



First Edition

2016

The Louisiana Citizens' Guide To Environmental Engagement



**Louisiana Environmental
Action Network**

in partnership with

LSU

Superfund Research Center



This guidebook is dedicated to those LEAN family members who are no longer with us but who proudly committed their lives to solving Louisiana's environmental problems for the safety of their families, betterment of their community and benefit of us all:

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The Louisiana Citizens Guide To Environmental Engagement
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Why a Guidebook?

Our Sportsman's Paradise is home to many industrial activities and land uses that may affect environmental conditions in our communities. Abundant natural resources and generous government incentives have attracted petrochemical and other manufacturing industries to our state, creating thousands of jobs, revenue for local governments, economic development and environmental pollution. According to the US Environmental Protection Agency's 2013 Toxic Release Inventory (TRI), Louisiana ranked 6th out of 56 states and territories in pounds of TRI chemicals released per square mile. The coming years are expected to bring even more concentrated industrial activity as part of the dramatic growth in natural gas exploration and development.

As citizens, we have a responsibility to be informed about the environment around us. Being informed is the first step to more effective participation in the decisions that affect our health, safety and local environment. However, knowing where to start can be overwhelming. We have put together this guide to help residents and community leaders across the state gain a clearer understanding of environmental issues, how they are regulated, and the steps that residents can take to make themselves and their communities safer and healthier. Being informed means being empowered to take more control of what goes on around you. This leads to stronger families and stronger communities.

The first part of the guidebook provides an overview of the major laws that protect the public from environmental pollution and regulate the actions of industries. Here you will find a step-by-step guide for citizens who want to participate in public meetings and give comments to the state agencies that regulate the industries. The regulatory system set up by law in this country works better when there is strong input from citizens. Another important part of public participation is citizen reporting. Section 1 contains tools to help you record and communicate observations you may have about particular problems you find in your community. The second part is divided into sections covering issues related to water, air, land, and hazardous waste. Chapter six presents information that will help you prepare for emergencies and natural disasters. Finally, environmental contacts are included in the appendix.

We hope that you will find the information easy to understand, useful and, relevant to the environmental challenges that you and your neighbors may face. Please, do not hesitate to contact us if you should have any questions on any of the subject matter.

Louisiana Environmental Action Network

Louisiana's environment defines us. Our history, our cuisine, our culture and our economy have been built on our natural resources. Louisiana is blessed with vast agricultural land, extensive timber resources, the nation's largest swamp and one of the world's most abundant fisheries. Additionally, our geology and the transportation super highway of the Mississippi River has led us to being a world leader in the energy and petrochemical industries. Within this rich and diverse landscape of resources, industries and communities, it is only natural that challenges sometimes arise. In 1986 a group of concerned citizens from around the state gathered in Baton Rouge to share stories and offer support for the environmental struggles their communities were facing. Within this solidarity and combined purpose the Louisiana Environmental Action Network was formed. LEAN works to address the issues that arise as Louisiana's diverse industries and inhabitants work to coexist sustainably.

The purpose of the Louisiana Environmental Action Network (LEAN) is to foster cooperation and communication between individual citizens and corporate and government organizations in an effort to assess and mend the environmental problems in Louisiana. At the core of LEAN's work is the assistance we provide communities in dealing with their environmental challenges. Most of the communities LEAN serves are low-income, minority populations whom often have been termed "environmental justice" communities. These populations consist of African American, Native American, Vietnamese, Cajun, and Creole communities whom often have deep roots within Louisiana's environment. Over the years we have assisted communities with concerns involving environmental and health related impacts from air pollution, hazardous waste, water pollution, landfills, municipal water treatment facilities, natural disasters and industrial accidents, just to name a few.

Our decades of experience navigating countless environmental struggles has taught us that the best outcomes always occur when the community has a voice in the decision making process. Public participation is key to creating equitable solutions to the issues communities face regarding the environment. As Louisiana faces unprecedented industrial growth and increasingly severe weather impacts from climate change and sea level rise, the environment and the families who inhabit this environment face severe consequences to their health, safety and sustainability. The development of this guidebook with the Louisiana State University Superfund Research Program is an important step forward in educating and empowering the citizens of Louisiana. With this powerful resource in hand, we can better protect and preserve the communities and environment that make up our home, Louisiana.

Sincerely,



Marylee Orr
Executive Director

Learn more about LEAN and download a digital version of this guidebook at: LEANWEB.ORG



Louisiana State University's Superfund Research Program

The LSU Superfund Research Center, led by Barry Dellinger, Ph.D. and now by Stephanie Cormier, Ph.D., is funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) through its national Superfund Research Program (SRP). Researchers within the LSU Center specialize in work related to environmentally persistent free radicals (EPFRs), small particles formed during the incineration of hazardous materials. More information about the LSU Superfund Research Center is found at: <http://www.srp.lsu.edu/>

The NIEHS Superfund Research Program (SRP) establishes university centers throughout the US to support research on a range of environmental contaminants, and to further communication and engagement with communities to help find ways to reduce exposure risks. You can read more about the NIEHS Superfund Research Program at: <https://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/supported/dert/programs/srp/>

The Community Engagement Core of the LSU Superfund Research Center partners with the Louisiana Environmental Action Network (LEAN) to help enhance the resilience of communities facing a variety of environmental exposure risks. Together, they created this guidebook to help citizens gain a clearer understanding of local environmental issues and steps they may be able to take to make themselves safer. This effort grew out of recommendations from attendees of the 2013 symposium, Response, Recovery and Resilience to Oil Spills and Environmental Disasters, sponsored by the Superfund Research Programs at LSU and Oregon State University, and LEAN. The meeting was held on the LSU campus in Baton Rouge on January 29, 2013 and brought together leaders of Gulf Coast non-governmental organizations (NGOs), regulatory agencies, residents and researchers to examine events following recent environmental disasters - including Hurricanes Katrina and Rita of 2005 and the British Petroleum (BP) Gulf Oil Spill of 2010 – to identify ways to make communities more resilient to future environmental emergencies.

We are pleased to have this opportunity to work together and we hope that the information presented here will help inform residents and encourage discussions among community stakeholders about how to achieve a safer and healthier future.

Best Regards,



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The steps of public environmental engagement infographic



Photo © Jeffrey Dubinsky

From dense urban areas, to isolated homes accessible only by boat, Louisiana citizens must learn to live safely and sustainably in a diverse array of environments.

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THIS GUIDEBOOK IS ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE AT LEANWEB.ORG

Section 1

The Government and its Role in Environmental Protection

Economic development and a growing population affect our environment as we require more natural resources to provide for everyday life. However, we all have the right to clean air, land, and water and the government works to protect that right through laws, regulations, and ordinances. There are many state, federal, and local agencies and governmental bodies that each have their own responsibilities to protect the environment and health of the people.

The protection of the environment is a complicated job. As our civilization and economies expand so do the burdens we place on the air, water and land around us. The government plays a necessary role in working to ensure that natural resources, including air, water, and soil, are protected and used responsibly, but the state, local and federal agencies cannot do this work alone. The laws designed to protect our environment usually require public participation. Many government processes for planning and permitting developments that may have environmental impacts often require public participation in the form of public hearings and public comment periods. The procedures for public input have been established to create an important pathway of communication so that public agency officials have the benefit of hearing from community members as officials consider a range of decisions that could affect local environmental conditions.

We all have the right to clean air, land, and water and the government works to protect that right.

Section 1 of this guide presents an overview of the state and federal agencies and their roles in setting environmental regulations for industries and formulating environmental policies that have important consequences for our health, safety and overall quality of life.



Federal, State and local governments must all work together to protect our environment and safeguard our communities.



Chapter 1

Government Agencies and Environmental Regulations

The federal government passes laws to protect human health and the environment, and creates regulations to enforce those laws. The federal government may also delegate responsibility of certain environmental issues to the state level. For example, state government regulates wastewater management, including sewage. The state can then create its own laws and regulations that may be stricter than federal regulations, but cannot be weaker. At the local level, environmental laws and regulations are called ordinances. The following is a brief overview of how Federal, State and local governments work together to regulate activities that affect environmental quality.

1.1 Federal

The federal agency of the United States government that is most responsible for limiting the effects of pollution is the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EPA was established in 1970 to implement several new federal environmental statutes or laws that were adopted by the U.S. Congress at that time. The EPA is divided into 10 regions across the country, and Louisiana is part of Region 6, which has its headquarters in Dallas, Texas. Region 6 is comprised of five states (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas) and 66 tribes in the south central area of the country. The EPA is concerned with a wide range of environmental topics, from air pollution and pesticides, to climate change and emergency management.

Although the EPA is the agency that deals with most of the environmental issues from manufacturing industries, there are other federal government agencies that also handle matters related to the environment. Those include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of the Interior (which includes the National Park Service and United States Geological Survey, among others), Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Department of Agriculture, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the U.S. Department of Justice.

Congress gives the EPA and other governmental bodies regulatory authority on matters of the environment. The EPA has published over 42,000 documents in the last 20 years on topics related to environmental health concerns. To keep up to date on rules and regulations at EPA and other government agencies, you can visit www.federalregister.gov. The “Environment” section of the website will allow you to view the most recent regulations, documents, and requests for public comments on all matters concerning environmental health.

Many industrial activities that release chemicals into the environment are regulated at the federal level. The major federal laws that protect environmental quality are listed in the following pages.

Federal Environmental Laws

Clean Water Act (CWA)

33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq. (1972)

The Clean Water Act regulates standards for the quality of surface water and the discharge of pollutants into those waters. A permit must be obtained in order for an industrial, municipal, or other facility to discharge pollutants into navigable waters of the United States under the CWA. The statute sets a “zero-discharge” goal for pollutants.

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)

42 U.S.C. §300f et seq. (1974)

The SDWA seeks to protect all drinkable water, whether from sources below or above the ground. Under the SDWA, EPA also sets standards to protect underground drinking water from contamination from underground injection of fluids. The Office of Groundwater and Drinking Water (OGWDW) oversees the SDWA.

Clean Air Act (CAA)

42 U.S.C. §7401 et seq. (1970)

The CAA sets regulations on how much pollutants can be in the air at any one time. EPA sets limits on how much pollution can be released into the air from industrial plants, utilities, and manufacturers and requires these stationary sources to obtain permits to do so. The act also directs EPA to study the impacts of air pollution on human health and the environment.

Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)

15 U.S.C. §2601 et seq. (1976)

The purpose of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) is to regulate the use, storage, and disposal of toxic chemicals. Under TSCA, EPA maintains records of all chemicals in its inventory of over 83,000 chemicals. TSCA does not control food, drugs, cosmetics, or pesticides.

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA)

42 U.S.C. §§ 11011-11050 (1986)

EPCRA, also known as SARA Title III, was established to help communities plan for emergencies that involve hazardous substances. It requires government entities and industry to have hazardous chemical emergency planning in place, and it requires industry to report on the use and release of hazardous chemicals to those government entities. These reports are made available to the public to help increase their knowledge of and access to information about chemicals around them.

Other Federal Environmental Laws include:

- Coastal Zone Management Act
- Endangered Species Act
- Federal Land Policy and Management Act
- Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)

42 U.S.C. §6901 et seq. (1976)

RCRA, also known as the Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA) protects our land by regulating the disposal of hazardous wastes. RCRA authorizes EPA to track waste from “cradle to grave” (from creation to disposal). The Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery (ORCR) manages RCRA through regulations and permits on facilities that deal with hazardous waste.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)

42 U.S.C. §§ 9601 – 9675 (1980)

As stated prior, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, commonly known as Superfund, addresses concerns about hazardous waste sites. The Superfund program allows EPA to clean up hazardous waste sites when the responsible party is unknown, unable, or unwilling to do so. It also authorizes EPA to order responsible parties to clean up sites and/or pay for the cleanup.

Pollution Prevention Act (PPA)

42 U.S.C. §13101 et seq. (1990)

The PPA focuses on reduction of pollution at the source of release. This is done through technology modifications, more efficient uses of raw materials, or product changes, among others. Pollution prevention also includes conservation of natural resources.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 – 4347 (1969)

NEPA is an act which requires federal agencies to consider the environmental impact of a project prior to decision-making. NEPA is most noted for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which is a report that outlines in detail all the possible positive and negative impacts of a proposed project to health and the environment, and lists possible alternatives. NEPA is overseen by the Council on Environmental Quality.

Marine Mammal Protection Act
Migratory Bird Treaty Act
National Forest Management Act

1.2 State

The U.S. EPA has given authority to the states to implement the requirements of the major federal environmental laws listed in the previous section. The states implement these laws through a system of permits, whereby a manufacturing facility is “permitted” to discharge certain levels of pollution, as defined under the federal statute, such as the Clean Air Act or the Clean Water Act. Administering the system of permits involves gathering and reviewing permit applications from new firms and those seeking to expand operations, as well as regularly updating the existing permits of established manufacturing facilities. The state agency must conduct systematic inspections of the regulated facilities and take enforcement actions against those whose discharges exceed the permitted levels. Thus, the states play a major role in the implementation of the laws designed to protect environmental quality and public health.

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) implements the federal environmental laws in this state. The LDEQ is divided into four sections:

1. Office of Environmental Services issues permits, regulates pollution sources, and manages public participation.
2. Office of Environmental Compliance conducts inspections of facilities, enforces laws and regulations, and responds to environmental emergencies.
3. Office of Management and Finance is responsible for budgets, contracts, and grants with LDEQ as well as general operational duties.
4. Office of the Secretary deals with general public relations and overall department management.

Federal, State and Local Governments all play an important role in protecting the environment. But for the government to work effectively, citizens must participate (see chapter 2).

The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) manages all State Disaster Declarations, whether natural or human made. GOHSEP's goal is to reduce the vulnerability of people and communities in Louisiana from natural disasters, man-made catastrophes, acts of terrorism, or military action. In addition to the state office, each parish also has its own OHSEP division. For a listing of all parish OHSEP contacts, see the Appendix.

1.3 Local

Local governmental structure varies among parishes, towns, cities, and rural areas. Out of Louisiana's 64 parishes, 40 are governed by a police jury association while the other 24 operate under a home-rule charter form of government.

A police jury is headed by a President and the elected members are called jurors. Most police juries are located in rural parishes. Of the 24 home-rule charter parishes, they vary between council-president, commission, consolidated, and city-parish forms of government. A home-rule charter means that the state gives legislative authority to the parish to conduct government business (pass laws and ordinances) throughout the parish, including incorporated and unincorporated areas.

The structure of local parish governments are listed in the table on the following page.



Louisiana's State Capitol building in Baton Rouge is the tallest state capitol in the United States at 34 floors.

Police Jury Form

Acadia	Allen	Assumption	Avoyelles
Beauregard	Bienville	Bossier	Calcasieu
Caldwell	Cameron	Catahoula	Claiborne
Concordia	DeSoto	East Carroll	East Feliciana
Evangeline	Franklin	Grant	Jackson
Jefferson Davis	LaSalle	Lincoln	Madison
Morehouse	Ouachita	Pointe Coupee	Rapides
Red River	Richland	Sabine	St. Helena
Tensas	Union	Vermillion	Vernon
Webster	West Carroll	Winn	

Home Rule Charter

Council-President

Ascension	Iberia	Iberville	Jefferson
Lafourche	Livingston	Plaquemines	St. Bernard
St. Charles	St. James	St. John the Baptist	St. Landry
St. Martin	St. Mary	St. Tammany	Tangipahoa
Washington	West Baton Rouge	West Feliciana	

Commission

Caddo	Natchitoches
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Consolidated

East Baton Rouge	Lafayette	Terrebonne
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City Parish

Orleans

Local governments make environmental decisions usually in the form of planning and zoning, public works, and emergency preparedness. To address an environmental issue or concern, start with your local government or local OHSEP office. From there, you may need to contact state or federal offices such as LDEQ or EPA. If you still need help, you may then need to contact state and federal legislators. See the Appendix for a broad listing of topics and their points of contact. Navigating this process can seem overwhelming when you are facing an environmental challenge but non-profit organizations, like LEAN, can be a valuable resource for guidance and support. Be sure to reach out(see contact information on back cover) for their assistance; they are here to help.

