

What's Inside?

Roger Gingles named assistant secretary in the Office of Environmental Assessment

Message from the Secretary

LDEQ films asbestos removal video, Acadiana Regional Office conducts asbestos inspection

LDEQ and the Department of Natural Resources work together on Energy Awareness Month video

Radiation Response and Recovery seminar held at LDEQ headquarters Sept. 12 to 14

Secretary Brown speaks at National Drive Electric Week event

LDEQ hosts the Keep Louisiana Conference

Everyday Heroes Awards presented at the Keep Louisiana Beautiful banquet

LDEQ On The Move

Who's Who At LDEQ?

Roger Gingles named assistant secretary in the Office of Environmental Assessment

oger Gingles, executive management officer with LDEQ's Office of Environmental Assessment, was appointed to Assistant Secretary of that office Aug. 30. In this capacity, Gingles will oversee the Air Planning and Assessment Division, the Remediation Division, the Water Planning and Assessment Division and the Underground Storage Tanks Division.

Gingles returned to LDEQ in 2017 after retiring in 2013. In his 27 years with LDEQ. Gingles started as an environmental scientist, moving up the ranks to senior scientist, program manager and assistant administrator. His experience at LDEQ includes assignments within several areas, such as water quality, solid waste, legal affairs and remediation. He was the state Brownfields coordinator for about 12 years. Prior to LDEQ,



Roger Gingles, newly appointed assistant secretary for the Office of Environmental Assessment

Gingles was a sanitarian with the Louisiana Department of Health for three and a half years, so his career entails more than 30 years in the health and environmental protection field.

"I am proud to be back at LDEQ, and I look forward to working with the department as well as our local, state and federal environmental partners in support of our mission to protect Louisiana's air, water and soil."

Gingles holds a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from LSU Shreveport and a Master of Science in public health from Tulane University.

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Message from the Secretary Chuck Carr Brown, Ph.D.

Fifty years is a long time. It's good to know that for the past five decades, LDEQ has been overseeing the safe use of radioactive sources in Louisiana. Recently, Emergency and Radiological Services Division Administrator Bryan Riché traveled to Memphis to receive two awards on behalf of the agency. Both the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Organization of Agreement States (OAS) presented the agency with certificates marking their 50-year affiliation with LDEQ.

The OAS citation reads, in part, "for oversight of radioactive material for persistent dedication to promoting public health and safety and for tireless service to the people of Louisiana" I am very proud of those words of commendation. I want to extend my thanks and congratulations to all in Emergency and Radiological Services Division and all from other divisions who have volunteered for nuclear drills and training exercises through five decades. The cast has changed, but the story has remained the same. Good job.



Bryan Riché, Emergency and Radiological Services Division Administrator (left), and LDEQ Secretary Dr. Chuck Carr Brown (right) receive awards from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Organization of Agreement States

I also want to extend my congratulations to the all the agency

personnel who received service awards on Sept. 26. Thank you again for your service. You are the heart of LDEQ.

On Sept. 14, I was the speaker at the event marking National Drive Electric Week. Louisiana Clean Fuels sponsored the event which was held on Town Square in downtown Baton Rouge. There were informational kiosks and owners brought several electric vehicles (EVs) and put them of display. These cars were very impressive, well-appointed, well-designed, attractive and environmentally friendly.

We still have a long way to go for EVs to be a major part of the transportation, energy and environmental mix in Louisiana. But as I said before, EVs must be a part of our strategy to improve the environment and maximize our energy resources. Infrastructure is still lagging, but we are beginning to see more charging stations in larger cities in Louisiana.

I have to ask all of you to be very patient with all of the rearranging and moving going on as we restructure the locations of certain sections. The good news, is that phone numbers will stay intact. I know it can be an imposition, but it has to be done. I want all of you to help by being cooperative and offering suggestions about how to get it all done more efficiently. It's like a dental appointment: you don't want to do it, but you're glad you did afterwards. We just have to get to afterwards.

The Communications Section is busy doing more YouTube videos to provide the public with information they need. The latest one is on the basics of asbestos identification and remediation. The communications team is editing it for publication and in the planning stages for the next video. Check out their efforts on the LDEQ YouTube Channel: *https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP0mXFCk7gdZRpyAJYxDIRw.*



LDEQ films asbestos removal video, Acadiana Regional Office conducts asbestos inspection

ne of LDEQ's roles is to inspect sites that are undergoing asbestos remediation. The goal is to ensure that the party performing the work has a permit with LDEQ and is conducting the analysis and removal of the asbestos material in accordance with state and federal regulations.

