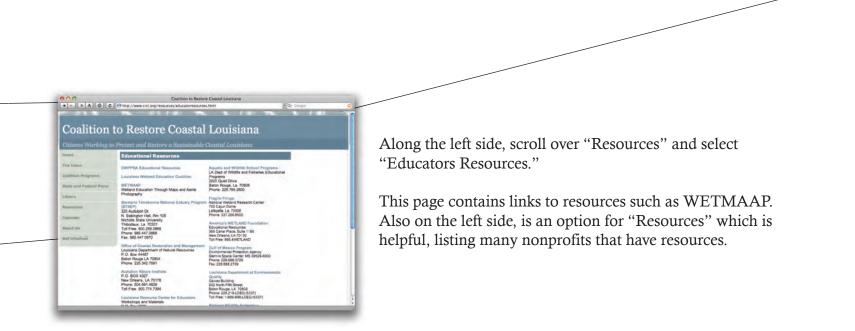




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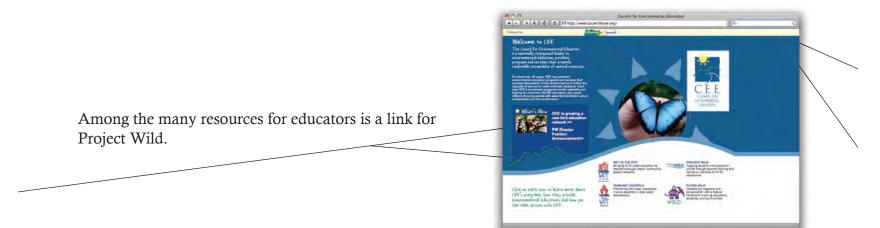
Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana

http://www.crcl.org/



Council for Environmental Education

http://www.councilforee.org/







Environmental Concern

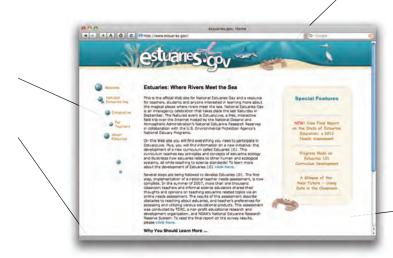
http://www.wetland.org/

This agency publishes materials funded by EPA. It also has links for teacher workshops. They sponsor a project called "Write on" (found on their front page). The books are also for sale on their publications page.



Estuaries.gov

http://www.estuaries.gov/



This site is sponsored by a joint effort with the EPA and NOAA. Under "For teachers" is information and activities on different topics.



Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation

http://www.saveourlake.org/

Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation has many resources for political action groups of regional interests. There are also print and other resources available for downloading. In the upper left corner, scroll over "Education" and select "Written Resources." *Lessons on the Lake* may be downloaded there. This resource may also be accessed through USGS.

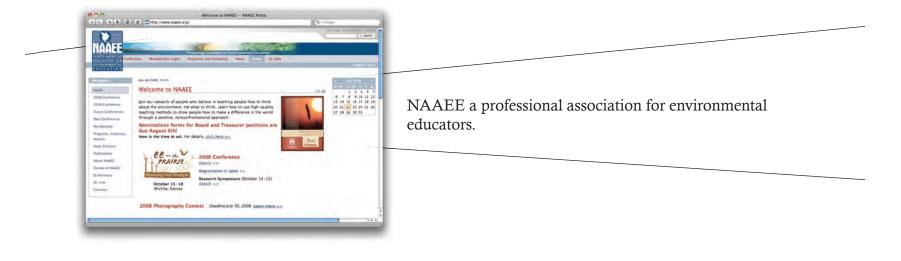
http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/1998/of98-805/lessons/index.htm



or through Southeastern University at www.selu.edu/lessonsonthelake

NAAEE (North American Association for Environmental Education)

http://www.naaee.org/





Project Webfoot – Ducks Unlimited

http://www.ducks.org/projectwebfoot/

An excellent source for wetlands educational materials related to birding.



Project Wet (Water Education for Teachers)

http://www.projectwet.org/