1.4 Chapter Wrap-up

Key Points

- Federal, State and local governments all play roles in protecting our environment.
- The US EPA sets standards and oversees implementation of most of our major environmental protection laws.
- The US EPA gives state governments the job of implementing some of the laws. The states do this by issuing “permits” to the industries regulated by the laws to emit only what they determine to be acceptable amounts of specific pollutants.
- In our state, the LDEQ has that responsibility. The LDEQ works with the US EPA and regulated industries in Louisiana to make sure discharges to the air, water and land stay within the legal limits.
- At the local level, governmental regulations are called ordinances. Parish level governments are structured as either police juries or home-rule charters.

Be Involved

- Keep yourself informed of new laws and regulations. A good place to start is: www.federalregister.gov.

Chapter References

- EPA: www.epa.gov
- LDEQ: www.deq.louisiana.gov
- Louisiana Parish Police Jury Association: www.lpgov.org
- Federal Register: www.federalregister.gov
- Louisiana Legislature: www.legis.la.gov

If you have questions or need assistance, contact LEAN through leanweb.org or by phone (225) 928-1315.



Chapter 2

Public Participation in Government

As stated in the introduction of this guidebook, we as citizens have a responsibility to be informed and aware of what goes on in our communities. If we are informed, we can make decisions that help us to be safer and give us the ability to participate in decisions that affect our environment. Citizens can be involved in environmental decision-making in several ways. Be aware of public notices, hearings, and meetings, and all important material available for public review. Much of the information used to make decisions in all levels of government is available for public review and/or becomes public record. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the federal government is required to allow any person review of governmental documents without explanation of the reason for the request. This is of course subject to national security limitations. Under Louisiana law, the Louisiana Public Records Act (LPRA) is similar to FOIA.

2.1 Public Participation

Almost all governmental processes for planning and permitting allow for public participation. The two most common methods of participation are through speaking and asking questions at public meetings or hearings, and by submitting written comments directly to the agency. How and when these activities are conducted will vary based on the type of planning and permitting question being considered by the agency officials. However, it is important that citizens take any and all opportunities to participate in the process.

Submitting questions at a public hearing or through public comments will officially record citizens comments into the agency's record. The regulatory agency is required to respond to citizen comments.

Citizen input is essential for government decisions that concern the health and safety of communities.

If at any point during a planning or permitting process you have questions about your rights as a citizen when it comes to open meetings and public records, The Public Affairs Research Council publishes a Citizen's Rights printable card. You can download this card at: <http://www.parlouisiana.com/citizensrightscard.cfm>

Open Meetings Law

Louisiana's Constitution provides in Art. XII, Section 3 that "no person shall be denied the right to observe the deliberations of public bodies and examine public documents, except in cases established by law." A body of law known as the "open meetings law" was enacted by the Legislature and provided that, it is essential to the maintenance of a democratic society that public business be performed in an open and public manner and that the citizens be advised of and aware of the performance of public officials and the deliberations and decisions that go into the making of public policy.... That body of law, LSA-R.S. 42:11 through LSA-R.S. 42:28, by its own terms, must be construed liberally.

- <http://www.ag.state.la.us>

The Right-to-Know (RTK) network is a project of the Center for Effective Government and is a free environmental resource service to citizens. It contains easy to find information on toxic releases listed in the Toxic Release Inventory (TRI), hazardous wastes, new legislation, and many other environment-related topics. It also has a user forum where you can talk with other RTK users about environmental concerns in your area. Visit www.rtknet.org for more information.

Although planning and permitting processes can vary, they all have opportunities for public comment. As an example, consider a proposed change to a rule or regulation under the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ). First, a Notice of Intent is published, which informs the public of the intent and schedules a public hearing on the topic 30-45 days past the publication. The public comment period is usually closed seven days after the public hearing. Once the comment period is closed, LDEQ submits a Summary Report detailing all public comments and any amendments to the proper Legislative Oversight Committee (LOC). The LOC then has 30 days to consider the rule. If approved, LDEQ submits the rule to be written into the Louisiana Administrative Code.

At whatever stage the permit or rule is in, effective commenting on behalf of the citizen is crucial to your voice being heard. At public meetings, always be courteous to those around you and try to stay within allotted time limits. For written comments, type your comments and use any identifying numbers or the formal name of the plan or permit if possible. In either circumstance, always give reasons as to why you support or do not support a rule or permit, tell how it affects you, and offer alternative solutions if possible.

To keep informed of LDEQ public notices, monthly regulation changes, and other important environmental announcements, sign up for state email notifications. Go to Louisiana.gov and sign up for email notifications in the “Services” section of the website. There you can choose the topics for which you would like to receive notifications. You also may write any state agency and request that a copy of all public notices be mailed to you, whether state wide or just within your parish.

When can I offer input on a new rule?

- **During the public comment period: The Notice of Intent appears on the 20th of each month. You can submit comments starting on that day and ending 7 days after the public hearing.**
- **At the public hearing.**
- **After the public comment period, comments can also be made directly to the LOC on the Summary Report.**

2.2 Permit Notices

A business is required to have a permit if they release pollution into the air or water or generate, store, or dispose of toxic material. The business will apply for a permit before building the facility that will release the pollutants or when modifications are made to a facility that releases pollutants. The Louisiana DEQ is tasked with analyzing, issuing and overseeing environmental permits. However it is also important for local residents to be aware of existing permitted facilities in their area as well as new permit applications. As mentioned previously, citizens have an opportunity and responsibility to participate in the permitting process. So how do you keep up with local environmental permits and what should you know about them?

TO STAY INFORMED OF PERMIT APPLICATIONS NEAR YOU:

- View all current permit applications online:
 - <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/apps/pubNotice/default.asp>
- Sign up to receive permit applications by email. You can choose to receive applications statewide or for a particular parish:
 - http://louisiana.gov/Services/Email_Notifications_DEQ_PN/
- Sign up to receive permit applications by mail.
 - Call LDEQ Customer Service Center at: (225) 219-LDEQ (219-5337)

Questions to keep in mind:

- How close is the facility to your community?
- What pollutants are/will be emitted?
- Will any emissions be increasing?
- How will this permit/facility affect your community?
- Would you like a public hearing about this application?
- How long do you have until the public comment period is over?
- Do you need additional help to organize the community, understand the permit application, or develop comments?

Anatomy of a Permit Application Notice

1. Type of permit being applied for.
2. Company name, facility, and Agency Interest number (AI Number).
3. Facility location.
4. Brief description of what the permit will be for.
5. Table that shows which pollutants will be released, the quantity that is currently being released (Before) if applicable, the quantity that will be released under the new permit (After), and the change in emissions if applicable.
6. Information about submitting comments and where to submit them.
7. If enough people ask for a public hearing about the proposed permit then DEQ will hold one. Be sure to ask for a public hearing.
8. Information about where the full permit application can be viewed.
9. Information about additional locations that the full permit application can be viewed, typically near the facility location.
10. Facility AI Number, Permit Number, and Activity Number. Should be included on all correspondence about the permit application.
11. Date that permit application notice was published. This is the beginning of the public comment period which is usually 30 days. More information about public comment periods for LADEQ permit applications can be found here: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/Default.aspx?tabid=2271>
12. Any attachments of additional documents available with the application notice.
NOTE: only available on electronic notices found on the DEQ website or received via email.

Public Notice

PROPOSED PART 70 AIR OPERATING PERMIT MODIFICATION

ACME, INC./ SPRINGFIELD MANUFACTURING COMPLEX ANVIL UNIT AI Number 1234

VIEW ATTACHMENTS FOLLOWING PUBLIC NOTICE

The LDEQ, Office of Environmental Services, is accepting written comments on the proposed Part 70 Air Operating Permit Modification for ACME, INC., 123 Main Street, Springfield, Louisiana 70462, for the Springfield Manufacturing Complex Anvil Unit. **The facility is located at 123 Main Street, Springfield, Louisiana 70462 Livingston Parish.**

ACME, INC. requested a Part 70 Air Operating Permit Modification to revise ethylene oxide emissions from the loading racks (ETO-LRC). Emissions from the Anvil Unit in tons per year are as follows:

Pollutant	Before	After	Change
PM ₁₀ /PM _{2.5}	2.24	2.24	-
SO ₂	1.57	1.57	-
NO _x	52.15	52.15	-
CO	245.65	245.65	-
VOC, total	336.06	336.06	-
CO _{2e}	85,473	85,473	-

A working draft of the proposed permit was submitted to the facility representative and LDEQ Inspection Division for technical review. Any remarks received during the technical review will be addressed in the "Worksheet for Technical Review of Working Draft of Proposed Permit". All remarks received by LDEQ are included in the record that is available for public review.

Comments and requests for a public hearing or notification of the final decision can be submitted via personal delivery, U.S. mail, email, or fax. **Comments and requests for public hearings must be received by 4:30 pm CST, Monday, September 28, 2015. Delivery may be made to the drop-box at 602 N. 5th St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802. U.S. Mail may be sent to LDEQ, Public Participation Group, P.O. Box 4313, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4313.** Delivery may be made to the drop-box at 602 N. 5 St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802. U.S. Mail may be sent to LDEQ, Public Participation Group, P.O. Box 4313, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4313. Emails may be submitted to DEQ.PUBLICNOTICES@LA.GOV and faxes sent to (225) 219-3309.

Please see additional instructions for comment submission, hand delivery and information regarding electronic submission at <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/Default.aspx?tabid=2256> or call (225) 219-3276. Emails should follow the statewide email policies. For more information regarding statewide email policies, go to <http://doa.louisiana.gov/ocs/email/policies.htm>.

If LDEQ finds a significant degree of public interest, a public hearing will be held. LDEQ will send notification of the final permit decision to the applicant and to each person who has submitted written comments or a written request for notification of the final decision.

The application and the proposed permit are available for review at the LDEQ, Public Records Center, Room 127, 602 North 5th Street, Baton Rouge, LA. Viewing hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays). **The available information can also be accessed electronically on the Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) on the DEQ public website at www.deq.louisiana.gov.**

Additional copies may be reviewed at the Lake Charles Parish Library – Westlake Branch located at 937 Mulberry Street, Westlake, LA 70669, and the Calcasieu Parish Library – Sulphur Regional Branch located at 1160 Cypress Street, Sulphur, LA 70663-5111.

Inquiries or requests for additional information regarding this permit action should be directed to John Smith, LDEQ, Air Permits Division, P.O. Box 4313, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4313, phone (225) 219-3395., LDEQ, Air Permits Division, P.O. Box 4313, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4313, phone (225) 219-3395.

Persons wishing to be included on the LDEQ permit public notice mailing list or for other public participation related questions should contact the Public Participation Group in writing at LDEQ, P.O. Box 4313, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4313, by email at DEQ.PUBLICNOTICES@LA.GOV or contact the LDEQ Customer Service Center at (225) 219-LDEQ (219-5337).

Permit public notices including electronic access to the proposed permit and statement of basis can be viewed at the LDEQ permits public notice webpage at www.deq.louisiana.gov/apps/pubNotice/default.asp and general information related to the public participation in permitting activities can be viewed at www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2198/Default.aspx.

Alternatively, individuals may elect to receive the permit public notices via email by subscribing to the LDEQ permits public notice List Server at http://louisiana.gov/Services/Email_Notifications_DEQ_PN/.

All correspondence should specify AI Number 1234, Permit Number 4321-V8, and Activity Number PER10000001.

Scheduled for publication: Friday, August 28, 2015

Attachments:

MATERIAL ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED PART 70 AIR OPERATING PERMIT MODIFICATION

What is Environmental Justice?

Environmental justice refers to the goal of equal environmental protection for all people regardless of race, income, culture, or social class. It has been well documented that low-income and minority communities frequently face greater risks for environmental hazards. Environmental injustices can be addressed by educating and empowering these communities to participate in the public process. EPA recognizes the importance of environmental justice through the Title VI Public Involvement Guidance document. EPA has written an extensive guidebook regarding federal laws and environmental justice. To learn more, read the publication: “A Citizens Guide to Using Federal Environmental Laws to Secure Environmental Justice.” It can be found at:

http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/resources/reports/annual-project-reports/citizen_guide_cj.pdf



2.3 Preparing Public Comments

Public participation is critical in protecting public health, safeguarding our communities and building a sustainable future. There are many cases in which the public will have the opportunity to submit comments on a new project, permit, or proposed rule. If a decision affects you, your community or your environment, it is important to provide your perspective through submitting public comments. Useful input from the public is a vital part of ensuring equitable and responsible decision making.

These comments can often be submitted online or a printed copy can be mailed to the appropriate agency address. Below you will find a few tips for writing public comments, however not all of the tips will be applicable to every situation. On the following page you will find a template that may be helpful as you develop your own comments.

TIPS FOR WRITING EFFECTIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS

- 1 Clearly identify the specific item you are commenting on (Company Name and/or the name of the facility, Activity Interest Number [AI#] and Activity Tracking Number [PER#]). Keep your comments relevant to this item.
- 2 Address your comments to the appropriate agency contact as supplied in the request for public comments.
- 3 Clearly state whether you oppose or support the item you are commenting on.
- 4 Explain how this item effects you and your community. Be sure to clearly identify who you are and any relevant credentials you may have.
- 5 Describe any concerns you have as clearly as possible.
- 6 If you have or are familiar with any data (scientific reports, studies, petitions, polls, etc.) relevant to the item you are commenting on that you feel should be considered, include it and include its source. Your own personal observations and knowledge are also valuable and should be included.
- 7 If there are specific laws, regulations, statutes or ordinances that are relevant to your comments, be sure to list them clearly by name and how they apply to this situation. If you feel the proposed item is illegal or in conflict with a particular regulation, state that clearly.
- 8 Offer solutions or appropriate alternatives that would address any concern you outlined in your comments.
- 9 Be professional and respectful in your comments. Do **NOT** use expletives, make personal accusations or attacks.
- 10 **SUBMIT YOUR COMPLETED COMMENTS BEFORE THE DEADLINE.**

Public Comment Template

The following is a sample of how public comments could be written that may help you in developing your own. Your particular comments may differ depending on the specific situation.

November 12, 2015

Date

*Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
P.O.Box 1234
Baton Rouge, LA 70821*

Address of appropriate agency

Re: Plant ABC's permit renewal, wastewater discharge permit #12345

Specific item being commented on (Permit #, Project Name, etc.)

Dear Secretary Smith,

Addressed to relevant authority

I am writing to express my opposition to Plant ABC's renewal of their wastewater discharge...

State the specific item you are commenting on and whether you are writing to support or oppose it.

My name is Bob B. and I live approximately 1/2 mile from the outfall of Plant ABC. I frequently witness dark discolored, foamy water coming from Plant ABC. I fish in the area of this discharge to supplement my food...

Explain who you are and how this item effects you.

I am concerned that the discharge coming from Plant ABC contains contaminants that exceed their permit limits. This facility was found to be in violation 3 times in the past year according to...

I personally experience pungent odors coming from Plant ABC's discharge at least once a week.

Describe your concerns clearly, include any relevant data, regulations, laws ordinances and/or personal experiences.

Plant ABC could be required to upgrade their treatment processes to eliminate the concerns I have experienced with their current discharge.

Offer solutions to your described concern

Thank you for considering my comments in your decision making.

