

CONSERVATION UPDATE

Creating a Legacy

2005 – 2015 Key dates and events

- June 4, 2005: Woodlands Trail's Grand Opening
- Developed 13 miles of trails with Federal funds via the Lt. Governor's Office
- Restored 316 acres of forested wetlands with Corporate & Foundation funds
- Installed interpretive kiosks and directional signage throughout the trails
- In the past 8 years, 1,115 volunteers gave 10,164 hours of service
- 32,651 visitors in the past 5 years
- Established the Woodlands Conservancy Endowment Fund at GNOF
- Raised \$1.6 million to support restoration work and programs



May 28, 2015: Plaquemines Parish Council passed a resolution supporting the sale or lease of 250 acres of forested property (on which Woodlands Trail and Park currently exists) for a baseball complex.

To voice your opinion on Woodlands Conservancy and Greenspace vs.

a \$22 million dollar Baseball Complex in this location,

please send your comments to the Plaquemines Parish Councilman in your district and Benny Rousselle, Council Chairman:

District 1 jbarthelemy@ppgov. District 2 wblack@ppgov.net District 3 klepine@ppgov.net District 4 ijuneau@ppgov.net District 6 cburt@ppgov.net District 7 asalvant@ppgov.net District 8 jedgecombe@ppgov.net District 9 nwilliams@ppgov.net

District 5 & Council Chairman brousselle@ppgov.net

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WISH LIST

Long-term Lease (Woodlands Trail & Park) Parking Area Bathroom Facilities Electricity

If you can help with items on the wish list or would like to make a contribution of your time, talent or treasures, please contact us at:

info@woodlandsconservancy.org or 504.433.4000

OFFICE 1112 Engineers Road Suite 21 Belle Chasse, Louisiana 70037

DELACROIX PRESERVE 700 Delacroix Road New Orleans, Louisiana 70131

WOODLANDS TRAIL 449 F. Edward Hebert Blvd. Belle Chasse, Louisiana 70037

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2015 GIVENOLA DAY NATIONWIDE CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED



GiveNOLA Day is an annual 24-hour period of giving during which contributions to Woodlands Conservancy and other area nonprofit organizations are stretched by funds from the Greater New Orleans Foundation (GNOF) and its sponsors.

For Woodlands Conservancy, GiveNOLA Day in 2015 resulted in contributions from 61 donors spanning across the continent from New York to California. \$10,800 were raised on GiveNOLA Day, May 5, 2015. This figure does not include the matches to be received from Chevron Oronite and Freeport McMoRan's programs that match employee contributions nor the "stretch" to be received from GNOF and its GiveNOLA Day sponsors.

Thank you to our generous 2015 GiveNOLA Day Donors

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NEEF GRANT SUPPORTS ACTIVITIES FUNDS PROVIDED BY TOYOTA MOTOR SALES

A grant from the National Environmental Education Foundation with funding provided by Toyota Motor Sales allowed Woodlands Conservancy to provide a variety of activities at Woodlands Trail over the past several months. The activities included Joelly Finley of Orleans Audubon Society guiding a birding hike, Dr. Bob Thomas of Loyola University leading an interpretive hike, Ken Redler teaching a class on photography in nature, Mike Biguenet teaching a class in wood carving and local artist Carol Patai teaching a painting class with individualized instruction.

The photo at right shows Dr. Bob Thomas explaining one of the many wonders of nature found on Woodlands Trail. The guided hike was videotaped by "Keys to Freeze", a group traveling from Florida to Alaska to document important conservation work across the nation.



FOREST RECOVERY – 10 YEARS POST KATRINA

AN OVERVIEW OF ASSESSMENT AND RESTORATION EFFORTS

On Saturday, August 15, from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m., Woodlands Conservancy will host an overview and discussion of the history of the forested wetlands known as Woodlands Trail and Park Bird Sanctuary, the impacts on the forest from Hurricane Katrina and the systematic assessment and ecosystem restoration work to restore the forest's ability to provide habitat for wildlife and migratory birds and the hurricane protection qualities of one of the largest forested storm buffers between open water and the city of New Orleans. The discussion will be led by Dr. Sean Anderson, Associate Professor, Environmental Science and Resource Management, California State University Channel Islands and Katie Brasted, Executive Director of Woodlands Conservancy.

The interactive discussion will be held at the Daybrook Pavilion located at the entrance to Woodlands Trail. Following a presentation of the decade long ecosystem restoration and service learning work of Woodlands Conservancy and its partners, California State University Channel Islands and Oregon State University, a guided, interpretive hike through restoration areas will be held. The hike will include areas in which non-native, invasive vegetation has been successfully removed after multiple treatments and later reforested as well as areas that are still in the recovery process.

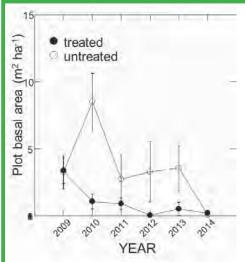


Fig. 2. Plot basal area of tallow in Woodlands Trail permanent plots. Treatments occurred between the 2009 and 2010 sample dates and again between 2010 and 2011 sample dates.

BCP SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT STUDENTS LEARN THROUGH HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES

Fourth grade students from Mary Beth Newchurch's Language and Social Studies class and Lisa Rodriguez's Science class at Belle Chasse Primary School hiked to Woodlands Trail to plant milkweed and seedlings to enhance the habitat for wildlife and migratory birds in their community. The students have been learning about their water-shed and growing and caring for the plants as part of a "Seeds to Saplings" service learning project.

The project was designed by Woodlands Conservancy and funded by grants from the Brown Foundation and Chevron Oronite. This is the second year Woodlands Conservancy has implemented the "Seeds to Saplings" project with fourth grade students at BCP.

Woodlands Conservancy plans to expand this work to additional classrooms during the 2015-2016 school year. As part of the Social Studies elements, the students invited their parents and local elected officials to attend the event. The effectiveness of their effort was rewarded by the attendance of several parents and local elected officials including President Amos Cormier, Council Chairman Benny Rousselle, Councilman Beau Black and Councilman Irvin Juneau.



WOODLANDS CONSERVANCY CONTRIBUTOR SPOTLIGHT

Thank you to those who have made contributions since our last newsletter publication. We deeply appreciate your support!

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