Earlier this month, Dwight Bradshaw, environmental scientist senior based in LDEQ's Southeast Regional Office in New Orleans, narrated a video on the topic of asbestos removal. The video, the latest on LDEQ's YouTube channel, covers the potential health hazards, general regulations, types of materials that may contain asbestos and what contractors should look for as they conduct demolition work.

Bradshaw used a non-asbestos ceiling tile as a prop to demonstrate how disturbing certain materials can release asbestos into the air and cause potential health problems. LDEQ Videographer Emily Barlett filmed the video for LDEQ's YouTube channel.

"The main thing you want to be aware of regarding asbestos is that if you have a regulated building, which is anything except a house, that you first have to have an inspection done by an accredited inspector," Bradshaw noted. "Your path forward is determined based on that inspection."



Dwight Bradshaw uses a non-asbestos ceiling tile as a prop to demonstrate how disturbing certain materials can release asbestos into the air and cause potential health problems. LDEQ Videographer Emily Barlett (right) films the video for LDEQ's YouTube channel.

Should asbestos be discovered, there are several requirements mandating proper removal, containment and disposal of that material. Under the regulations, the responsible party must hire a third party accredited asbestos contractor to take samples of the material and the air. Those results will be submitted to the responsible party for review and LDEQ will request a copy.

Continued on page 4

An asbestos inspection is required when certain types of buildings are being renovated, gutted or demolished. If that requirement is not met, all debris resulting from the demolition will be classified as asbestos and will have to be disposed of in compliance with federal rules regulating the handling of asbestos bearing materials.

A thorough asbestos inspection is required any time:

- A building comprising more than four dwelling units is being renovated, gutted or demolished.
- A public building, school building (private or public), commercial building or industrial building is being renovated, gutted or demolished. (This rule applies if the building has ever been used as an institutional, commercial, pubic or industrial structure or is being converted to an institutional, commercial or public structure).
- A building that is part of an installation is being renovated, gutted or demolished. An installation is any building
 or structure or group of buildings or structures at a single building or renovation site that is part of a planned
 project that is under the control of the same owner or operator.





LDEQ Environmental Scientist Ricky Fontenot inspects a room inside a building in Lafayette that has undergone a complete removal of asbestos material.



LDEQ Environmental Scientists Brian Fontenot (left) and Ricky Fontenot (right) tour the remediation project with the site project manager.

As the removal, or remediation activity, is underway, LDEQ will periodically review the inspections through their own on-site inspections to ensure the removal is being done in accordance with the regulations and human health standards.

Environmental Scientist Ricky Fontenot, based at the Acadiana Regional Office in Lafayette, is tasked with inspecting sites undergoing asbestos remediation in the eight-parish Acadiana region. Older schools that are undergoing renovations are common locations where asbestos may be found. "There are upwards of 370 schools following an asbestos management plan in the Acadiana and Pineville region, alone," Fontenot said.

In early August, Fontenot and two fellow environmental scientists from LDEQ, Brian Fontenot and Andrew Kimmel, conducted a follow-up inspection inside a group of buildings in Lafayette. The site formerly contained asbestos in floor tile, piping, insulation, joints and portions of the walls and ceilings. Analysis of the material is done though one of two Louisiana Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (LELAP)-accredited labs in the state that are certified to specifically handle asbestos analysis.

Training is important, and proper certifications are required regarding the identification and removal of asbestos. LDEQ maintains a list of recognized asbestos training providers in the state who provide information and instruction. Training courses that hold an EPA-approval accreditation program are acceptable in Louisiana, however, the state also requires the completion of an additional 2-hour regulations course by a recognized training provider.

The important task is to confirm that containment and proper disposal of the debris is being done in order to keep particulates, such as dust and airborne debris from escaping off site. Safety is paramount and all critical barriers must be closed in order to ensure that there is no offsite impact.

When the final round of inspections by LDEQ determines that the

work was performed within the regulatory guidelines and all material is disposed of, the air will be sampled to ensure that no asbestos material remains. "Third party companies will conduct clearance air sampling, which is the final activity for a job to be considered complete," Fontenot said.

