



Coastal Roots



October 4, 2007

11 Schools Plan Fall Restoration Trips!

by Dr. Pam Blanchard, CR Director, LSU Dept. of Educational Theory, Policy & Practice;
Dr. Ed Bush, CR Co-Director, LSU School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences;
Mr. David Bourgeois, CR Co-Director, Associate Fisheries Agent, LA Sea Grant/LSU AgCenter

LSU Coastal Roots Nurseries

Total Tree Counts, Fall 2007

bald cypress	3725
swamp red maple	261
hackberry	358
loblolly pine	77
longleaf pine	110
waxmyrtle	4
red mulberry	7
live oak	132
Total	4674

Things are looking very green at Coastal Roots Schools this fall!

Congratulations to all the schools that have worked so hard to keep their trees alive and looking good through the very hot summer of 2007! Eleven of the eighteen schools in the Coastal Roots Program will be making restoration planting trips this fall. **Harry Hurst Middle and Albert Cammon Middle** (St. Charles Parish) will kick off the fall planting schedule with their plantings at Wetland Watcher Park and Bayou Segnette State Park in mid-October. Congratulations to all our schools for their hard work to keep their plants growing healthy and strong!

A preliminary report from these 11 Coastal Roots schools estimate that they have more than 4,600 tree seedlings growing in their can yards. Six more of our schools, all growing various species of grass or mangroves, will be making planting trips this coming Spring! Congratulations on your hard work!

Fall 2007

Restoration Trip Schedule...



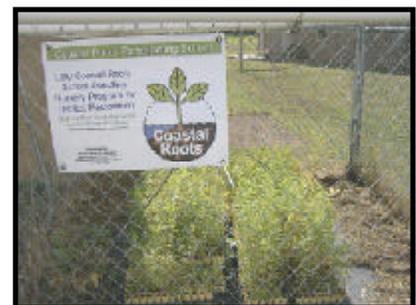
Date	School (Parish)	Restoration Site
October 16	Harry Hurst Middle (St. Charles Parish)	Wetland Watcher Park
October 18	Albert Cammon Middle (St. Charles Parish)	Bayou Segnette S.P.
November 15	St. Martin Episcopal School (Jefferson Parish)	Bayou Segnette S.P.
November 16	S. Lafourche High (Lafourche Parish)	Grand Isle S.P.
November 29	St. James Science & Math Academy (St. James Parish)	Bayou Segnette S.P.
November 30	Our Lady of Mercy School (E. Baton Rouge Parish)	Fontainebleau S.P.
November 30	Lafayette Middle (Lafayette Parish; seed collection)	Port Fourchon
December 4	Luling Elementary & JB Martin Middle (St. Charles Parish)	Wetland Watcher Park
December 6	St. Louis, King of France School (E. Baton Rouge Parish)	Fontainebleau S.P.
December 13	Pierre Part Elementary (Assumption Parish)	Patterson State Museum Maple Bayou Hunting Lease Avery Island
December 14	Lafayette Middle (Lafayette Parish)	Fairview Riverside S.P.
December 21	St. Joseph's Academy (E. Baton Rouge Parish)	

Schools planning restoration trips this spring include Abbeville and Erath High (Vermilion Parish), JH Williams Middle (Vermilion Parish), Jackson High (E. Feliciana Parish), Lafayette Middle (Lafayette Parish) and Montegut Middle (Terrebonne Parish).

LSU Coastal Roots Program offers Information Meeting in NO!

More than 25 educators from the greater New Orleans area met on September 27, 2007 at the Nims Meeting Room at the New Orleans Audubon Zoo to learn how they can become involved in the Coastal Roots Program. We are happy to see more schools interested in joining our program!

*Harry Hurst Middle
(St. Charles Parish)*



Coastal Roots Success!

by David Bourgeois, LSU AgCenter Associate Area Agent - Fisheries
LA Sea Grant Marine Extension Program

When we plant that seed, check for germination, fertilize and water, we never really know what will happen to that individual plant. As with most plantings, Montegut Middle School's planting on the hurricane protection levee near Pointe au Chenes in April 2007 was as enjoyable for everyone as any of the numerous plantings I have been to. But the real test was to go back to check on the results of that planting. Camera in one hand and swatting mosquitoes with the other, I was astounded at the growth of all the plants.

