

Steps to Participating in the LSU Coastal Roots Program



Step 1. Notifying Dr. Blanchard.

If you are interested in joining the LSU Coastal Roots Program, please notify Pam Blanchard of your intentions. She will send you a **School Information Form** and you will begin receiving information about the program (newsletters, invitations to professional development, etc.).

Step 2. Funding.

The Affiliation Fee for joining the LSU Coastal Roots Program is \$1200. Checks are to be made out to the **Louisiana State University** (put CR Affiliation Fee on the memo line) and can be mailed to Dr. Pam Blanchard, LSU ETPP, 223-E Peabody Hall, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. The Affiliation Fee is a one-time charge to cover nursery yard materials and installation costs. We will purchase all the materials and either ship them to you or bring them with us when we come to install the nursery. Restoration trip costs (bus, substitute, etc.) and can yard repair costs are the responsibility of the school. The CR Program will provide seeds and soil as long as we have grant money. Please be aware that we cannot set an installation date or order materials for an installation until LSU has received the Affiliation Fee.

Step 3. Nursery location.

Look around your property for one or two possible locations that you think might be suitable for your nursery. Can yard location considerations:

1. Secure location.
2. Full sun most of the day.
3. Dedicated water source nearby. This means that:
 - (a) There is access to a permanent water connection, or "t" into a pressurized water line, and
 - (b) The connection is a reasonable distance to have to dig a shallow trench to....
4. No run off from the roof and in a "non flooding" location.
5. Level ground.

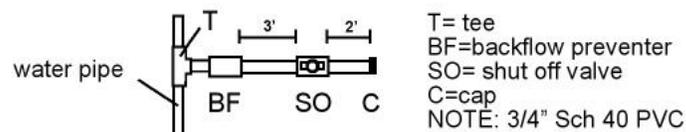
Step 4. School site visit.

Dr. Blanchard will set a date to come visit with you at your school. This trip is to (1) confirm a site for the plant nursery, and (2) meet with you and your administrators to answer any questions that you might have about the program or installations.

Step 5. Preparing for nursery installation.

LSU can only order materials for your nursery AFTER we have received the Affiliation Fee. Nursery installations will not be scheduled until Dr. Blanchard has the Affiliation Fee in hand. The installation dates are set up on a "first ready" basis. This means that (1) we have received your Affiliation Fee, (2) we've been to your school and identified a location, (3) you've had the water connection prepared by a school-approved plumber, and (4) you've prepared the nursery location with several applications of weed killer.

Preparing the site with weed killer. Mark the perimeter of the 10' x 10' can yard using stakes and/or paint. Make sure that we've allowed at least 6' for mowing around the nursery yard and that there are no roof overhangs that might dump water onto your seedlings. Spray weed killer inside the 10 foot square as well as 1 foot beyond the square on all sides (12'x12' square). Spray the area more than once if necessary. The grass should be completely dead or removed (by scraping) by the day we come to do the installation. This will make it much easier for the students to dig the irrigation trenches necessary to bury the irrigation system. It will also be easier to maintain a weed-free can yard once the gravel and ground cloth are in place.



Plumbing preparation instructions. Above is a diagram of the requirements for your plumbing connection. The CR can yard plumbing connection needs to be made into a water line that is independent of any

other irrigation system. The water line needs to provide at least 20 psi and a flow rate of five gallons per minute. Please have the plumber install a backflow preventer (if required by code) and a shut off valve (inside a valve box; required for the can yard). City plumbing regulations determine the need to install a backflow preventer in the system. The shutoff valve on the PVC line to the can yard will allow us to shut off the water to the can yard system if a problem develops and we need to make a repair. If possible, the plumber should provide 3 feet between the backflow preventer and the shut off valve, and at least 2 feet of PVC pipe PAST the shut off valve. The end pipe needs to be ¾" PVC pipe. Please use Schedule 40 PVC pipe for the installation. The plumber can cap the end of the pipe and we'll complete the installation with the help of your students. The plumber does not need to run the pipe the entire distance to the can yard location (your students will do this), but we do ask that they run the pipe under any cement walkways or past any underground wires that might be in the way. *It is the school's responsibility to ensure that all plumbing codes for the city and parish have been followed.*

Step 6. Setting an installation date.

After you have completed all the requirements in Step 5 above, notify Dr. Blanchard so she can work with you to set a date when your students can help install the can yard. Installations take about 4-6 hours (if we don't have plumbing troubles). During this time, we ask that you rotate your students through their normal school schedule to help with the can yard installation.



A completed LSU Coastal Roots can yard at Isidore Newman School, New Orleans. May 2008.

We will work hard to get your installation completed before February. This is when we will distribute your seeds and soil (at the Winter Workshop in Baton Rouge). Seed planting is done in February through April. With good and vigilant care, your seedlings will ready to be transplanted during the following Fall.

Please visit the LSU Coastal Roots Program Website for additional information.

<http://coastalroots.lsu.edu>