Once inspected and approved, the ceilings, walls, floors and infrastructure will be replaced so that the site fully meets the state and federal health and environmental standards.

Please visit LDEQ's YouTube video on asbestos and other topics, at: *https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP0mXFCk7gdZRpyAJYxDIRw*. Additional information is available on LDEQ's web page: *http://deq.louisiana.gov/page/asbestos-accreditation-and-notification-forms*.



LDEQ and the Department of Natural Resources work together on Energy Awareness Month video

mily Barlett, LDEQ graphic designer and videographer and Phyllis Darensbourg, LDNR public information director, worked together to video a promotional video for DNR. October is Energy Awareness Month, and DNR is helping educate the public about what they can do and what they should know about energy.

The venue was the green and grassy side yard of the LaSalle Building that houses DNR. Louis McArther, federal energy office manager and Edward O'Brien, energy economist, were spokesmen for the video and explained the value of energy conservation and water conservation. They explained how important it is to protect the environment for future generations.

Watch the video at: https://youtu.be/Jtl0usv_nqs.



Phyllis Darensbourg, public information director for DNR, and Emily Barlett, LDEQ graphic designer and videographer, prepare to shoot a video about Energy Awareness Month.

Radiation Response and Recovery seminar held at LDEQ headquarters Sept. 12 to 14



LDEQ Environmental Scientist JiYoung Wiley (left) and Nan Williams from FEMA Region VI provide introductions on day one of the seminar.

DEQ's Radiological Emergency Planning and Response Section and the Technological Hazards Division from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) hosted a training seminar for local, state and federal agencies at LDEQ headquarters in Baton Rouge Sept. 12 – 14.

The first two days of the seminar focused on recovery activities relating to an incident at a nuclear power plant with the third day focusing on federal outreach and a tabletop exercise.

Attendees were able to network with representatives from LDEQ, FEMA, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Food and Drug Administration, LSU Ag Center, the Federal Radiological Monitoring and Assessment Center and the U.S. Department of Energy, among others.

Continued on page 6



"The goal of the Radiological Emergency Planning recovery seminar is to understand the roles of the responding agencies and to further assess recovery capabilities as they relate to an incident at a nuclear power plant," said JiYoung Wiley, LDEQ environmental scientist.

Speakers from various agencies presented overviews of their respective areas of responsibility, with a question-and-answer session following each presentation. One topic was how to help landowners, farmers and others with financial assistance should a nuclear event occur. Another topic was how to assess the array of environmental, economic, infrastructural and logistical concerns regarding areas identified as being with a radiologically contaminated zone.

Identifying Louisiana's coordinating structure for early phase and late phase recovery operations was a highlight of the seminar, with discussions focusing on the reconstitution of the agriculture industry and the short and longterm housing needs of evacuated populations.



JiYoung Wiley gives an overview of the state's response with regard to a nuclear power plant emergency.

The training was planned in conjunction with the Waterford 3 Nuclear Plant's Plume Phase and Ingestion Phase Exercise, set to take place the week of Dec. 4.



LDEQ Secretary Chuck Carr Brown speaks at a press conference opening the National Drive Electric Week observance at Town Square in downtown Baton Rouge.

Secretary Brown speaks at National Drive Electric Week event

alling electric vehicles "the wave of the future," LDEQ Secretary Chuck Carr Brown opened the National Drive Electric Week kickoff event on Baton Rouge's Town Square Sept. 14.

Many challenges have to be overcome before the EV segment expands, Brown said, pointing out that charging stations have to be in place to support the vehicles before they can realistically be a standard part of the transportation and environmental solution.

"It's always the chicken or the egg concept," Brown told a reporter. He pointed to the recent VW settlement money as one source of infrastructure seed money. Part of that multi-billion dollar settlement will be dedicated to Electrify America, a program to install charging

stations in major transportation hubs. Electrify America is investing \$2 billion over the next 10 years in Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) infrastructure and awareness.

"I have placed Louisiana on the list to receive some of that Electrify America money," Brown said. LDEQ is the state's lead agency for VW Settlement.



National Drive Electric Week is a nationwide celebration to heighten awareness of today's widespread availability of plug-in vehicles and highlight the benefits of all-electric and plug-in and hybrid electric cars, trucks, motorcycles and more. This year's observance ran Sept. 9-17. As part of the Baton Rouge event, a variety of EVs, including Nissan, Tesla and BMW models, were on display around the media beacon at Town Square. Baton Rouge's event is one of more than 200 across the country (and around the world).