Sometimes it is difficult to motivate students to do all the dirty, sweaty chores required to grow these plants, because they seldom get to see the results of their labor.

The following pictures may help illustrate the results.

Left: Jerome Zeringue, Terrebonne Levee District manager, and students from Montegut Middle (Terrebonne Parish) planting Spartina grass on the hurricane protection levee near Pointe au Chenes. Right: The same area five months later! Success!



Managing Your Can Yard in the Fall

Dr. Ed Bush

LSU School of Plant, Environmental, and Soil Sciences

It's planting time and a great chance to get things in order for the next crop. Now is a great time to clean up the can yard. Discard dead and unhealthy plants. Get an inventory of remaining trees and decide how many plants you would like to keep to bump up. Do inventories of potting soils, pots, fertilizers, and supplies. Pull weeds and sweep excess debris out of the yards. Clean and store used cells. Make a list of things you will need for next spring. Now is the time to order supplies. As days



get cooler you may have to decrease watering time. Do you have a back up battery? Do you need help changing the batteries? Check the CR website for information on how to reprogram your irrigation timer

We have been successful this year and I look forward to a great growing season in the spring semester. As always, keep in touch. I have emailed a couple of you about lesson plans. If some of you would like to use our lesson plans in class we would be glad to work with you. Keep in touch!

Ed Bush

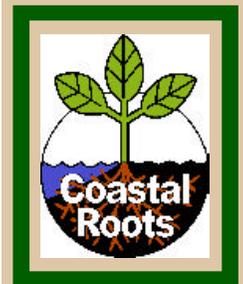
Left: St. Joseph Academy can yard. Weed free! Excellent crop of seedlings!



Irrigation Timers... here's how!

As of the Fall of 2006 LSU Coastal Roots nurseries are using NETAFIM Aqua Pro Controllers as the irrigation timing device. These instructions are not meant to replace the instructions found in the Aqua Pro instruction manual.

NOTE: If you get distracted and wait more than 30 seconds to press a key, the timer will resume its operating mode and you will have to start again.



Setting your clock.

The Aqua Pro timer works on a 24 hour clock.

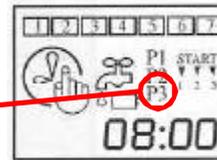
1. Press MODE for 2 seconds.
2. Use the + and – keys to first enter the minutes. Press SET to continue.
3. Use the + and – keys to enter the hours. Press SET to continue.
4. Use the + and – keys to identify the correct day of the week. Move the box until the correct day is flashing. We are using Sunday as Day 1. Press SET.

The clock should now read the correct time.

Setting up your irrigation schedule.

We normally water our plants twice a day – early morning and late afternoon – every day of the week. The Aqua Pro timer can do this for you using program “P3”. The P3 program will allow you to water your plants up to three times every day. We will set it to water twice a day.

1. Press MODE **four** times (2 seconds each time).



Setting the irrigation duration for the first watering (how long you want the water to be turned on for).

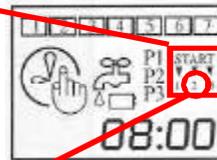
When you see the  you know that this symbol is asking for how long you want the water to be on.

1. Use the + and – keys to first enter the **minutes**. We want you to water for 5 minutes at a time. Note that the 00:00 is in hours and minutes – so set the duration clock to read 00:05 – which means that it will water for 5 minutes. Press SET to continue.
2. Use the + and – keys to enter the **hours**. Generally we do not want to water for an hour. So leave this set at “00” and press SET to continue.

Setting the irrigation time for the first watering (when you want the water to be turned on).

When you see the  - you know that this symbol is asking for when you want the water to be on.

1. Use the + and – keys to first enter the **minutes**. We want you to water around 6:00 a.m., so leave the two “00” in place and just press SET to continue.
2. Use the + and – keys to enter the **hours**. Since we want to water at 6:00 a.m., use the +/- keys to register “06”. Press SET to continue. Your first water time should read “06:00” – representing 6:00 a.m.



Next, the timer will take you to the **second watering time...**

At this point, you will need to go through the above steps to set up the afternoon watering time – which we recommend to be around 5:00 p.m. Again, set the duration for 5 minutes. The start time will read as 17:00 (on the 24 hour clock).