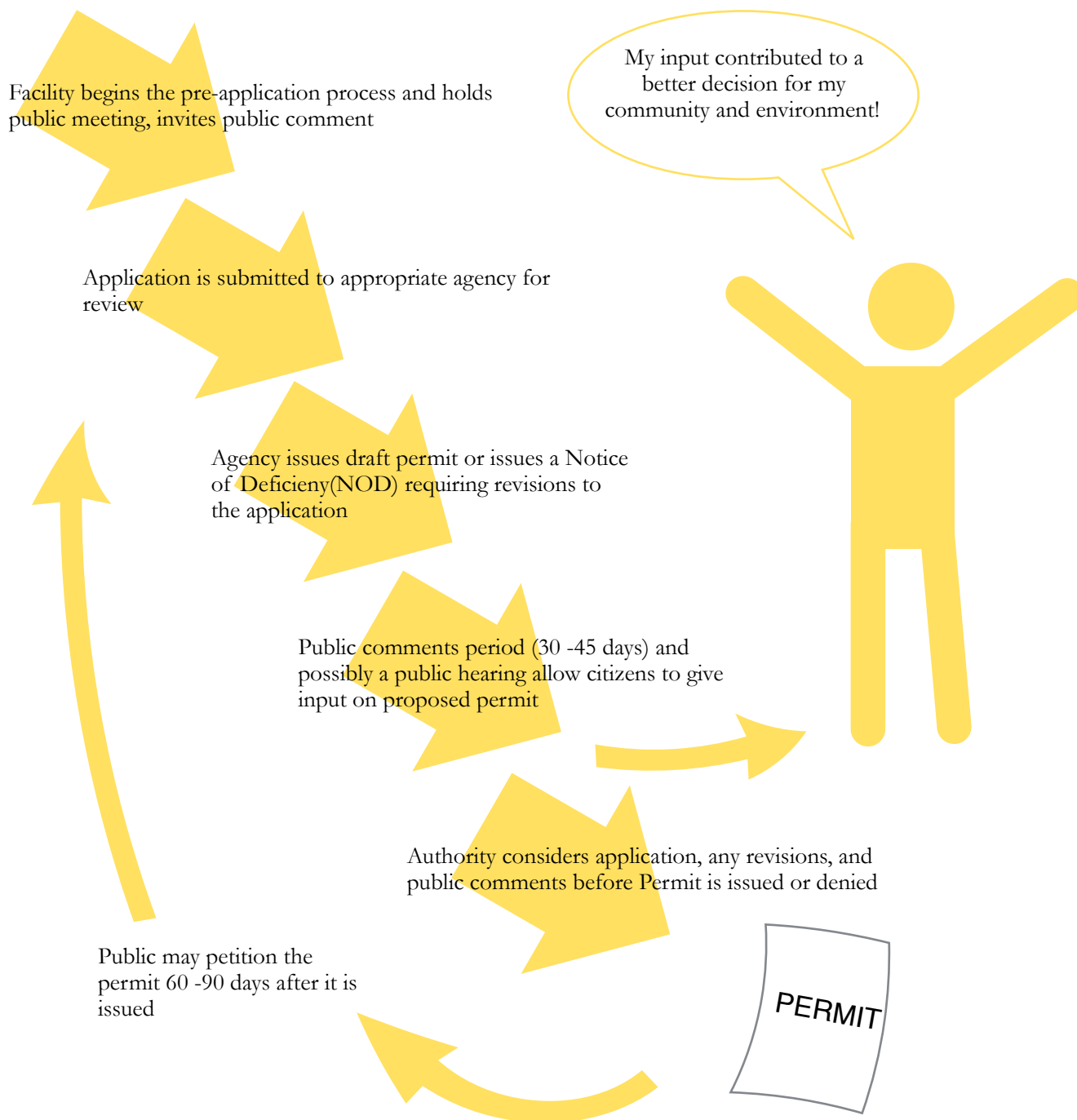
Closing remarks

*Sincerely,
Bob B.*

Sign your name

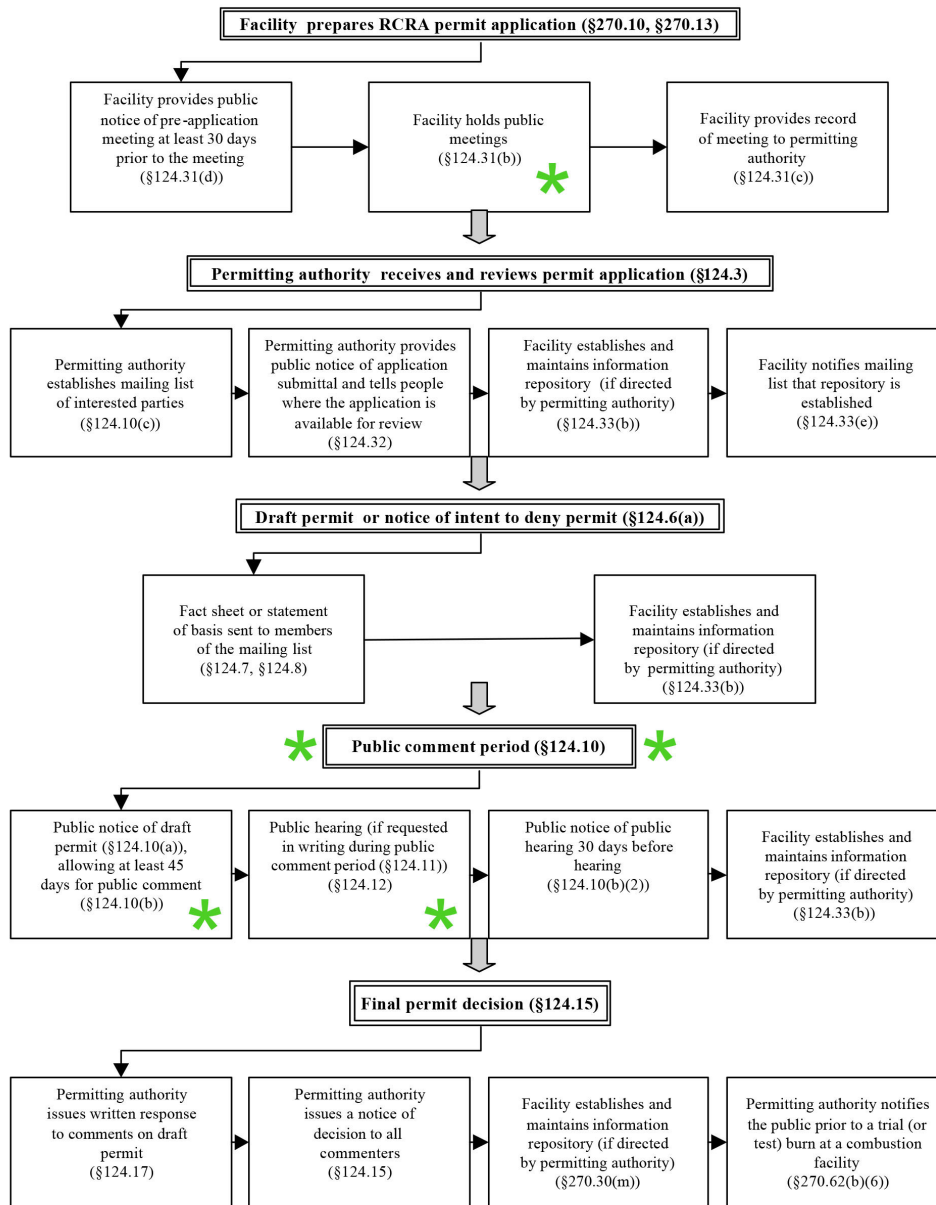
2.4 The Permit Process

This is a general summary of the permitting process. Depending on the type of permit, the steps may vary. Always check with the correct authorities, whether local, state, or federal, as to how you can participate in the permitting process.



The figure (5) on the following page outlines the specific permitting process for a RCRA permit. This specific permitting process may be a useful example to help you understand the complicated permitting process and when you, the public, have an opportunity to participate by offering input through public comments and attending public meetings.

Figure 5 - RCRA Operating Permit Process



* - Opportunities for you to get involved in the process.

To learn more, see the full publication at:
<http://www.epa.gov/osw/hazard/tsd/permit/epmt/publicguide.pdf>

2.5 Reporting Environmental Incidents

The Government is tasked with protecting our environment. It regulates industries, investigates potential environmental crimes, and drafts and enforces environmental laws. However, citizens are the largest stakeholders in our environmental quality. When a facility discharges harmful chemical into the air, it is the facility workers and adjacent community members whose health may be impacted. When oil or other pollutants are discharged into a waterway, it is the people who swim and fish in that waterway who bear the brunt of that pollution. When litter is thrown on the side of the road and ends up impacting wildlife, that wildlife is unable to call for help or report this violation of environmental law. We depend on the environment and the environment depends on us. Every day citizens play an important role in safeguarding the environment. For the air, land, and water we depend on to be protected, every user of these resources must take responsibility.

This section contains a basic form to record the relevant information you might need when documenting an environmental concern. This general form could be applied to many different circumstances and will hopefully be a valuable tool to empower anyone to be an effective steward of their environment. Reporting of environmental concerns is the first step to facilitating the necessary government actions to protect the health and safety of our communities.

As a reference, here is a list of just a few of the environmental concerns you may encounter that this reporting form could be utilized for:

- Oil spill
- Unknown sheen visible on a waterway
- Chemical odor / fumes
- Runoff from landfill draining off-site
- Hazardous material spill from storage facility, tanker truck, or train
- Dust blowing into a community from loading/unloading facility
- Smoke from an industrial facility
- Smoke from burning agriculture fields blowing across roads or into community
- Sewage leak
- Litter on the side of the road or in a waterway
- Illegal dumping

ANYTHING that poses a risk to the health of you and your environment, report it. Some concerns may be chronic, occur repeatedly, and should be reported every time they are observed. This will document the frequency of the problem and may be valuable for developing an appropriate solution.

Please see the following page for an Environmental Incident Reporting Form. Use this to collect important information and provide that information to the appropriate agencies. Feel free to copy the form and share it with other residents in your community who may be interested in being empowered to document concerns in your area.

Environmental Incident Reporting Form

If the incident you are reporting is an **emergency, call 911.**

To report this information to

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality(LDEQ) Single Point of Contact:
1-888-763-5424

To report litter or dumping call the “litterbug hotline” at **1-888-548-7284**

Date:

Time:

Please describe the location of the incident as specific as possible:

Address (including city / state / zip):

Latitude:

Longitude:

IF POSSIBLE, TAKE A PICTURE WITH A SMARTPHONE OR CAMERA

Is the incident affecting LAND, AIR, WATER (please circle all that apply)?

Please describe the substance you see (trash, oil, smoke, chemical, unknown):

Amount (gallons, pounds, general size):

Where is the substance coming from?

Can you identify a responsible party (company, individual, etc) that is creating this incident?

Do you notice any odors? YES / NO If yes, please describe:

Are you experiencing any health symptoms that may be related to this incident? YES / NO
If yes, please record these symptoms and report them to a medical professional immediately.

Completed by:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

THANK YOU FOR RECORDING THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

If you need additional assistance, contact the Louisiana Environmental Action Network(LEAN) at (225) 928-1315

2.6 Chapter Wrap-up

Key Points

- Under the Freedom of Information Act citizens are allowed to review most government documents without having to provide a reason or justification for the request.
- The two most common types of public participation methods are speaking at public hearings and providing written comments to the agency employees.
- Effective commenting includes being clear, concise, and providing reasons for your concerns.
- The public plays an important role in assisting agencies in addressing environmental incidents by documenting and reporting them.

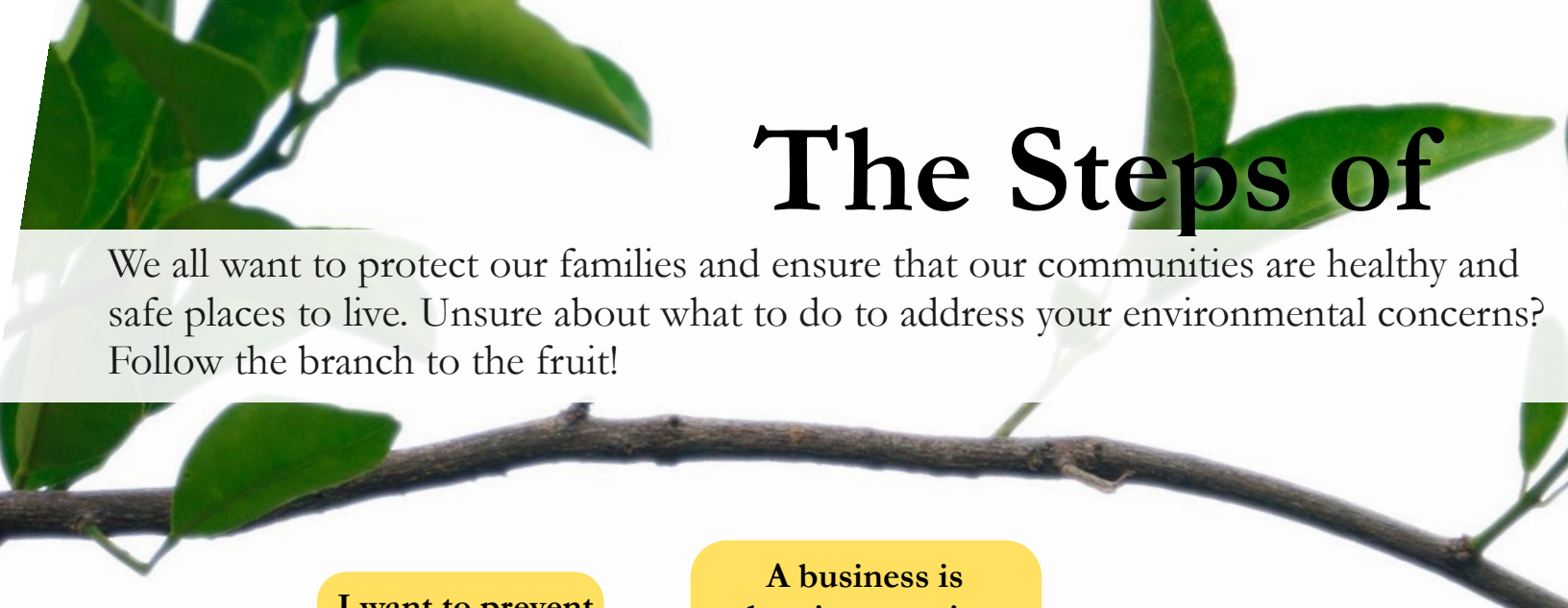
Be Involved

- Look for public notices, announcements of hearings and meetings, and all important material available for public review.
- Download the Public Affairs Research Council Citizen's Rights printable card at: <http://www.parlouisiana.com/citizensrightscard.cfm>
- Request public notices to be emailed or mailed to you from state agencies.
- Submit public comments when applicable for projects in your community.
- Document and report environmental incidents to the appropriate agencies.

Chapter References

- EPA: www.epa.gov
- LDEQ: www.deq.louisiana.gov
- Public Affairs Research Council: www.parlouisiana.com
- Federal Register: www.federalregister.gov
- The Right-to-Know Network: www.rtknet.org

If you have questions or need assistance, contact LEAN through leanweb.org or by phone (225) 928-1315.



The Steps of

We all want to protect our families and ensure that our communities are healthy and safe places to live. Unsure about what to do to address your environmental concerns? Follow the branch to the fruit!

My Situation

I want to prevent environmental conflicts!

A business is planning a project near my community I am concerned about!

I've noticed an environmental concern in my community!

Be Aware

Pay attention to the environment of your home and community.

Stay informed by signing up for public notices and hearings in your area.

Identify neighbors and local groups interested in environmental issues.

Get Involved

Review the public documents available including any permit applications, etc.

Request any additional information you are interested in and seek out expert advice for any questions you have.

Participate in public hearings and submit public comments

Document

Record your observations by writing notes, taking pictures, etc.

Utilize the Incident reporting template on pg 24.

Be sure to document every concern every time, this information is important.

What Should I Do?

Result:

You will be in the know about potential environmental problems in your community.

You will be informed and be able to participate in decisions that affect you.

You will collect important information that can be used to improve your community.

Environmental Engagement

**I'm being
impacted by an
environmental
problem!**

Communicate

Report your concerns
to the appropriate
local, State and Federal
agencies.

Share your concerns
and documentation
with your family,
friends and neighbors
in your community.

Make sure your local
elected officials and
representatives are
aware of your
concerns.

**You can inform
the necessary
authorities and
your community
so that the
problem can be
addressed.**

**I need help to
solve my
environmental
problem!**

Collaborate

Partner with other
concerned citizens in
your community to
share information and
support.

Seek the support of
experts of all types:
scientists, engineers,
doctors, lawyers,
anyone whose expertise
can be helpful.

Reach out to LEAN
and LSU for assistance
in solving your
problem.

**You will have
guidance and
support in
resolving your
problem.**

**Being aware, getting involved,
documenting, communicating and
collaborating has helped me
resolve my environmental
problem!**

You are playing a critical
part in creating and
maintaining a

**Healthy &
Safe
Community**

**FYI: Louisiana Growers produced
6.4 million dollars of citrus in 2014**

Section 2

Your Community, Your Environment

The environment is all around us. From the water we drink and the air we breathe, to the soil where we plant flowers and the nearby bayou, we are surrounded by the environment even in the most populated corners of our communities. With so much development occurring at rapid paces, how does this affect our land, air, and water? And how can you become more involved in protecting these important resources?