Owners of plug-in vehicles by Nissan, GM, BMW, Tesla, were on hand to share their experiences driving and owning their electric cars. Maps of local EV chargers were on display, and information kiosks were stocked with literature on EV ownership, models and other information.

"It's an exciting time for the electric vehicle market. Automakers are producing more affordable models with longer ranges that are approaching that of conventional gas vehicles. It's no surprise that electric vehicle sales have risen 37 percent this past year," said Ann Vail, executive director of Louisiana Clean Fuels, the event organizers. Louisiana Clean Fuels received local support from the city of Baton Rouge, the Louisiana Departments of National Resources and Environmental Quality. Plug In America, the Sierra Club and the Electric Auto Association are national organizers.

For more information about EVs, visit:

www.LouisianaCleanFuels.org www.pluginamerica.org www.sierraclub.org/EVGuide www.electricauto.org



LDEQ Secretary Dr. Chuck Carr Brown and Louisiana Clean Fuels Executive Director Ann Vail chat with attendees from National Drive Electric Week.



Plug-in electric vehicles were on display at the Town Square kickoff for National Drive Electric Week.



LDEQ hosts the Keep Louisiana Conference



LDEQ Secretary Dr. Chuck Carr Brown opens the Keep Louisiana Beautiful Annual Conference at the Galvez Building on Sept. 20.



LDEQ's Linda Brown Hardy mans an information kiosk in the Galvez Building during the Keep Louisiana Beautiful Annual Conference.

eptember was a month of heightened focus on litter and litter prevention. Keep Louisiana Beautiful held its Annual Conference at LDEQ Sept. 20-21.

Keep Louisiana Beautiful is the state's anti-litter and community improvement organization focused on education, enforcement, awareness and cleanups. Affiliated with Keep America Beautiful, Keep Louisiana Beautiful's mission is to promote personal, corporate and community responsibility for a clean and beautiful Louisiana. Keep Louisiana Beautiful comprises a network of 40 affiliates in communities throughout the state.

LDEQ Secretary Dr. Chuck Carr Brown opened the conference with some encouraging words about progress that has been made in litter prevention and what needs to be done.KLB Executive Director Susan Russell welcomed the more than 120 participants and introduced the Master of Ceremonies, Courtney Hornsby.

Presentations to the group were varied. There was something for everyone. Presentations ranged from creating zero-waste and reforesting New Orleans to recycling and public-private partnerships. The first day of the conference ended with a meeting of the recently formed Louisiana Recycling Coalition and an invitation to join. More information on LRC is available at *www.serdc.org/ LouisianaRecyclingCoalition.*

The second day of the conference started with a message from Mayor-President of Baton Rouge Sharon Weston Broome, who spoke to the participants about parish efforts to recycle and prevent litter. Susan Russell took the podium to announce a partnership between KLB and the New Orleans Saints. Both organizations reach out to younger people and encourage environmental stewardship. There are many facets to the partnership such as use of the Proud Partner Logo, KLB logo on the Saints Youth Van, inclusion in the Saints social media and the Saints Daily Report being bought to the public by KLB with a 5 to 10 second message. Keep Louisiana Beautiful is very excited about partnering with the Saints.

Second day subjects included Increasing Litter Law Enforcement in Your Community, appealing to millennials, engaging volunteers, influencing public policy and environmental education. The conference was closed by Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser, who lauded the participants for their efforts to beautify the state and explained how this affects tourism and the economy.

For more information on Keep Louisiana Beautiful, visit *www.keeplouisianabeautiful.org*. Follow KLB on Facebook: *facebook.com/keeplouisianabeautiful* Like KLB on Twitter: *@KeepLABeautiful*



Everyday Heroes Awards presented at the Keep Louisiana Beautiful banquet

ach year, Keep Louisiana Beautiful recognizes those individuals that go the extra mile to keep communities clean, beautiful and litter-free. These are the people that one by one, work to change the landscape of Louisiana with just a little extra effort and a tremendous level of commitment. This year eight awards were presented and 25 KLB Affiliates were recognized. In conjunction with the Keep Louisiana Beautiful Conference, KLB presented the Everyday Heroes awards at their annual banquet.

