

UHS COASTAL ROOTS PROGRAM WORKING TOWARD HABITAT RESTORATION

Steven Babcock, Physical and Environmental Sciences Instructor, secured funds through the ULS Foundation for the development of a school-based nursery that will grow native plants for coastal restoration. The long-term nursery has relevant academic and community outcomes. It serves as a demonstration site where the LSU Education Department can bring guests and conduct in-service trainings. The site itself is a well-maintained micro-nursery for native tree seedlings. During the development of the program, students have access to guest speakers, construction of the nursery, propagate trees, and use web resources to study the field site where the trees will be planted. To date the program is growing 600 cypress long-leaf pine live oak seedlings. They will be planted this December on the Northshore of Lake Ponchartrain.