Section 2 explores how industrial processes and development affect our water, air, and land and what specific issues we may face on each level. Each chapter includes sections on how you can be involved in your community, laws that protect human health and the environment, and a chapter summary for each topic. Section 2 concludes with information about how you can be best prepared during emergencies, whether induced by humans or nature.



Photo © Jeffrey Dubinsky

Most of Louisiana's population lives in urban areas. It is important to be aware of your environment and any potential hazards no matter where you live.

Chapter 3

Your Water



Water is essential to everyday life, from the water we drink and use in our homes, to the water that sends commerce down the Mississippi River. We use water for our daily needs, recreation, and transportation. When water bodies become polluted, plants and animals are affected. Human health may be harmed when pollutants migrate into our drinking water or contaminate the fish we eat.

3.1 Surface Water

The Clean Water Act (CWA) is the federal law that sets the legal standards for water quality in navigable waters, streams, and wetlands across the country. Under the CWA manufacturing facilities and other entities which discharge pollutants into waterways must obtain a permit to do so. Those permits are controlled by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The individual states oversee the allocation of most permits allocated through the NPDES program. In Louisiana, these permits are administered through the Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES).

The amount of a contaminant that a facility may release into a water body is based on an estimate of the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for that water body. The TMDL calculation takes into consideration attributes of the water body and is the calculated total amount of a pollutant that the lake, stream or river can absorb without exceeding the limit on that pollutant as set by the Clean Water Act.

There are several important points to remember about water quality in your community. First, not every water body is regulated for all discharges. Also, surface water pollution can result from both “point sources” and “non-point sources” of contamination. Point sources are just what the name implies – specific, easy-to-identify sources of direct discharge or entry into the water. These point sources include pipes or other direct inputs of pollutants from industrial facilities. By contrast, non-point source pollution does not have a specific, narrow point of entry into the water body. A good example of non-point source water pollution is that which can occur during heavy rain storms when the excess rainfall is not absorbed by the land, but “runs-off” into surface water bodies. This run-off may contain a wide range of pollutants, including chemical fertilizers, pesticides, residue from roadways and construction sites, and organic wastes from sewage systems and livestock facilities. Non-point source pollution is difficult to control and takes everyone working together to consider how our actions may introduce pollution into water bodies.

It's important that we properly dispose of all materials that could be picked up by rain water flowing into storm drains. Remember that storm drains are not connected to wastewater treatment plants, so the water and materials they receive remain untreated. Therefore, any trash, oil, pesticides, and debris that enters the storm drain from the street eventually makes its way into our lakes, rivers, and bayous.



What Can I Do to Protect Surface Water?

Given the large number of waterbodies in Louisiana, state and local government authorities cannot monitor all nearby activities all of the time. Community groups and individuals can be a valuable source of help. Volunteer water monitoring is a great way to keep an eye on water quality in your area. By visually monitoring the water, you may be able to detect important changes in water flow, erosion of banks, water clarity, presence of animals and plant life in and around the water, and more. By being aware of the condition of the water body, you will be able to notice when changes occur or when something happens, like an illegal discharge or trash dump.

To get started as a volunteer water monitor, check out EPA's Adopt Your Watershed program. This program includes a database of over 2600 watershed groups in the country. There may be a group already established in your area. You can also contact LDEQ or LEAN to see if there is a group near you. If there is not an established group, consider starting one yourself! The Adopt Your Watershed webpage contains a Watershed Stewardship Toolkit to help you get started. Visit water.epa.gov and click on "Adopt Your Watershed" near the bottom of the page.

EPA's **Adopt Your Watershed** program includes volunteer opportunities where you can be a water quality monitor, install storm drain markers, organize trash cleanups, or educate your community about stormwater. Get involved today! www.water.epa.gov



3.2 Drinking Water

Our drinking water is protected by the Safe Drinking Water Act. Under the authority of this law, EPA oversees the state and local governments and water suppliers who must implement standards for safe drinking water. Another consideration of safe drinking water is the protection of the sources of drinking water, including streams, lakes, rivers, and aquifers. Aquifers are underground rock and sand formations that contain water. EPA protects the sources of our drinking water in part through the Underground Injection Control program. This program regulates injection wells to prevent hazardous and non-hazardous substances which are injected into the ground for storage or disposal from leaking into groundwater. In Louisiana, the Conservation Division/Underground Injection Control Section of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) handles injection-well permitting and safety.

Most people who live in populated areas get their drinking and tap water from a public water system, whether that water originates from ground or surface water. This water is monitored and tested routinely, and the water company must notify you if any contaminants are found that may cause illness or other problems. However, if you receive your water from a private well, you are responsible for making sure your water is safe to drink.

Clean Water State Revolving Fund

You can help your community improve water quality! Tell your local leaders about the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. Created by the Clean Water Act, this fund provides low-interest loans for the upgrade or construction of water quality improvement projects. For more information, see the Financial Services division on LDEQ's website.



Well water should be tested routinely to ensure it is free of certain contaminants such as total coliform bacteria, nitrates, and total dissolved solids, in addition to having the pH tested. For more information on private water well testing, the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) has put together an informative flyer which can be found on the DHH webpage: www.dhh.louisiana.gov

If you have a private well, it is important to test the water yearly, or when certain circumstances change.

You should have your well water tested yearly; however these special situations may mean you need to test more frequently:

- Someone in your household is pregnant or nursing
- There are unexplained illnesses in the family
- Your neighbors find a dangerous contaminant in their water
- You notice a change in water taste, odor, color or clarity
- There is a spill of chemicals or fuels into or near your well
- When you replace or repair any part of your well system



Photo © Jeffrey Dubinsky

Who Is In Charge Of Water?

Unfortunately, the answer to this question, much like the Mississippi River, is a bit murky in Louisiana. The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) supervises public water systems. The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages state groundwater resources. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) regulates surface water quality and can address pollution issues.

If you have a concern with your drinking water and are on a public water system then contact DHH. **If you have a concern about your drinking water and you have a private water well you are responsible for the maintenance and water quality testing of the well.** If you believe that your well has been contaminated by external pollution sources then contact LDEQ.

DHH-OPH-Center for Environmental Health Services: (225) 342-7499

LDEQ: 1-866-896-LDEQ.

DNR Office of Conservation Ground Water Resources Program: (225) 342-8244

Signs that indicate that you should have your water tested:

Conditions or Nearby Activities	Test for:
Recurring gastro-intestinal illness	Coliform bacteria
Household plumbing contains lead	pH, lead, copper
Radon in indoor air or region is radon rich	Radon
Corrosion of pipes, plumbing	Corrosion, pH, lead
Nearby areas of extensive agriculture	Nitrate, pesticides, coliform bacteria
Coal or other mining operations nearby	Metals, pH, corrosion
Gas drilling operations nearby	Chloride, sodium, barium, strontium
Dump, junkyard, landfill, factory, gas station, or dry-cleaning operation nearby	Volatile organic compounds, total dissolved solids, pH, sulfate, chloride, metals
Odor of gasoline or fuel oil, and near gas station or buried fuel tanks	Volatile organic compounds
Objectionable taste or smell	Hydrogen sulfide, corrosion, metals
Stained plumbing fixtures, laundry	Iron, copper, manganese
Salty taste and seawater, or a heavily salted roadway nearby	Chloride, total dissolved solids, sodium
Scaly residues, soaps don't lather	Hardness
Rapid wear of water treatment equipment	pH, corrosion
Water softener needed to treat hardness	Manganese, Iron
Water appears cloudy, frothy, or colored	Color, detergents

3.3 Fishing and Swimming

Fishing is an important and widely enjoyed activity in Louisiana. We fish for sport and recreation, commercial enterprise, and for food. We have to be careful however about the types and amounts of fish we consume because some species accumulate toxins and pollutants at higher levels of concentration than others. A pollutant of frequent concern is mercury. Although mercury is a naturally occurring element, it enters water bodies at high levels through a variety of human activities. Coal-fired power plants, industrial processes, waste incineration, and improper disposal of products containing mercury are the main sources. While nearly all fish contain some levels of mercury, most are at levels that do not pose concern for human health. However, some species may accumulate mercury at higher levels and pose health risks to anyone, especially unborn babies and young children.



Photo © Jeffrey Dubinsky



Photo © William Fontenot

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH), Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF), and Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) all consult on the safety of fish in Louisiana waters. The LDEQ and DHH issue fish advisories which include suggested consumption levels for pregnant women, young children, and the general population. Fish advisories should be posted at all water bodies of concern, but you should also check with state agencies as to the safety of consuming fish in specific rivers, lakes, and streams. You can visit the LDEQ website at www.deq.louisiana.gov and navigate to PROGRAMS » Mercury Initiative » Fish Consumption and Swimming Advisories for a PDF document of all fish advisories for the state. You can also contact LDEQ at 225-219-3590 or DHH at 1-888-293-7020.

“A fish consumption advisory is a very conservative estimate of how much fish you can eat without any adverse health effects”

-LDEQ website

3.4 Chapter Wrap-up

Key Points

- Business facilities are allowed to discharge contaminants into water bodies, but only up to TMDL limits, and they must have a permit to do so.
- Non-point source water pollution can be anything that runs off of areas including roadways, golf courses, yards, parking lots, construction sites, agricultural lands and open fields into storm drains. Storm drains connect directly to water bodies; the water does not get treated first.
- Drinking water is protected by the Safe Drinking Water Act. Public water is routinely tested to be sure it is safe to drink.
- If you have a private water well, you are responsible for making sure your water is safe. Test yearly or more often when life circumstances change.
- Be cautious about eating certain types of fish, as they could contain high levels of mercury or other contaminants. Check LDEQs fish advisories before going fishing to be sure your catch is safe to eat.

Be Involved

- Adopt a Watershed in your area – monitor water quality for any changes
- Be aware of what goes into storm drains – it directly affects water quality!
- Make sure water from your private well is safe to drink
- Inform others about fish advisories in your area.

Chapter References

- EPA: www.epa.gov
- LDEQ: www.deq.louisiana.gov
- DHH: www.dhh.state.la.us
- DNR: dnr.louisiana.gov

If you have questions or need assistance, contact LEAN through leanweb.org or by phone (225) 928-1315.

IN LOUISIANA, A GOOD ENVIRONMENT IS:

for everyone
fresh, clean air
no asthma attacks
sailing on the lake
juicy satsumas
a safe place to work
egrets and ibis
recycling
crawfish etoufee
cypress trees and Spanish moss
healthy neighborhood
brown pelicans
playing in the grass
shucking oysters
better quality of life
picnics at City Park
catching redfish
fishing for dinner
farmer's markets
swimming in the bayou
clean and pure water
wild caught shrimp
hunting deer and ducks
drinking from the hose pipe
box turtles and bull frogs
hiking in Kisatchie
resilient communities
sac au lait
bird watching at Lake Martin
paddling in the Atchafalaya
a necessity

LOUISIANA'S ENVIRONMENT FACES SOME CHALLENGES:

litter
ignorance
air pollution
CO2
water pollution
stormwater run-off
illegal dumping
industrial accidents
pollution
toxic discharges
flares
building in a floodplain
sea level rise
coastal land-loss
landfills
untreated sewage
severe weather
subsidence
oil spills
saltwater intrusion
pesticides
climate change
hazardous waste
apathy
ground level ozone
invasive species
abandoned wells
vehicle emissions
burning sugar cane
fertilizer run-off
unsustainable industries
lack of enforcement
politics

Chapter 4

Your Air



Air is crucial to life; we humans breathe in and out an average of 12 times per minute! And when we inhale, we breathe in everything that floats around in the air, including tiny particles we can't see. When pollution is released into the air from sources including power plants, factories, and automobiles, we inhale that as well. Polluted air can cause a range of human health impacts from minor allergies to serious respiratory problems, so it is important to keep our air as clean as we can and to take steps to reduce our exposure risks.

4.1 Air Quality

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) monitors air quality through a system of 34 air monitoring stations located throughout the state. Under the Federal Clean Air Act, the state is required to implement the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for six different criteria pollutants determined to be harmful to public health and the environment. The EPA sets safe levels for these six pollutants. They are carbon monoxide, lead, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, particle pollution, and sulfur dioxide. Exposure to higher concentrations of these pollutants can cause respiratory illness, reduce lung function, and aggravate lung diseases and asthma.

Am I in a Sensitive Group?

You should pay close attention to air quality levels if you are an older adult, have children in your home, or if you or a family member have lung or heart disease.



Ozone and particle pollution can be dangerous to human health. Particulates or particle pollution are microscopic mixtures that are in the air. This type of pollution can be made up of combinations of different solid and liquid substances including acids, metals, organic chemicals, soil, pollen and other allergens. Particle pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, and even cause death in those with heart and lung disease. Ozone is a colorless gas that occurs naturally in the upper atmosphere and helps to shield the earth from the sun's ultraviolet rays. However, when it is at ground level, formed as a result of chemical interactions between oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) and volatile organic compounds (VOC), it poses a threat to humans. The chemicals that form ozone are released from emissions of engines in cars, lawn equipment, and industry, and when conditions are right – usually during hot, stagnant days during the summer - dangerous amounts of ground-level ozone can build up.

Air pollution also can harm the environment. Air pollutants can form acid rain, which can damage crops, trees, wildlife, and water bodies. Although acid rain looks and feels just like normal rain, it forms fine nitrate and sulfate particles which can enter the lungs and cause or make worse illnesses such as asthma and bronchitis. The EPA Acid Rain Program seeks to reduce sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides from the atmosphere, mainly through imposing reductions in carbon emissions from electric power plants that burn fossil fuels, like coal, to produce electricity.

Stay Informed!

Online at

Airquality.deq.louisiana.gov

www.enviroflash.info

(email updates)

Iphone / Android app:

EPA AIRNow

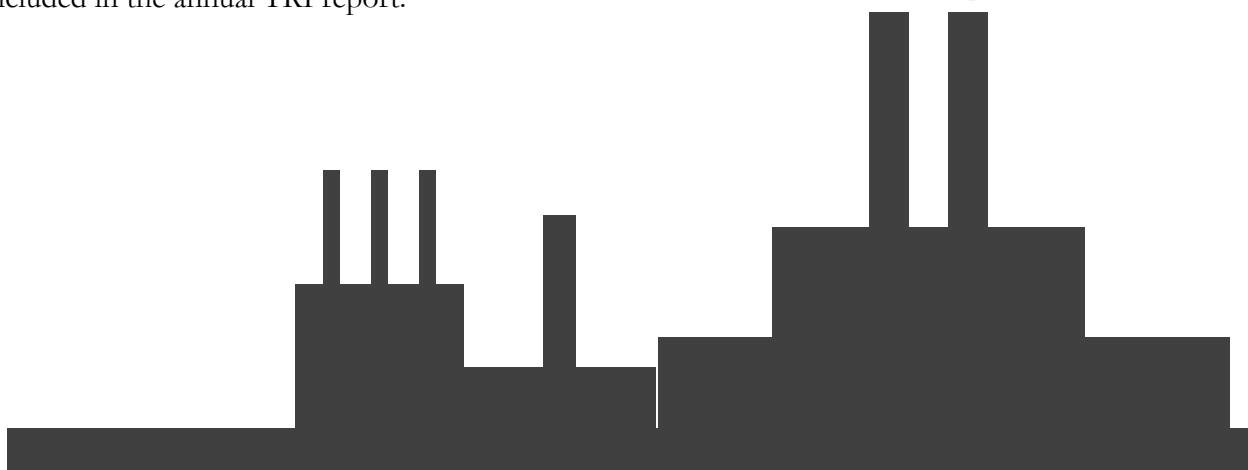


4.2 Toxic Air Pollutants

In addition to the six criteria air pollutants listed above, the Clean Air Act also requires the regulation of 189 other hazardous chemicals known as the Toxic Air Pollutants (TAPs). These pollutants are suspected or known to cause cancer or other serious health effects when people are exposed to certain quantities or in frequent exposures or over long periods of time. Operators of firms that have received permits under the Clean Air Act must comply with state and federal regulations to limit releases of TAPs and report any releases above the permitted levels. The list of toxic chemicals released to the air by major industrial plants is compiled by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) into an annual inventory known as the Toxic Release Inventory (TRI). The TRI not only includes chemicals emitted to the air, but also to surface water and land through the storage, treatment, transfer or disposal of the chemicals. TRI data is available for all facilities in the program since 1987 and includes over 650 chemicals. However, not all firms that emit these toxic chemicals are required to report their annual discharges. Smaller companies with fewer than 10 employees or those that emit less than the established amount for each EPCRA Section 313 chemical on the TRI list are not included in the annual TRI report.