The Youth Leadership Award

This year's Youth Leadership Award was presented to 12-year-old Joey Goutherie. He formed Geaux Green, a program that brought recycling to elementary and middle schools and has spread to a membership base that now organizes cleanup days and garden adoptions. Joey encourages the public to take the Geaux Green pledge to: recycle; pick up litter; plant trees and flowers; and conserve water and electricity. Representative Stuart Bishop, chair of the Natural Resources and Ennvironment committee, presented the award.

Law Enforcement Award

This year's Law Enforcement Recognition Award was presented to Constable Rick Moore of St. Tammany Parish for his establishment of a parish-wide litter court in order to combat litter and ease the process of penalizing litter offenders. Moore was the driving force behind the newly established litter abatement program in St. Tammany Parish, which has picked up 187,000 lbs. of litter since its inception last year. The litter court that Rick established in St. Tammany Parish has served as



Youth Leadership Award winner, Joey Gouthiere, 12-years old, hold his award for forming Geaux Green.

a model for other cities and parishes throughout the state. Wildlife and Fisheries Secretary Jack Montoucet presented the award. This award recognizes law enforcement personnel including Justices of the Peace, Constables, judges, and code enforcement officers who are successful at enforcing state, parish, or city litter and illegal dumping laws.

Most Innovative Program Award

This award recognizes a successful beautification, litter prevention, recycling, or waste reduction program led by a school, civic group, non-profit or KAB affiliate. Adam and Lisa Willard, founders of the Shreveport-based Red River Cleanup, received this year's Most Innovative Program Award. The Red River Cleanup is a non-profit organization that provides watershed education and has removed over 87,000 pounds of trash from the Red River and its tributaries in Shreveport, an area that stretches over twenty miles. The Willard's were presented with the Most Innovative Program Award by Dr. Chuck Carr Brown, Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.

Outstanding Affiliate Award

This award recognizes a Keep America Beautiful affiliate that shows fortitude, leadership, creative and diverse programming, and community engagement. This year's Outstanding Affiliate Award was presented to Keep Greater Lake Charles Beautiful. Since its inception in 1982, Keep Greater Lake Charles Beautiful has worked to encourage its citizens to take an active role in the improvement of their city by offering annual trash bashes for household hazardous waste disposal; a robust community recycling program; an Earthkeepers Tree Planting Week; a Beach Sweep event in conjunction with the Ocean Conservancy; and much more. They invest in a future of environmental stewards by providing ongoing education and leadership opportunities

Continued on page 10



to their Jr. Team Green, 12-18-year-olds that serve as a youth advisory committee to Team Green. This award was presented by Cecile Carson, Vice-President of Litter and Affiliate Relations at Keep America Beautiful.

Outstanding Affiliate Director Award

This award recognizes a Keep America Beautiful affiliate director who demonstrates exceptional dedication to KLB's mission and leadership in building a strong and sustainable organization. This year's Outstanding Affiliate Director Award was presented to Donna Baltakis of Keep Eunice Beautiful. Baltakis established a drop-off recycling center that helps fund the LSU (Eunice) Performing Arts Series; she applied for and won several grants to increase recycling and proper ash and waste disposal in her community; she is an active member of the Eunice Garden Club, which works to beautify public spaces; and she has worked closely with Eunice police and sheriff's departments to improve litter law enforcement and abatement. Baltakiswas presented the award by Helen Lowman, president and CEO of Keep America Beautiful.

Corporate Leadership Award

This award recognizes a business that demonstrates a consistent dedication to KLB's mission, environmental stewardship and community enrichment. This year's Corporate Leadership Award was presented to CenturyLink for their generosity and vision in partnering with Holyfield Construction and the Ouachita Business Alliance to invest in a plan to combat litter and embrace beautification as a long-term commitment. CenturyLink invested \$100,000 in the project, which has transformed the city's main highway by planting 321 oak trees and landscaping eight high-traffic interchanges. was presented by Dr. Mike Strain, Louisiana Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry, Presented the award to Tim McIlveene, Manager of Economic Development at CenturyLink.