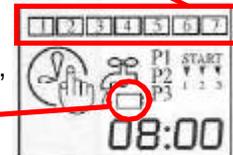
You do not need to water a third time – so enter 00:00 for the duration and for the start time.

Setting the irrigation days (days you want the irrigation system to operate on).

To select a day of the week you want to water on – press the + key. Press the – key to deactivate the day. You must select each day. You will know if all the days are selected if a black box appears around each day. If the box is missing, go back and select it. Note: the current day will be blinking.

Low Battery Signal.

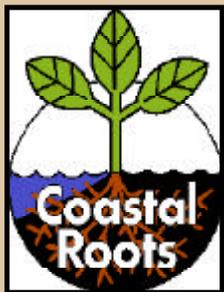
When the low battery sign appears, replace the battery with a high quality 9V alkaline battery. Gently unscrew the screws and remove the battery cover, gasket, and screws. Carefully replace the battery and put the cover back on. Make sure the wires are still making good contact and are not loose.



Things to Do This Fall!



Summer Teacher Workshop. TOP: Teachers Warren Lind, Wayne Mouton, Nessie Galliano and Paulette Adam examine Dianne Lindstedt's (LA Sea Grant) 3D map of New Orleans with Dr. Ed Bush. UPPER RIGHT: Group picture on the Fourchon beach. LOWER RIGHT: John Giambone and Kate Marchal planting bitter panicum on the Grand Isle



Information contact:
Dr. Pam Blanchard
LSU College of Education
Dept. of ETPP
223-D Peabody Bldg.
Baton Rouge, LA
70803

Tel: 225/578-2297 ETPP
Fax: 225/578-9135
Email: PamB@LSU.EDU

RESTORATION TRIP PREPARATIONS. Dr. Blanchard will be emailing you specific information to assist you in preparing for your planting trip. Directions to the site, contact information, and the "nuts and bolts" of the planting trip will be included in this email. If you have questions, please email Pam as soon as possible so that she can get your questions answered.

BUMPING UP. Dr. Blanchard will be in contact with each of the schools planting tree seedlings this fall to help determine how many of those 4,300 seedlings will be retained in the school can yard so that they can be bumped up into 1 gallon containers. Remember that "bumping up" involves transplanting the 1 year old seedlings in the yellow cells into 1 gallon "tall" pots. This means that the seedling will have an extra year of pampered growth in the school nursery and will be much larger and stronger when transplanted out into our partner restoration sites. Planting

media and 1 gallon tall pots will be delivered to the schools in October or November by Coastal Roots staff. Seedlings should be bumped up prior to the Christmas Holidays.

PHOTO RELEASES. Parent-signed photo-release forms will be required for each student participating in a planting trip. This form will be emailed to you and posted on the Coastal Roots website.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! **WINTER MEETING DATE SET FOR JANUARY 12, 2008.**

Classroom activities, updates from schools, reflections on Fall planting trips, and distribution of seeds and potting soil will be the main objectives of the 2008 CR Winter Meeting. The date is set for Saturday, January 12, 2008! The meeting will be from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and will be hosted at St. Joseph's Academy by Linda Messina and Vickie LaPlace.



Did you know...

✎ ... **Southern Living Magazine featured Lafayette Middle School Coastal Roots plantings on Fifi Island?** If you get an August 2007 Southern Living Magazine and look on page 75, you will see a full page picture of students from Lafayette Middle School planting black mangroves and wax myrtles on Fifi Island, which is located just north of Grand Isle. Grant Isle Port Authority Director, Wayne Keller, invited LSM students to help revegetate this important restoration site!

✎ ... **Thirteen Coastal Roots teachers attended the CR Summer Institute held at the NRCS Plant Materials Center last June?** Teachers got to tour the NRCS Plant Materials Center in Golden Meadow, tour the

Port Fourchon facilities, and participate in a demonstration planting of bitter panicum on the beach at Grand Isle. *See pictures this page!*

✎ ... **Teachers are encouraged to join the Louisiana Wetland Education Coalition?** It's a free email listserve that makes available to teachers the latest information on coastal and wetland education opportunities in Louisiana! To join, email Pam (PamB@LSU.EDU) and tell her to sign you up! The group's website is hosted at <http://www.lacoast.gov/education/lawec/>.

Coastal Roots Seedling Nursery Program



Coastal Roots: Helping the LA coast one seedling at a time!

<http://coastalroots.lsu.edu/>