The Air Quality Index, or AQI, is a measure of actual levels of criteria pollutants in the air you breathe. It is measured on a scale ranging from 0-500. Lower scores mean better air quality and less pollution, while higher scores mean that there is more pollution in the air. The air quality scores are broken down into easy-to-understand color-coded categories. Green indicates that the air quality is good, and purple or maroon indicate that the air quality is unhealthy or hazardous to breathe. Sensitive groups include children, active adults (because they tend to breathe more during heavy activity), those with respiratory diseases like asthma, and the elderly.

Louisiana industries released
51,628,735 pounds
of toxic air pollution in
2012. [source: rtknet.org](http://source.rtknet.org)





Air Quality Index for Ozone

Index Values (Conc. Range)	Air Quality Descriptors	Cautionary Statement for Ozone
0 - 50 (0-60ppb)	Good	No health impacts are expected when air quality is in this range.
51 - 100 (61-75 ppb)	Moderate	Unusually sensitive people should consider limiting prolonged outdoor exertion
101 - 150 (76-104 ppb)	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Active children and adults, and people with respiratory diseases such as asthma should limit prolonged outdoor exposure.
151 - 200 (105-115 ppb)	Unhealthy	Active children and adults, and people with respiratory diseases such as asthma should avoid prolonged outdoor exertion; everyone else especially children should limit prolonged outdoor exertion.
201 - 300 (116-374 ppb)	Very Unhealthy	Active children and adults and people with respiratory diseases, such as asthma, should avoid all outdoor exertion; everyone else, especially children, should limit outdoor exertion.

source: airnow.gov

4.3 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Another important topic is the release of greenhouse gases (GHG). Greenhouse gases trap heat in the atmosphere and contribute to global warming. The four main greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and fluorinated gases. Carbon dioxide accounts for approximately 82% of GHG emissions and comes from burning fossil fuels, solid waste, and wood products, as well as from certain chemical reactions. Carbon dioxide is removed from the atmosphere by plants.

EPA is working to reduce GHG emissions through a range of new efforts, including new fuel-efficiency standards for automobiles and trucks and carbon pollution standards for industry. However, some effects of climate change already are evident. For example, the Earth has warmed approximately 1.4°F in the last 100 years and in recent years, there have been many extreme weather events, including large-scale hurricanes, floods, droughts, and heat waves.

Climate change poses a unique and significant threat to Louisiana. As a major area for oil and gas production and refining, and with one of the nation's largest industrial corridors along the Mississippi River, Louisiana is both a significant provider of fossil fuels and source of greenhouse gas emissions. Increasingly severe weather events pose additional risk to the industrial infrastructure and the people of coastal communities throughout south Louisiana, a region already vulnerable to flooding and hurricanes.

Sea-level rise has intensified problems including the loss of coastal land and wetlands, leading to increased vulnerability to hurricanes. Since 1900, approximately 4,900 square kilometers of wetlands on the coast of Louisiana have been lost, most of it in the last fifty years. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has recently estimated that Southeast Louisiana will see the greatest rate of sea level rise on the planet by the end of the 21st century.

What Can I do about GHGs?

- Be informed about climate change and greenhouse gases
- Find ways to reduce your own contribution by conserving energy
- Support the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- Tell your elected officials to support responsible Climate Change policy, Louisiana needs it!
- Learn more about clean energy such as wind and solar power
- Prepare for greater weather events (see Emergency Preparedness)

4.4 Chapter Wrap-up

Key Points

- Thirty-four air-quality sampling stations throughout the state regularly monitor the air for the six most dangerous pollutants, called the criteria air pollutants.
- In addition to the criteria pollutants, EPA requires regulation of 189 other toxic air pollutants (TAPs).
- The Air Quality Index is a measure of the six criteria pollutants and sets a scale for the predicted air quality for each day.
- Sensitive groups should be more aware of the air quality each day and limit outdoor activity.
- Greenhouse gases (GHGs) heat up the atmosphere and contribute to global warming, which can lead to more extreme weather patterns.
- Louisiana is one of the most vulnerable areas in the world to the damaging effects of climate-related sea-level rise and extreme weather events.

Be Involved

- Be informed about air quality and those around you who may be in a sensitive group
- Sign up for air quality alerts so you know when there is an air quality action day
- Reduce emissions from small engines such as lawn mowers and use fuel efficient vehicles when possible

Chapter References

- EPA: www.epa.gov
- LDEQ: www.deq.louisiana.gov

If you have questions or need assistance, contact LEAN through leanweb.org or by phone (225) 928-1315.

Chapter 5

Your Land



Safeguarding our land starts with being aware of the activities that can introduce toxins into the soil. Proper disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste from industries and municipalities is necessary in order to protect the soil where we grow our food, where our children play, and where drinking water wells are located. Appropriate siting of waste facilities, adequate containment measures, and consistent maintenance are all necessary to protect the land we depend on from the contaminants that pose a risk to human and environmental health.

5.1 Superfund

As stated in the introduction of this guidebook, CERCLA, commonly known as Superfund, was enacted to address concerns about hazardous waste sites. The Superfund program is administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and allows EPA to clean up hazardous waste sites when the responsible party is unknown or unable to do so.

Goals of Superfund:

- Protect human health and the environment by cleaning up polluted sites.
- Involve communities in deciding how to clean up the sites.
- Make responsible parties pay for work performed at Superfund sites.

CERCLA authorizes two types of responses to clean up a hazardous waste site: short-term and long-term. Short term removal of contaminants is conducted when an immediate response is needed. Long-term removal is implemented when the threat of hazardous waste is serious, but not imminently life threatening.

There are several steps involved in identifying, evaluating and then adding an abandoned or inactive waste site to the Superfund list, also called the National Priority List or NPL. First, there is an investigation of site conditions, where data and soil samples are gathered to test in a lab. Community members can help by providing any information you may have about the site to EPA. If the site is determined to be hazardous to human health and the environment, it is placed on the National Priorities List (NPL), a list of the most serious hazardous waste sites in the country. A Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) is then performed to determine the extent of contamination. A Record of Decision (ROD) is then submitted showing how the site will be cleaned up. Then, Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RDRA) is where most of the cleanup of the site occurs. Once cleanup is completed (through Construction Completion and Post Construction Completion stages), the site can be deleted from the National Priorities List and prepared for reuse if possible. Once the site is deleted from the NPL, EPA must review the site every 5 years and complete a report.

Throughout the Superfund site cleanup and remediation, the public is involved in the process. There are several ways in which community members can be involved:

- Become familiar with the site via EPA's Superfund website. Progress on Superfund cleanups is updated routinely.
- Attend any public meetings EPA may hold in your community. EPA may also publish information in the local paper about their progress.
- Once a site is placed on the NPL, EPA will appoint a Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC) to act as a liaison to the public. Contact the CIC if you have any questions related to the Superfund site and cleanup process.
- Visit the Information Repository – a place near the site where all documents and reports are housed for public information.
- Form a Community Advisory Group (CAG). A CAG can act as a unified voice for the community needs. A CAG can sometimes be eligible for a Technical Assistance Grant (TAG).
- Ask questions and submit comments on plans to cleanup and reuse the site.
- Read all EPA reports throughout the process.

Although the Superfund program cleanup process can seem overwhelming, EPA has resources to help communities throughout the process. To learn more visit epa.gov/superfund. To view 5-year reports for Superfund sites in EPA's Region 6 (which includes Louisiana), visit http://www.epa.gov/region6/6sf/6sf-5_year_reviews.htm.

Once the clean-up or remediation of a Superfund site has been completed, many sites can be reused for other purposes. Whether the site is developed into a factory, shopping mall, housing, park, or ecological protection area, it's important to redevelop these sites if possible. It places the site back into economic, social, and ecological use. The EPA Superfund Redevelopment Initiative works to place all Superfund sites back into some form of reuse.

The following pages list current, past and proposed Superfund sites in Louisiana.

There are currently 10 Active Superfund sites in Louisiana:

Agriculture Street Landfill	New Orleans	Landfill since 1910. Soil contains elevated levels of lead, zinc, mercury, cadmium, and arsenic.
American Creosote Works, Inc. (Winnfield Plant)	Winnfield	Wood treatment facility since 1910. 5 unlined storage pits allowed soil contamination by polychlorinated dibenzodioxins, polychlorinated dibenzofurans, and various carcinogenic and mutagenic polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons.
Bayou Bonfouca	Slidell	Wood treatment facility since before 1900. Creosote leak in 1970 has contaminated soils.
EVR-Wood Treating/Evangeline Refining Company	Jennings	A wood treatment facility and oil refinery located on adjacent properties with no distinct property boundaries. Soil is contaminated with metals and contaminants have also been released into nearby wetlands.
Combustion, Inc.	Denham Springs	Handled nonreclaimable waste oil. 11 pits and two storage tanks now contain 3 million gallons of waste, including PCBs, volatile organic chemicals, and heavy metals. Lead and Thallium have made it to the groundwater.
Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant	Doyline	Site associated with loading, assembling, and packing military ammunitions, and the manufacture of metal ammunition parts. Soil, surface water, and ground water are contaminated with TNT, dinitrotoluene (DNT), phenols, 4-DNT, tetryl, and cadmium.
Madisonville Creosote Works	Madisonville	Wood treatment facility prior to 1950. Site has 15 above-ground storage tanks. Creosote has contaminated the soils.
Marion Pressure Treating	Marion	Wood treatment waste facility in operation from 1964 to 1989. Unlined pit has allowed creosote to contaminate soils.
Petro-Processors of Louisiana, Inc.	Scotlandville	3.5 million cubic feet of contaminated materials are potentially stored in a closed pit on-site. There is concern leachate will migrate to local waterways.
Delta Shipyard	Houma	Cleaning and repair facility for boats and barges which contains unlined earthen pits containing oily waste and oil field drilling material. Arsenic, antimony, lead, mercury, and pyrene, among many other hazardous substances have contaminated wetlands, groundwater, surface water, and soil.

There are currently 6 sites that are proposed to be added to the Superfund site list:

Calcasieu Estuary (formerly Bayou D'Inde)	Calcasieu	Various organic and inorganic materials were released into the Calcasieu Estuary from various industrial sources along the estuary, causing unsafe levels of PCBs and dioxin in fish from the estuary. The site is in early stages of cleanup.
Colonial Creosote	Washington	Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) from this former wood treating operations have migrated from the facility to underlying groundwater, adjacent wetlands and nearby surface waters.
Devil's Swamp Lake	Scotlandville	Former solid waste management units, a hazardous waste disposal facility, and treated wastewater discharge point were all part of Devil's Swamp lake. PCBs are present in lake, fish, and up to 2 miles downstream.
Gulf States Utilities – North Ryan Street	Lake Charles	Wetland area was used as a landfill for utility operations and a tar seep has covered approximately 64 square feet. Contaminants such as PAHs, copper, and lead are being released to the Calcasieu River.
Highway 71/72 Refinery	Bossier City	Former CITGO refinery site that was developed into residential and commercial areas. Many residential areas have been found to be contaminated with high levels of lead and mercury.
SBA Shipyard	Jefferson Davis	N/A

The following sites in Louisiana have been deleted from the NPL following clean-up:

Bayou Sorrel	Bayou Sorrel	Formerly a hazardous waste landfill, the site was closed after violations to state and federal permits. The site has been monitored post cleanup for 25 years.
Central Wood Superfund Site	Slaughter	Improper practices led to creosote and copper chromium arsenic contamination from wood treatment. Soil was either treated on site or excavated.
Cleve Reber	Sorrento	The site was used as a borrow pit during the construction of Highway 70 and the Sunshine Bridge and later as a municipal waste disposal. Groundwater was found to be contaminated with pollutants.
Delatte Metals	Ponchatoula	Former battery facility which consisted of wetlands and cypress swamp. Remediation included soil excavation, water treatment, and waste disposal.
DL Mud, Inc	Abbeville	A small portion of the Gulf Coast Vacuum Services site. The contaminants of concern are mercury, chromium, arsenic, lead, zinc, barium, and petroleum-related hydrocarbons.
Dutchtown Treatment Plant	Dutchtown	A former waste-oil reclamation facility which contaminated nearby groundwater. Principal pollutants included benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, xylene, and lead. Over 4500 cy of soil were treated on site.
Gulf Coast Vacuum Services	Abbeville	Vacuum and oilfield drilling mud plant. A citizen complain led to EPA investigation. Principle contaminants include benzene, PAHs, arsenic and barium.
Mallard Bay Landing Bulk Plant	Grand Chenier	A former hazardous waste treatment/storage/disposal (TSD) facility with numerous violations with LDEQ. Cleanup included offsite disposal of over 60,000 gallons of oil/waste material.
Old Inger Oil Refinery	Darrow	A former oil refinery and waste oil reclamation facility which discharged waste oil and material into an on-site swamp. The site was contaminated with inorganic and organic pollutants and was cleaned using a variety of methods. The site is now vacant and vegetation has been reestablished.
Pab Oil & Chemical Service, Inc.	Vermillion Parish	Former disposal site for oil field waste. Contaminants included heavy metal, petroleum hydrocarbons, and VOCs. On site surface water treatment, biological treatment, and excavation has made the site suitable for certain redevelopments.
Ruston Foundry	Alexandria	An abandoned foundry which manufactured steel, iron, and other metals contaminated the site with lead and antimony. Over 7,000 cy of contaminated soils were removed and the site is ready for unlimited reuse.
Southern Ship Building Louisiana	Slidell	A shipbuilding company which included sludge pits where used waste from vessels was disposed. Levees around the pits failed and 325,000 gallons of material was released into Bayou Bonfouca. Site treatment included removal, incineration, and capping of materials. The site is currently proposed for reuse.



Photo © William Fontenot

5.2 Brownfields

Brownfields are typically unused commercial or industrial properties that may contain hazardous substances or pollutants and can be a small parcel lot or several acres. Unlike Superfund sites, Brownfields do not receive federal funding for cleanup and the cleanups are not monitored by the EPA.

Brownfields are properties that can be redeveloped or reused, but interested developers may shy away from a site because of fear of liability for contamination they had nothing to do with. However, the industrial or commercial site may be suitable for redevelopment, thereby avoiding the need to develop open land. Such properties could be former gas stations, dry cleaners, or manufacturing facilities. The Louisiana DEQ Brownfields Remediation Program provides incentives for property owners to clean up Brownfields sites. A Certificate of Completion can be awarded to owners who clean up these sites to minimum standards set by DEQ, known as Louisiana Risk Evaluation/Corrective Action Program (RECAP) standards. This certificate releases the property owner from further liability under state law for past contamination of the site. However, the EPA can still take action against the site in the future if necessary under the Superfund program.

Encourage the cleanup and reuse of Brownfields.

Reuse of a brownfield helps revitalize a community and raise property values. It also removes any contaminants that may have been sitting on the site for many years. **It's a win-win!**

There are many federal, state, and local grants and monetary incentives for redevelopment of Brownfield sites. The EPA provides grants for assessments, clean ups, environmental training, and community outreach. You can find more information at www.epa.gov/brownfields.

Louisiana legislature created the Louisiana Brownfields Investor Tax Credit (R.S. 47:6021), which is an incentive to remediate Brownfields sites in Louisiana. Go to www.deq.louisiana.gov and see the Brownfields and Voluntary Remediation Program section under “Programs” for more information. On the local level, you can find a list of Brownfields programs (page 66) in the Appendix of this guidebook. There is also a link on DEQ’s Brownfields page.

Success Story

In West Monroe, an individual inherited a property that was the site of a former dry cleaning establishment. The new owner wanted to redevelop the site, but found potential groundwater and soil contamination from the dry cleaning chemicals. The property owner agreed to participate in a Voluntary Remedial Action cleanup through the DEQ RECAP program. The site was cleaned, redeveloped and is now the home of a successful fitness center!