Golden Can Award

This Golden Can Award recognizes a public servant who displays a deep commitment to KLB's mission in their daily work by going above and beyond the call of duty. Jennifer Roberts, New Orleans, who has worked on water issues in Southeast Louisiana for over ten years, committing herself to watershed protection advocacy, education, research, and enforcement was this year's recipient. Jennifer was presented the award by Dr. Susan Strain, sponsor of the Golden Can Award with her husband, Commissioner Mike Strain.

Alice Foster Award

Louisiana's former First Lady, Alice Foster, played a crucial role in beautification and preservation efforts across the state in helping to launch Keep Louisiana Beautiful. The Alice Foster Award recognizes an individual volunteer for his or her exceptional leadership in litter prevention, waste reduction, recycling and beautification. Courtney Hornsby, who has directed beautification, recycling and anti-litter initiatives at Keep Natchitoches Beautiful and Keep Monroe Beautiful, while serving on the Board of Directors at Keep Louisiana Beautiful, received the award. The award was presented by Troy West, son of former First Lady Alice Foster.

The keynote address was given by Helen Lowman, President and CEO of Keep America Beautiful. Lowman has more than 20-years leadership experience in the areas of international diplomacy and development, youth engagement, environmental education and disaster resilience.

Keep Louisiana Beautiful also recognized and celebrated the state affiliates which had met KLB's standard of excellence. Those affiliates are: Keep Abita Beautiful, Keep Abbeville Beautiful, Keep Assumption Beautiful, Keep Baton Rouge Beautiful, Keep Calcasieu Beautiful, Keep DeRidder Beautiful, Keep East Feliciana Beautiful, Keep Eunice Beautiful, Keep Hammond Beautiful, Keep Jefferson Parish Beautiful, Keep Lacombe Beautiful, Keep Lake Charles Beautiful, Keep Lafayette Beautiful, Keep Natchitoches Beautiful, Keep New Roads Beautiful, Keep Ouachita Beautiful, Shreveport Green, Keep Slidell Beautiful, Keep St. James Beautiful, Keep St. John Beautiful, Keep St. Martin Beautiful, Keep St. Mary Beautiful, Keep Terrebonne Beautiful, Keep Union Beautiful, and Keep West Baton Rouge Beautiful.



DEQ On The Move



Paralegals in the LDEQ Legal Department are honored at a celebration of Paralegal Week.



Dr. Chuck Carr Brown, LDEQ Secretary shakes the hand of Nancy Chapman, paralegal, while General Counsel Herman Robinson looks on.



Who's Who At DEQ?



Perry Fontenot III, M.Ed. - Environmental Scientist, Waste Tire Program

Fontenot is from the city of Opelousas, and is a graduate of Southern University, where he majored in Biological Sciences. He also obtained his Masters of Education in Secondary Education from Grand Canyon University. He is a 16 year veteran of the military, serving the United States Navy for 14 years and the United States Air Force for 2 years.

In his spare time, he mentors youth in the city of Opelousas through the Kappa League program, a Guide Right Initiative of Kappa Alpha Psi, Fraternity Incorporated. Fontenot enjoys traveling abroad and learning both the background of other cultures, and utilizing those principles during his mentorship opportunities.

Jace Hood - Environmental Scientist, Water Permits Division, Office of Environmental Services

Hood is a recent graduate of Louisiana State University where he received a degree in Natural Resource Ecology and Management.

Prior to working with LDEQ, he worked at LSU's School of Renewable Natural Resources and completed undergraduate research projects that examined chemical cue ecology and ocean acidification. In his free time, he enjoys hiking and fishing.





Madeline Richard - Environmental Scientist, Water Permits Division. Office of Environmental Services

Richard was born and raised in Baton Rouge and is a recent graduate of LSU having earned a bachelor's degree in Natural Resource Ecology and Management and a minor in Political Science. She loves being outdoors, reading, cooking and especially traveling the world discovering new things and cultures.



Louisiana Department Of Environmental Quality's Second Quarter Summaries

Second Quarter 2017 Enforcement Actions: http://deq.louisiana.gov/page/enforcement-actions

Second Quarter 2017 Settlement Agreements: http://deq.louisiana.gov/page/enforcement-division

Second Quarter 2017 Air Permits: http://deq.louisiana.gov/page/permits-issued-by-calendar-quarter

> Second Quarter 2017 Water Permits: http://deq.louisiana.gov/page/lpdes

Second Quarter 2017 Solid and Hazardous Waste Permits: http://deq.louisiana.gov/page/waste-permits