5.3 Underground Storage Tanks

Underground storage tanks (USTs) are tanks or piping that store petroleum or other hazardous materials underground. The most common UST is a gasoline tank underground at a gas station. These USTs are regulated by EPA and DEQ because there is a risk that they could corrode over time, causing leaks into nearby groundwater which could contaminate drinking water. The Louisiana DEQ requires that all USTs be registered with the state unless the tank was filled with solid or inert material prior to January 1, 1974 or the tank was removed from the ground prior to May 8, 1986. A tank is considered an UST if it holds a capacity of 1100 gallons or more.

Underground storage tanks are the number one source of groundwater contamination in the United States based on monitoring reports from states, tribes, and territories reporting contaminant sources. The Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Trust Fund was created by Congress in 1986 to provide monetary assistance for cleanup of USTs where the owner is unknown or unable to clean up the contamination. The trust fund is financed by a .01 cent sales tax on gasoline. Cleanup of LUST in Louisiana must meet RECAP standards. You can find a list of LUSTs in Louisiana by going to deq.louisiana.gov and looking under the Underground Storage Tank and Remediation Division section for the “List of Leaking Underground Storage Tanks – LUST.”

If you are concerned a storage tank may be leaking near you, contact the LDEQ Underground Storage Tank & Remediation Division at 225.219.3443.

5.4 Landfills

From the everyday trash and garbage generated by households, to the waste streams created by large-scale manufacturing, our modern society produces a great deal of waste. Ideally, this material should be re-used and recycled but inevitably much of it will be stored in landfills, injections wells and various storage facilities. The geography of Louisiana presents a challenging environment for the responsible siting of waste facilities. Much of Louisiana is within the historic flood plain of the Mississippi River and most land in the southern part of the state has an elevation at or near sea level. Subsidence and coastal erosion are continually increasing the vulnerability and flood risks of communities throughout south Louisiana. Flooding can pose a significant challenge for properly containing waste in landfills and other storage facilities. In order to protect public health and the environment it is important to adequately contain this waste, preventing contamination of the adjacent soil and groundwater in an emergency situation such as a flood, hurricane or man-made accident.

There are several different types of landfills. A RCRA subtitle C landfill is meant for hazardous waste such as certain solvents, industry specific wastes, or pharmaceutical waste, among others. Municipal and household waste typically goes into RCRA subtitle D landfills. There are also industrial landfills and construction and demolition landfills, which receive only construction and demolition materials.

For a complete list of landfills in Louisiana, go to deq.louisiana.gov and under the Divisions menu you will see “Waste Permits”. Within this section you can click through to “Solid Waste Permits” and then to “Permitted Type I and II Landfills.”



Oilfield Waste Exemption

Wastes from the exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas are exempt from Federal hazardous waste regulations (RCRA Subtitle C). These wastes include oil production brine, drilling muds, drilling fluids and produced water. This exemption does not mean these wastes could not present a hazard to human health and the environment. Wastes from the exploration and production of crude oil have been shown to contain an array of hazardous substances including benzene (a known carcinogen), barium and lead. This is of particular importance, because Louisiana has a long history of exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas with many thousands of drilling sites (old and new) across the state. Wastes associated with these activities fall under this exemption and in many instances are stored and processed in facilities within Louisiana.

Proper management of these wastes, regardless of their Federal exemption, is necessary to safeguard public health and protect the environment.

5.5 Chapter Wrap-up

Key Points

- The Superfund program is administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and allows EPA to clean up hazardous waste sites when the responsible party is unknown or unable to do so.
- There are currently 10 Superfund sites in Louisiana, 6 proposed sites, and 12 that have been deleted from the National Priorities List.
- Brownfields are typically former commercial or industrial properties, such as old gas stations or dry cleaners, that may contain hazardous substances or pollutants
- Underground storage tanks are tanks or piping that store petroleum or other hazardous materials underground and can potentially leak overtime, threatening nearby groundwater sources.
- Materials that are not or cannot be reused are disposed of in landfills, injections wells and various storage facilities depending on the type of waste.
- Oilfield wastes, such as wastes from the exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas, are exempt from Federal hazardous waste regulations.

Be Involved

- Be aware of any current or former Superfund sites in your area.
- Encourage the clean-up and redevelopment of Brownfields
- Participate in the decisions about the clean-up and redevelopment of these sites
- Properly dispose of household materials and hazardous chemical and recycle when possible.

Chapter References

- EPA: www.epa.gov
- LDEQ: www.deq.louisiana.gov

If you have questions or need assistance, contact LEAN through leanweb.org or by phone (225) 928-1315.



Chapter 6

Emergency Preparedness

Industrial accidents, chemical spills and even natural-hazard events like floods can occur with little or no warning. It is up to us as citizens to be knowledgeable and prepared so that we can take care of ourselves and our families in the event of an emergency. Being prepared means being informed about risks in our communities and knowing what to do during and after an emergency.

6.1 Hazardous Spills or Releases

An emergency spill or release is one that poses an immediate danger to public health or the environment. These can include oil or chemical spills, radiological or biological discharges, or the release of pollutants. An emergency spill is more than just a violation of environmental law or regulation, and requires immediate action.

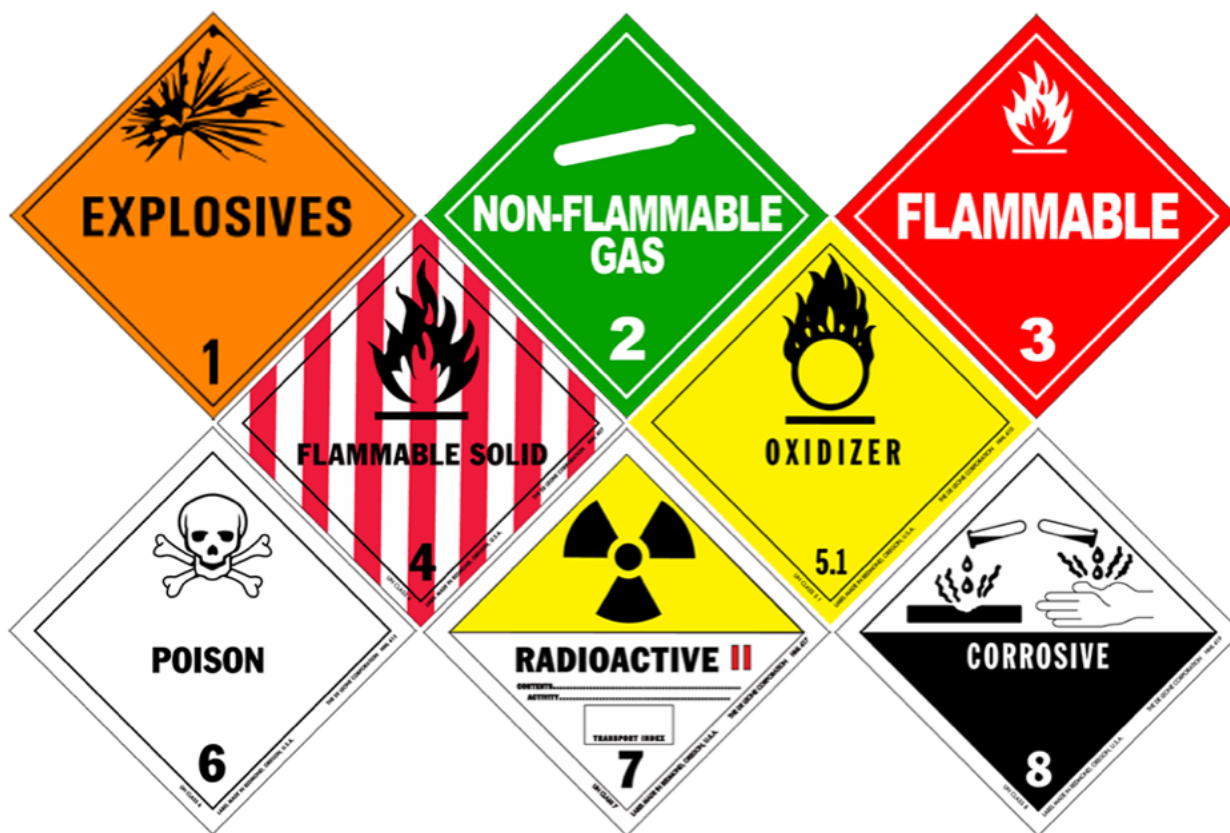
If you discover something you think may be a hazardous spill or release which may pose an immediate danger, **call 911**. Other points of contact include:

Hazardous Material Hotline: 1-800-925-6595

National Response Center: 1-800-424-8802

LDEQ Single Point of Contact
1-888-763-5424

local: 225-219-3640 during business hours
or 225-342-1234 outside of business hours



Hazardous materials may not always be obvious. Dangerous gases can be odorless and colorless. However, materials in closed containers will usually have labels that alert for potential hazards:

Hazard Class	Color	Symbol
Explosives	Orange	Starburst
Non-flammable Gases	Green	Cylinder
Flammable Gases or Liquids	Red	Flame
Flammable Solids	Red/White Stripes	Flame
Oxidizers	Yellow	Flaming Ball
Poisons	White	Skull & Crossbones
Radioactives	Yellow/White	Propeller
Corrosives	White/Black	Test Tube

Source: <http://www2.epa.gov/emergency-response/identifying-hazards>

Thanks to the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), government and industry are required to immediately report releases of hazardous and toxic chemicals and make this information available to the public. EPCRA also requires states and local officials to implement EPCRA regulations. On the state level, Louisiana's State Emergency Response Commissions (SERC) is maintained by the Louisiana State Police (www.lsp.org/rtk.html). Locally, each Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) is required to have an emergency response plan and inform the public about chemicals in their area. For a list of LEPCs, please see the Companion Guide.

The National Response Center, housed in the US Coast Guard, provides reports of all chemical spills, releases, and incidents. You can find these reports by going to <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/default.asp>.

6.2 Emergency Preparedness

We should always be prepared for a range of possible emergencies. Whether in case of a personal medical emergency, hurricane, or a chemical release at a local petrochemical plant, there are steps we can take now to prepare ourselves. The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) urges all residents to have a plan in the event of an emergency. Make sure you always have an emergency kit that contains the basics: essential first aid supplies, water, food, batteries, medicine, and a hand crank or battery-powered radio. Plan now how you will contact family members and where to meet up if you are separated. Check evacuation routes ahead of time.

GOHSEP and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have created extensive online resources for emergency preparedness. For more information about getting your family prepared in case an emergency strikes, visit Ready.gov or GetAGamePlan.org or call 1-800-BE-Ready.



In the event of an environmental emergency, such as a chemical release from an industrial facility, communities in the immediate area may be instructed to “shelter in place.” This is a technique designed to limit an individual’s exposure to a harmful contaminant that may be present in the air near their home. If you are instructed to shelter in place, immediately go inside and close all doors and windows. You may place damp towels at the bottoms of doors and windows to help seal them. If your windows and doors have cracks or air leaks, you may want to cover them with plastic sheeting and duct tape. Turn off all fans, air conditioners, and heaters to prevent outside air from entering your home. Turn on the radio or television to keep updated and stay off the phone. Stay inside until the “all clear” is given.

Threat Levels:

Watch: potential for a severe thunderstorm, hurricane, tornado, etc. Keep an eye on the news for updates.

Warning: the threat is imminent or is occurring, and you should act accordingly, whether moving indoors or sheltering in place.

As Louisiana’s economy has grown, many large industrial facilities have located and expanded along the Mississippi River, alongside historic communities. In addition to the facilities, subsequent infrastructure of rail lines and pipelines also have developed alongside these residential communities. Communities located within the area of these facilities and infrastructure should have well-developed emergency evacuation plans appropriate for the specific threats present in their community. Additionally, an effective emergency alert system should be in place to notify communities in close proximity to industrial facilities when there is an emergency event.

Many parish OHSEP divisions encourage you to sign up for emergency alert texts in case of an emergency in your area. Make sure to visit your parish OHSEP website and sign up for alerts. A listing of all OHSEP offices can be found in the Appendix.

In the event of extreme weather, keep up to date on changing conditions and threats at: emergency.louisiana.gov, weather.gov, or noaa.gov.



6.3 Identifying Environmental Hazards in your Community

Whether you live in the city or way out in the country, we all need to be aware of our surroundings and understand any dangers that may be present. Environmental hazards can appear for a variety of reasons. These hazards can be both inside and outside of your home. It can be a good idea to survey your home and your community to take an inventory of potential environmental hazards and develop a plan to protect you and your family from them. This plan may include ways to reduce every day exposure from common environmental hazards as well as appropriate emergency plans to protect yourself during a disaster or emergency situation. Every time something is changed in your environment you should assess this change for dangers in order to reduce any potential impacts to your families health and quality of life.

To assist you in identifying any environmental hazards around you, read through the following questions and make a list of your answers. The information contained throughout this guidebook should help you to address many of these concerns and any new concerns as they develop.

Am I or anyone in my household sensitive to environmental hazards (children, elderly, pulmonary or cardiovascular illness)?

Are all hazardous materials (cleaning agents, chemicals, pesticides, herbicides, automotive fluids, fuels, paints and aerosols) stored in a secure place away from children and out of danger of flooding?

**How do I get my household water?
Is my well and all necessary pipes and fixtures properly maintained and free of contaminants?**

Have I tested my water recently?

Is my air conditioning system regularly maintained with clean ducts and filters?

Is my home appropriately insulated and properly weatherized?

Is my home prepared for severe weather, hurricanes and flooding?

Is there any mold present in my home from moisture or past flooding?

Am I familiar with all the products that nearby facilities handle, produce and emit into my community?

Is my home located near a facility that emits pollutants into the air or water?

Do I notice unusual odors in my neighborhood?

Do I experience health symptoms (burning eyes, scratchy throat, etc) when I am outside in my community?

Do I see unusual discoloration, oily sheens, foaming, or impacted wildlife in my local waterways?

Is my home located near a facility that handles waste (landfill, injection well)?

Is my home near a rail line, commercial truck route or pipeline? Do I know what, if any, hazardous materials travel near my home?

Do I know what to do in case of an industrial accident (fire, explosion, chemical release) in my community?

Does my family have an appropriate emergency plan? Evacuation route?

Do I know who to call if I need help with my environmental concerns?

6.4 Chapter Wrap-up

Key Points

- An emergency spill can include accidental oil, gas or chemical spills, radiological or biological discharges, or the release of pollutants
- Containers that contain hazardous material will be colored-coded to explain their particular hazard.
- Be prepared ahead of time with an emergency kit and evacuation route, so that in an emergency you and your family know where to go and what to do.

Be Involved

- Sign up for emergency alerts for your parish or community through your parish OEP website or office.
- Review emergency plan recommendations at ready.gov and getagameplan.org.
- Learn how to “shelter in place” in case of an emergency.
- Be aware of the specific threats that may be present in your community such as nearby industrial facilities or rail lines, and have plans in place for potential emergencies.

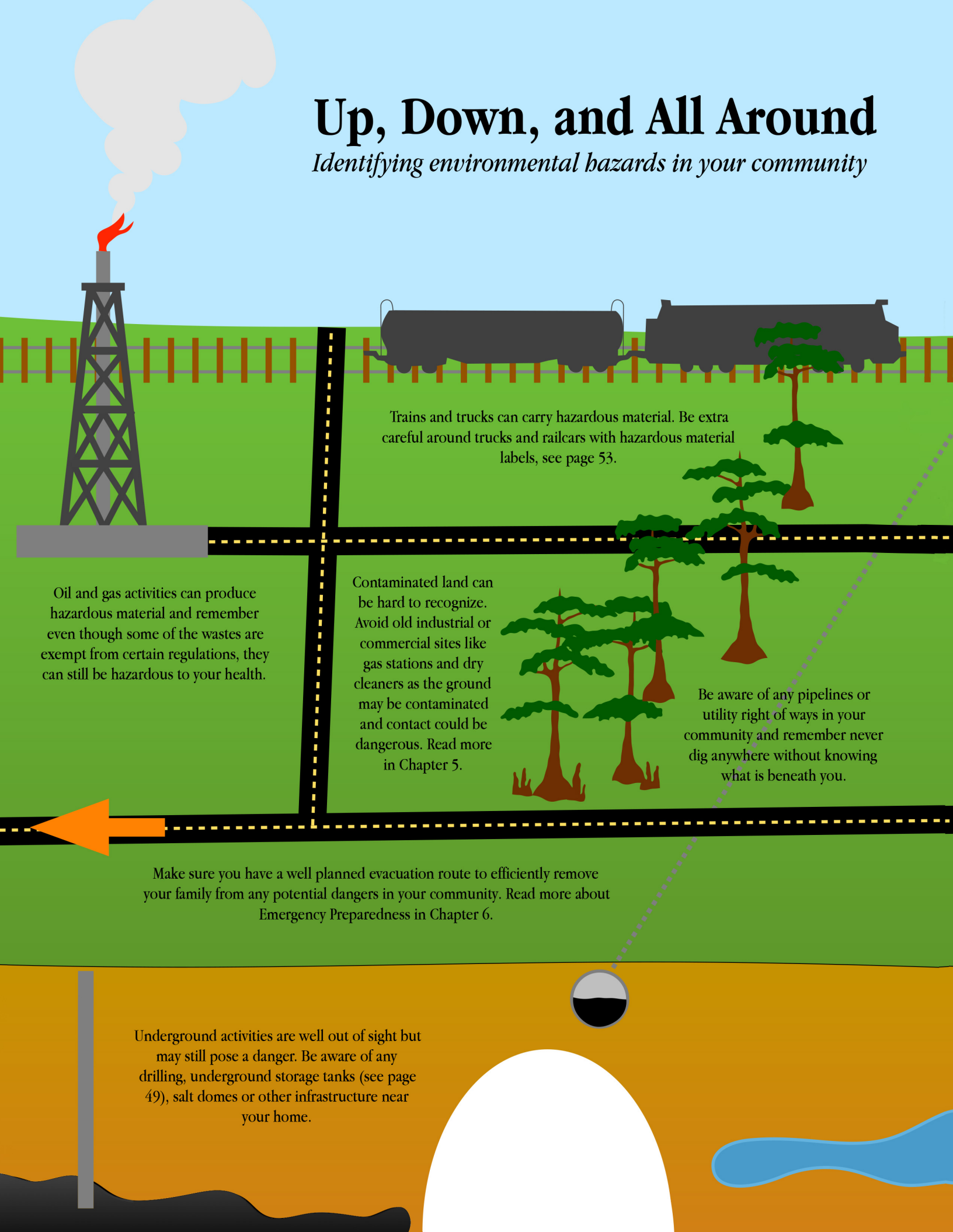
Chapter References

- EPA: www.epa.gov
- FEMA Ready Campaign: www.ready.gov
- LDEQ: www.deq.louisiana.gov
- Louisiana OHSEP Get a Game Plan: www.getagameplan.org
- Louisiana State Police Emergency Services Unit: www.lsp.org/rtk.html
- USCG National Response Center: <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/default.asp>

If you have questions or need assistance, contact LEAN through leanweb.org or by phone (225) 928-1315.

Up, Down, and All Around

Identifying environmental hazards in your community



Trains and trucks can carry hazardous material. Be extra careful around trucks and railcars with hazardous material labels, see page 53.

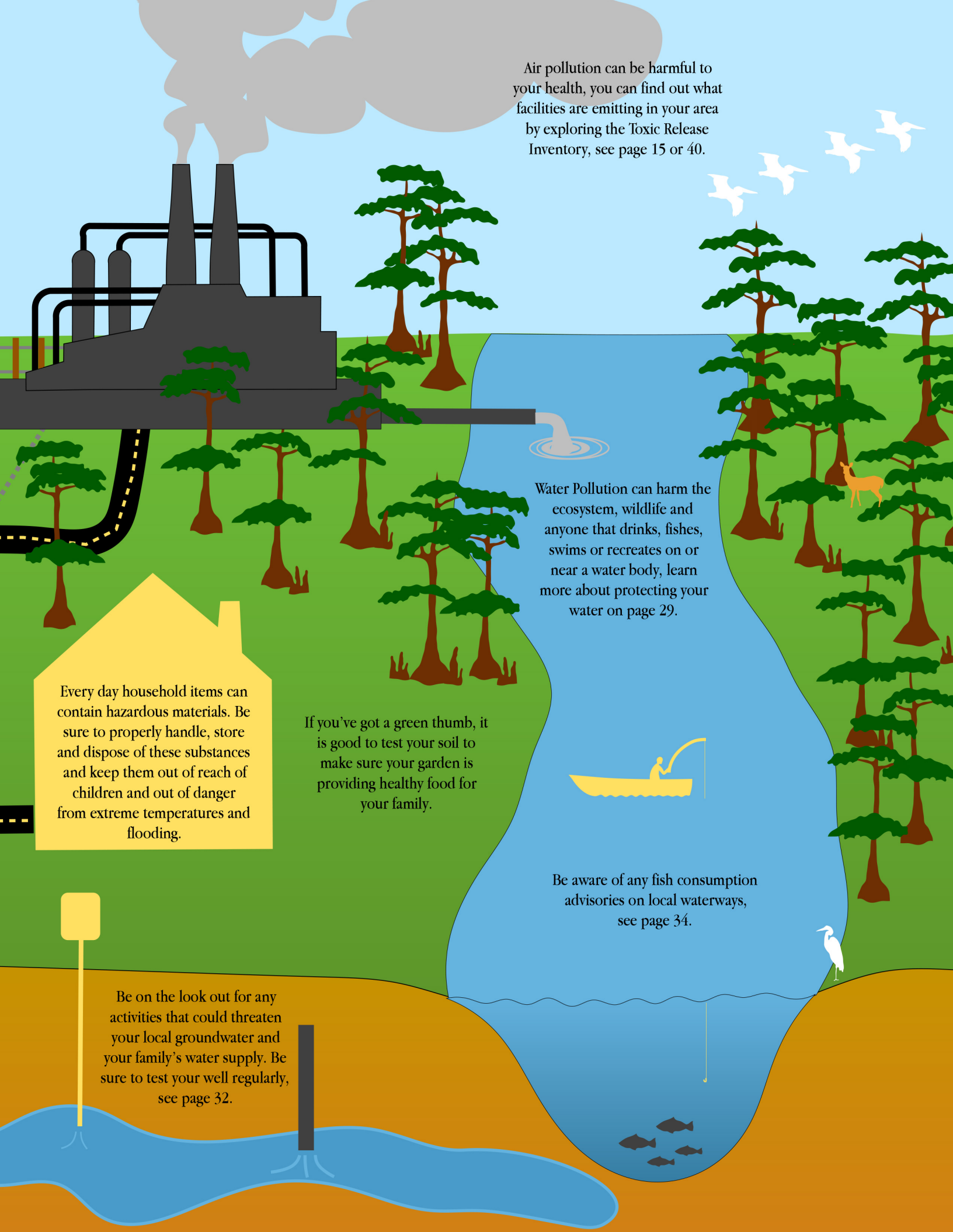
Oil and gas activities can produce hazardous material and remember even though some of the wastes are exempt from certain regulations, they can still be hazardous to your health.

Contaminated land can be hard to recognize. Avoid old industrial or commercial sites like gas stations and dry cleaners as the ground may be contaminated and contact could be dangerous. Read more in Chapter 5.

Be aware of any pipelines or utility right of ways in your community and remember never dig anywhere without knowing what is beneath you.

Make sure you have a well planned evacuation route to efficiently remove your family from any potential dangers in your community. Read more about Emergency Preparedness in Chapter 6.

Underground activities are well out of sight but may still pose a danger. Be aware of any drilling, underground storage tanks (see page 49), salt domes or other infrastructure near your home.



Air pollution can be harmful to your health, you can find out what facilities are emitting in your area by exploring the Toxic Release Inventory, see page 15 or 40.

Water Pollution can harm the ecosystem, wildlife and anyone that drinks, fishes, swims or recreates on or near a water body, learn more about protecting your water on page 29.

Every day household items can contain hazardous materials. Be sure to properly handle, store and dispose of these substances and keep them out of reach of children and out of danger from extreme temperatures and flooding.

If you've got a green thumb, it is good to test your soil to make sure your garden is providing healthy food for your family.

Be on the look out for any activities that could threaten your local groundwater and your family's water supply. Be sure to test your well regularly, see page 32.

Be aware of any fish consumption advisories on local waterways, see page 34.

Guidebook Wrap-up

Chapter 1: Government Agencies and Environmental Regulations

Environment Regulations are overseen by Federal, State and Local Governments. Be sure to get informed regarding the laws and agencies applicable to your community.

Chapter 2: Public Participation in Government

Public participation through community participation, public hearings and public comments are essential to good environmental decisions and safe communities.

Chapter 3: Your Water

Water ways can be subject to a variety of pollutants. It is important to get involved in ensuring safe drinking water for you family and protecting clean water for the environment.

Chapter 4: Your Air

It is important to stay informed about your local air quality to protect your health. Make sure to support efforts to reduce air pollution including green house gas emissions and address climate change.

Chapter 5: Your Land

Be aware of potentially contaminated facilities and land in your area and support responsible restoration / remediation. Also be sure to properly dispose of your own household wastes.

Chapter 6: Emergency Preparedness

Identify and understand potential hazards in your area. Be prepared by having an appropriate emergency plan(s) and evacuation route.

Appendix

Interactive Online Tools and Databases

My Environment

<http://www.epa.gov/myenvironment/>

My Environment is a search application that allows a user to explore environmental information based on location. Information includes AirQuality index, radon, UV index, water quality assessment, watersheds, streamflow, energy facilities, fuel costs, Superfund National Priorities List, and Brownfields, among many others.

EnviroMapper for Envirofacts

<http://www.epa.gov/enviro/emef/>

EnviroMapper is an interactive map that allows a user to add data layers similar to Google Maps. Layers include basic mapping tools such as roads, water bodies, and geographic boundaries, as well as environmental layers such as ozone non-attainment, impaired water bodies, chemical facilities, etc. Maps can then be printed or saved as PDF.

EJ View

<http://epamap14.epa.gov/ejmap/ejmap.aspx>

EJView is also an interactive map that allows users to add data layers. Data layers for EJView include environmental justice topics such as EJ grant locations, health, demographics, and facility-level data.

EPA National Priorities List (NPL) Map

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/query/queryhtm/nplmaps.htm>

EPA NPL Map is an interactive map which contains points and information for all proposed, final, deleted, and considered National Priorities List sites.

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

<http://gis.cdc.gov/grasp/webmaps/main.html>

The ATSDR registry is maintained by the Centers for Disease Control and includes an interactive map which contains points for all National Priorities List sites. Information for each site includes a list of contaminants and a link to information regarding each contaminant.

TOXMAP: Environmental Health e-Maps

<http://toxmap.nlm.nih.gov>

TOXMAP is an interactive map maintained by the National Library of Medicine with the National Institute of Health. This map pulls data from the TOXNET family of databases which include information on toxicology, hazardous chemicals, environmental health, and toxic releases inventory data and allows the user to relate it to US Census data such as demographics, income, and health data.

The National Map

<http://www.nationalmap.gov/>

The National Map, created by the US Geological Survey, allows users to create maps using various USGS tools and datasets for information on topography, land cover, land use, and other ecological information. USGS also provides printable, downloadable, and historical maps for free and for purchase.

Environmental Scorecard

<http://scorecard.goodguide.com/index.tcl>

Scorecard is sponsored by Good Guide (www.goodguide.com), a consumer product rating site featuring health, safety, and environmental information on over 250,000 products. Scorecard ranks communities based on toxic releases in air, water, underground injections, suspected carcinogens, suspected immunotoxins, and many other categories. The scorecard also includes information about environmental justice, lead hazards, watershed pollution, and superfund sites.

NPL Superfund Footprint: Site, Population, and Environmental Characteristics Mapper

<http://superfund.ciesin.columbia.edu/sfmapper>

Created by the Columbia University NIEHS Superfund Research Program (SRP), the NPL Superfund footprint mapper was created to provide researchers, regulators, and the public with a mapping tool to help understand the characteristics of environmental and community concerns near Superfund sites. This tool allows users to explore environmental exposure risks for vulnerable populations and sensitive environmental areas.

AirNow

<http://www.airnow.gov/>

AirNow is an online tool to inform you how polluted or clean your air is on a particular day. The Air Quality Index translates air quality data into easy-to-understand color-coded maps and provides related health impacts based on daily air quality.

Enviroflash

Enviroflash is a notification system through AirNow where the user can sign up to receive alerts regarding air quality. You can elect to receive text messages, emails, or use the Enviroflash app based on daily forecasts and current conditions, or receive alerts when an action day is declared.

Informational Guides and Other Resources

Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana Citizens' Rights Card

<http://www.parlouisiana.com/citizensrightscard.cfm>

The printable and foldable Citizen's Rights Card created by the Public affairs Research Council of Louisiana assists citizens in knowing their rights under Louisiana's open meetings and public records laws. The pocket guide contains information on open and closed meetings, access to public records, and laws concerning public protesting.

Right to Know Network

<http://www.rtknet.org/>

The Right-to-Know network is a project of the Center for Effective Government and is a free environmental resource service to citizens. It contains easy to find information on toxic releases (TRI), hazardous wastes, legislation, and many other environment-related topics. It also has a user forum where you can talk with other RTK users about environmental concerns in your area.

DEQ EnviroSchool

<http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2601/Default.aspx>

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality created EnviroSchool, an environmental education outreach which provides training to the public on the regulatory process. Sessions are free and DEQ provides a database of past education materials on their website.

Department of Health and Hospitals Private Water Well Testing

http://www.dhh.louisiana.gov/assets/oph/Center-EH/engineering/Private_Water_Well_Testing.pdf

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals has put together a very informative brochure on owning and maintaining a private water well, including information on when you should have your water well tested for contaminants.

Louisiana Fish Advisories

<http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/default.aspx?tabid=1631>

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality offers a complete listing of all current fishing and swimming advisories for Louisiana water bodies.

Federal Environmental Points of Contact

Agency	Topics
US Environmental Protection Agency www.epa.gov Phone: (202) 272-0165 Phone: 1-800-887-6063 Headquarters Mailing Address: 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460 Region 6 Mailing Address: Fountain Place 12 th Floor, Suite 1200 1445 Ross Avenue Dallas, TX 75202	Air pollution, Greenhouse gases, Climate change, Acid rain, Pollution prevention, Toxic chemicals, Asbestos, lead, mercury, Emergency management, Clean energy, Energy star, Healthy schools, Superfunds, Brownfields, Underground storage tanks, Hydraulic fracturing, Landfills, Pesticides, Hazardous and non-hazardous wastes
US Army Corp of Engineers www.usace.army.mil Phone: (202) 761-0011 Mailing Address: 441 G Street NW Washington, DC 20314-1000	Dam safety, Flood risk, Levee safety, Formerly used defense sites, Emergency operations, Wetlands mitigation
US Department of the Interior www.doi.gov Phone: (202) 208-3100 Mailing Address: 1849 C Street NW Washington, DC 20240 The Department of the Interior includes the following: National Park Service U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Bureau of Indian Affairs Bureau of Land Management Office of Surface Mining U.S. Geological Survey Bureau of Reclamation Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement	Land and Water Conservation grants, National Park System, National Wildlife Refuges, National Fish Hatcheries, Endangered Species Act, Habitat Conservation Plans, Native American lands, Federal public lands, Outer Continental Shelf, Mineral revenues, Coal mining, Alternative energy, America's Great Outdoor Initiative, US maps and atlases
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission www.nrc.gov Phone: 1-800-368-5642 Mailing Address: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Washington, DC 20555	Nuclear reactors and materials safety
US Forest Service www.fs.fed.us Phone: 1-800-832-1355 Mailing Address: 1400 Independence Ave., SW Washington, D.C. 20250	Forest Conservation, Grasslands, Urban forests, Forest fires, Sustainable forestry

Agency	Topic
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission www.ferc.gov Phone: 1-866-208-3372 Mailing Address: 888 First Street, NE Washington, DC 20426	Interstate transmission of electricity, natural gas and oil, Liquefied natural gas terminals, Interstate natural gas pipeline, Hydroelectric projects
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) www.noaa.gov Mailing Address: 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Room 5128 Washington, DC 20230	Fisheries and marine resources, National Weather Service, Ocean monitoring, Estuaries, Coastal and oceanic maps, Environmental satellites, Climate science, Sea Grant College Program, Coastal Zone management

State Environmental Points of Contact

Agency	Topics
Department of Environmental Quality deq.louisiana.gov Phone: (225) 219-5337 Phone: 1-866-896-5337 Physical Address: Galvez Building 602 North Fifth Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802	Regulations, Permits, Enforcement, Assessments, Investigations, Pollution, Recycling, Hazardous Waste, Household hazardous waste
Department of Health and Hospitals www.dhh.louisiana.gov Phone: (225) 342-9500 Fax: (225) 342-5568 Mailing Address: P. O. Box 629 Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0629 Physical Address: 628 N. 4th Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802	Drinking water and well water, Toxicological concerns such as lead poisoning, Food preparation safety and health inspections, Environmentally related disease clusters, Health / fish consumption advisories, Acute pesticide exposure
Department of Natural Resources www.dnr.louisiana.gov Phone: (225) 342-4500 Fax : (225) 342-586 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 94396 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9396 Physical Address: 617 North Third Street LaSalle Building Baton Rouge, LA 70802	Oil and gas, Coastal management, Drilling and hydraulic fracturing, Surface mining, Pipeline safety, Mineral leases, Underground Injection wells, Treatment, storage and disposal of waste, Groundwater resources, State Mineral and energy board, Coastal Use permits, Coastal Management and restoration, Atchafalaya Basin Program

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

www.wlf.louisiana.gov

Phone: 1-800-256-2749

Phone: (225) 765-2800

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 98000

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898

Physical Address:

2000 Quail Dr.

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898

Commercial and recreational fishing, Boating safety and regulations, Hunting permits and licenses, Wildlife protection, safety and nuisance animals, Wildlife management areas

Department of Agriculture and Forestry

www.ldaf.state.la.us

Phone: (225) 922-1234

Phone: 1-800-927-3476

Mailing Address:

5825 Florida Blvd

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Crop and fruit pests and disease, Weights and measures, Livestock health, Forestry, Nonpoint source pollution

LSU Agricultural Center

www.lsuagcenter.com

Phone: (225) 578-4161

Mailing Address:

101 J. Norman Efferson Hall

110 LSU Union Square

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803-0106

Lawn and garden, Farming, Livestock, Rural Development

Department of Transportation and Development

www.dotd.la.gov

Phone: (225) 379-1232

Mailing Address:

1201 Capitol Access Road

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Public Transportation, Flood control and dam safety

Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness

www.gohsep.la.gov/

Phone: (225) 925.7500

Mailing Address:

7667 Independence Blvd.

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security, Emergency alerts and warnings, Disaster recovery, Evacuation routes

State Police

www.lsp.org

Phone: (225) 925-6006

Mailing Address:

7919 Independence Boulevard

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Public Safety, Evacuations, Hazardous material, HAZMAT response

Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

www.coastal.la.gov

Phone: (225) 342-4027

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 44027

Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Coastal Master Plan, Coastal restoration, Emergency response, Oil spill restoration

Louisiana Local Brownfields Program Contacts

Acadiana Regional Development District Grayling Hadnoff, Economic Development Director Acadiana Regional Development District P.O. Box 90070 Lafayette, LA 70509 (337) 886-7782 ghadnoff@ardd.org	Alexandria, LA Daniel Smith Mayor's Office of Economic Development City of Alexandria P.O. Box 71 Alexandria, LA 71309 (318) 449-5009 daniel.smith@cityofalex.com
Baton Rouge, LA Barret Chaix, City Planning Commission City of Baton Rouge-Parish of East Baton Rouge Planning Commission P.O. Box 1471 Baton Rouge, LA 70821 (225) 389-3144 (225) 389-5342 Fax BChaix@brgov.com	Gretna, LA Honorable Ronnie C. Harris Mayor of Gretna 2nd St. and Huey P. Long Ave., Room 102 P.O. Box 404 Gretna, LA 70054 (504) 363-1505 (504) 363-1509 Fax rharris@gretanala.com
Jefferson Parish, LA Ms. Marnie Winter, Director Department of Environmental Affairs 4901 Jefferson Hwy, Suite E Jefferson, LA 70121 (504) 736-6440 (504) 731-4607 Fax mwinter@jeffparish.net Kathleen Collins, Brownfields Project Manager (504) 731-4612 KCollins@jeffparish.net	Lake Charles, LA Ron Fossett, Brownfields Project Manager P.O. Box 900 Lake Charles, LA 70602 (337) 491-1542 rfossett@coflc.us
New Orleans, LA Nathan Champagne Mayor's Office of Environmental Affairs 1340 Poydras St., 10th floor New Orleans, LA 70112 (504) 658-4070 (504) 658-4397 Fax njchampagne@cityofno.com	New Orleans Regional Planning Commission Walter Brooks, Executive Director 10 Veterans Blvd New Orleans, LA 70124 (504) 568-6611 (504) 568-6643 Fax rpc@norpc.org Rebecca Otte (504) 483-8513 rotte@norpc.org
Shreveport, LA Robert McMullen, Director Department of Operational Services P.O. Box 31109 Shreveport, LA 71130 (318) 673-6090 (318) 673-7663 Fax robert.mcmullen@ci.shreveport.la.us	South Central Planning and Development Commission Jo-anna Jones, Brownfields Coordinator P.O. Box 1870 Gray, LA 70359 5058 West Main Street Houma, LA 70360 (985) 851-2900 (985) 851-4472 Fax jones@scpdpc.org

Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Offices

State of Louisiana Local Emergency Planning Committees (as of March, 2014)

Acadia Parish Lee Hebert Phone: 337-783-4357 Fax: 337-788-8852 Email: Lee@apso.org Web Site: www.appj.org/DEPTem.html	Allen Parish John Richer Phone: 337-639-4353 Fax: 337-639-4326 Email: eltonfire@centurytel.net Web Site: allenparishso.org	Ascension Parish Mr. Richard Webre Phone: 225-621-8360 Fax: 225-644-3039 Email: rwebre@apgov.us or oep@apgov.us Web Site: www.ascensionparish.net
Assumption Parish John Boudreaux Phone: 985-369-7386 Fax: 985-369-7341 Email: johnboudreaux@assumptionoep.com Web Site: www.assumptionla.com/OEP	Avoyelles Parish Charles Jones Phone: 318-253-9208 Email: policejury@avoypj.org Web Site: http://www.avoypj.org/#!/home-land-security-oep/c1pgx	Beauregard Parish Glen Mears Phone: 337-460-5442 Fax: 337-460-5460 Email: glen139@centurytel.net Web Site: http://www.beauregardsheriff.org/homelandsecurityoep.htm
Bienville Parish Rodney Warren Phone: 318-263-2019 Fax: 318-263-7404 Email: rwarren@bienvilleparish.org Web Site: none	Caddo/Bossier Parishes Sandy Davis Phone: 318-425-5351 Fax: 318-425-5940 Email: sdavis@cbohsep.org Web Site: http://www.cbohsep.org	Calcasieu Parish Richard "Dick" Gremillion Phone: 337-721-3800 Fax: 337-437-3583 Email: dick@cppj.onmicrosoft.com Web Site: http://www.cppj.net/index.aspx?page=121
Caldwell Parish Dale Powell Phone: 318-649-3764 Fax: 318-649-3765 Email: caldwellohsep@bellsouth.net Web Site: none	Cameron Parish Danny Lavernge Phone: 337-775-7048 Fax: 337-775-7043 Email: cameron_oep@camtel.net Web Site: http://www.parishofcameron.net/PageDisplay.asp?p1=3567	Catahoula Parish Ellis Boothe Phone: 318-744-5697 Fax: 318-744-5205 Email: catahoulasep@yahoo.com Web Site: none
Claiborne Parish Dennis Butcher Phone: 318-927-9118 Fax: 318-927-2115 Email: ooep_cppj@bellsouth.net Web Site: http://www.claiborneone.org/oep/	Concordia Parish Charles Tarver Phone: 318-719-1283 Email: oep@conppj.org Web Site: none	DeSoto Parish Rodney Arbuckle Phone: 318-872-1877 Fax: 318-872-2304 Email: sheriff@dpso.org Web Site: none
East Baton Rouge Parish JoAnne Moreau Phone: 225-389-2100 Fax: 225-389-2114 Email: oep@brgov.com Web Site: http://brgov.com/dept/oep/	East Carroll Leekeitha Reed Phone: 318-559-2256 Fax: 318-559-1502 Email: ecppoep@bayou.com Web Site: none	East Feliciana Parish H. Bud Weigand Phone: 225-683-1014 or 225-244-5881 Fax: 225-683-1478 Email: efoepdir@bellsouth.net Web Site: none

Evangeline Parish Liz Hill Phone: 337-363-3267 Fax: 337-363-3308 Email: vangy911@centurytel.net Web Site: http://www.evangelineparishpolicejury.com/emergency-services.aspx	Franklin Parish Mitch Reynolds Phone: 318-435-6247 Fax: 318-435-5268 Email: mitchreynolds@franklinparish.org Web Site: none Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/FranklinOHSEP	Grant Parish Robert Meeker Phone: 318-627-3041 Fax: 318-627-5927 Email: grantoeop@yahoo.com Web Site: none
Iberia Parish Prescott L. Marshall Phone: 337-369-4427 Fax: 337-369-9956 Email: pmarshall@iberiagov.net Web Site: http://www.iberiaparishgovernment.com/dept-911.asp Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/pages/Iberia-Parish-Office-of-Homeland-Security-and-Emergency-Preparedness911/240793679283553	Iberville Parish Laurie Doiron Phone: 225-687-5140 Fax: 225-687-5146 Email: ldoiron@ibervilleparish.com Web Site: http://ibervilleparish.com/departement_services/emergency_preparedness/	Jackson Parish Paul Walsworth Phone: 318-259-2361 ext. 204 Fax: 318-259-5660 Email: pwalsworth@jacksonparishpolicejury.org Web Site: http://www.jacksonparishpolicejury.org/Divisions/Homeland-Security/
Jefferson Parish Charlie Hudson Phone: 504-349-5360 Fax: 504-227-1315 Email: chudson@jeffparish.net Web Site: http://www.jeffparish.net/index.aspx?page=185	Jefferson Davis Ivy Woods Phone: 337-824-3850 Fax: 337-821-2105 Email: Sheriff@jdps.org Web Site: http://www.jdps.org/home.html	Lafayette Parish William R. Vincent Phone: 337-291-5075 Fax: 337-291-5080 Email: eoc@lafayettela.gov Web Site: http://lafayetteoep.org/
Lafourche Parish Chris Boudreaux Phone: 985-532-8174 Fax: 985-537-7603 Email: chrisb@lafourchegov.org Web Site: http://www.lafourchegov.org	LaSalle Parish Scott Franklin Phone: 318-992-2151 Fax: 318-992-8919 Email: sfranklin@lasalleso.com Web Site: http://www.lasalleso.com	Lincoln Parish Kip Franklin Phone: 318-513-6202 Fax: 318-513-6209 Email: Kfranklin@lincolnparish.org Web Site: http://www.lincolnparish.org
Livingston Parish Mark Harrell Phone: 225-686-3066 Fax: 225-686-7280 Email: lohsep1@lpgov.com Web Site: http://www.lpoep.org/	Madison Parish Earl Pinkney Phone: 318-574-6911 Fax: 318-574-8786 Email: earlpink99@gmail.com Web Site: none	Morehouse Parish James Mardis Bastrop, LA 71220 Phone: 318-281-4141 Fax: 318-281-1773 Email: jmardis@mpso.net Web Site: none

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Victor Jones
 Phone: 318-238-7720
 Fax: 318-357-2208
 Email: vjones@npsheriff.net
 Web Site: <http://www.npsheriff.org/OEP.aspx>

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 Phone: 504-658-8700
 Fax: 504-658-8701
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 Web Site: <http://www.nola.gov/homeland-security/>

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Neal Brown
 Phone: 318-322-2641
 Fax: 318-322-7356
 Email: anbrown@ohsep.net
 Web Site: http://www.oppj.org/departments/homeland_security/index.php

Plaquemines Parish

Guy Laigast
 Phone: 504-274-2476
 Fax: 504-297-5635
 Email: guy@plaqueminesparish.com
 Web Site: <http://www.plaqueminesparish.com/homelandsecurity.php>

Pointe Coupee

Donald Ewing
 Phone: 225-694-3737
 Fax: 225-694-5408
 Email: daewing@pcpsso.org
 Web Site: none

Rapides Parish

Sonya Wiley-Gremillion
 Phone: 318-445-0396
 Fax: 318-445-5605
 Email: rapides911oep@suddenlinkmail.com & swiley@rapides911.org
 Web Site: none

Red River Parish

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 Fax: 318-932-8502
 Email: redriver.ohsep@gmail.com
 Web Site: none

Richland Parish

Dawn Williams
 Phone: 318-728-0453
 Fax: 318-728-2742
 Email: rpipermit@inetsouth.com
 Website: none

Sabine Parish

David Davis
 Phone: 318-256-2675
 Fax: 318-256-9652
 Email: spoep@cp-tel.net
 Web Site: <http://sabineparishpolicejury.com/Divisions/Division.aspx?Name=Homeland%20Security%20and%20Office%20of%20Emergency%20Preparedness>

St. Bernard Parish

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 Phone: 504-278-4268
 Fax: 504-271-7343
 Email: jrahaim@sbgp.net
 Web Site: http://www.sbgp.net/index.php%3Foption%3Dcom_content%26view%3Darticle%26id%3D114%26Itemid%3D27

St. Charles Parish

Ron Perry
 Phone: 985-783-5050
 Fax: 985-783-6375
 Email: rperry@stcharlesgov.net or communications@scpeoc.org
 Web Site: <http://www.stcharlesparish-la.gov/index.aspx?page=95>

St. Helena Parish

Rita Allen
 Phone: 225-222-3544
 Fax: 225-222-3696
 Email: oepp@sthelenaparish.la.gov
 Web Site: <http://sthelenaparish.la.gov/OEP.aspx>

St. James Parish

Eric Deroche
 Phone: 225-562-2364
 Fax: 225-562-2269
 Email: eric.deroche@stjamesla.com
 Web Site: <http://www.stjamesla.com/emergency-info>

St. John the Baptist Parish

Jobe Boucvalt
 Phone: 985-652-2222
 Fax: 985-652-2183
 Email: j.boucvalt@sjbparish.com
 Web Site: http://www.sjbparish.com/emergency_index.php

St. Landry Parish

Lisa Vidrine
 Phone: 337-948-7177
 Fax: 337-948-9139
 Email: stlandryohsep@att.net
 Web Site: <http://www.stlandryparishgovernment.org/homelandsecurity.html>

St. Martin Parish

Terry Guidry
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 Fax: 337-332-0492
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 Web Site: <http://www.stmartinohsep.org/>

St. Mary Parish

Duval Arthur
 Phone: 337-828-4100 x135
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 Web Site: <http://www.stmaryohsep.org/>

St. Tammany Parish

Dexter Accardo
 Phone: 985-898-2359
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 Web Site: <http://www.stpgov.org/departments/homeland-security-emergency-preparedness>

Tangipahoa Parish

Dawson Primes
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 Fax: 985-748-7050
 Email: dawson.primes@tangipahoa.org
 Web Site: <http://www.tangiparishohsep.org/>

Tensas Parish

William "Rick" Foster
 Phone: 318-766-3992
 Fax: 318-766-4391
 Email: tpoep1@bellsouth.net
 Web Site: none

Terrebonne Parish

Earl J. Eues
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 Fax: 985-850-4643
 Email: eeues@tpcg.org
 Web Site: <http://www.tohsep.com/>

Union Parish

Danny Smith
 Phone: 318-368-0911
 Fax: 318-upohsep@gmail.com
 Web Site: none

Vermilion Parish

Rebecca M. Broussard
 Phone: 337-898-4308
 Fax: 337-898-4309
 Email: vpoe@cox-internet.com
 Web Site: <http://vermilionparishpolicejury.com/2012DEPTsecurity.html>

Vernon Parish

Kenneth Moore
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 Fax: 337-238-9025
 Email: kmoore@vernonso.org
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