



WOODLANDS TRAIL AND PARK

a nonprofit 501-C-3 corporation

"Creating a Legacy" for future generations

Woodlands Trail and Park, Inc. was formed as a nonprofit, 501-C-3 corporation with the mission to "establish and embellish an educational, historical and recreational greenway within the Lower Coast Algiers and Belle Chasse areas."

www.woodlandstrail.com

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New Challenges - New Friends

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Woodlands Trail and Park, Inc.
4123 Woodland Drive
New Orleans, Louisiana 70131
or
106 Avenue G
Belle Chasse, Louisiana 70037

www.woodlandstrail.com
(504) 433-4000

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Mignon Faget Palmetto to Benefit Woodlands



Betsy Brien, ConocoPhillips, Mignon Faget, Katie Brasted, Carol Osborne Cowley pose with the design for the Palmetto jewelry at Our Lady of Holy Cross College on February 02, World Wetlands Day

Mignon Faget, a highly acclaimed New Orleans legend, well known for her jewelry collections inspired by the beauty and culture of New Orleans, Louisiana and the Gulf Coast has created the Palmetto to benefit Woodlands Trail and Park. Mignon Faget noted that it is the Palmetto or *Sabal Minor* that was chosen for the design as it is one of the most commonly seen plants in the understory of our precious bottomland hardwood forests. The jewelry, produced as a pendant and a lapel pin, was underwritten by ConocoPhillips, a long-time corporate sponsor of Woodlands Trail and Park and efforts in uniting

the river communities of Orleans and Plaquemines Parish with a series of educational, historical and recreational greenways.

Mignon Faget and Woodlands Trail and Park agreed that World Wetlands Day with a theme of "wetlands and water, supporting life - sustaining livelihoods" was the perfect occasion for announcing their partnership. With this, they agreed on the goal of releasing the Palmetto jewelry during America's Wetlands Month.

In the summer of 2005, Woodlands Trail and Park and Mignon Faget began discussing the concept of designing an adornment to bring attention to America's Wetland



Mignon Faget's Palmetto Sketch

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issues and benefit the efforts of Woodlands Trail and Park's regional greenway project. Following Hurricane Katrina, discussions from Mignon Faget's evacuated site in South Carolina and Brasted's evacuated site in Texas resulted in the Mignon Faget Palmetto design.

Celebration of America's Wetlands Month

On Wednesday, May 03, 2006, over sixty students, teachers and community citizens came to the Woodlands site to Celebrate America's Wetlands Month and the progress made in re-establishing trails.

The Woodlands group expressed appreciation to Instructor Tony Danos and his Alternative Classroom students who constructed the information Kiosk that is now posted at the entrance to the trail. The Kiosk will hold information and maps regarding the trail and upcoming activities.

Judy Jones and Patti Faulkner, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, presented "Natural Areas Registry" signs to be posted within the park. Ms. Jones noted that the signs are designed to promote preservation of habitat to help maintain and strengthen the species that depend upon it for survival. DWF presented a plaque to Plaquemines Parish President Benny Rousselle in gratitude for designating over 600-acres as "Woodlands Trail and Park Bird Sanctuary".

Jan Rice and her class of first graders from Belle Chasse Primary school hiked to the celebration and along the



Judy Jones and Patti Faulkner,
Natural Areas Registry Program

trails while having fun identifying plants and trees that are native to the bottomland hardwood forest.

The celebration of America's Wetlands Month culminated in Mignon Faget's presentation of the Palmetto jewelry to benefit Woodlands Trail and Park. Ms. Faget described the early historical use of the Palmetto to create thatch roofs and its other contributions to the early economy of Louisiana. Following the presentation, participants enjoyed a picnic lunch provided by Chevron Oronite, Oak Point Plant.



Plaquemines Parish Student, Randy
Rojas, makes finishing touches to
Kiosk for Woodlands Trail

Mignon Faget Palmetto



Sterling Silver Pendant



14K Gold Stud Pin

Sterling Silver Pendant	\$70 *
Sterling Silver Pin	75
14K Gold Pendant	430
14K Gold Pin	445

* does not include tax and shipping

Order online at:

www.woodlandstrail.com or

(504) 433-4000

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Students take note of native and invasive species during Celebration of America's Wetlands Month - Photo Courtesy of Plaquemines Gazette

Katrina Brings Multiple Challenges

Shortly after the public had first been given "a bird's eye view" of Woodlands Trail on National Trails Day, June 04, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Plaquemines Parish. Winds of 160 mph resulted in the falling of over 70% of the trees in the forested land dedicated to Woodlands Trail - America's Wetland Birding Trail.

Although one of our regions' last stands of bottomland hardwoods provided a significant wind protection to the surrounding residential and commercial properties, previously established trails became impassable and the grouping of ten WWII Ammunition Magazines, inaccessible.



Post-Katrina - Louisiana Hiking Club clears fallen trees blocking path leading to WWII Ammunition Magazines

Donations to re-establish and expand Woodlands Trail can be made by credit card at www.woodlandstrail.com or by postal service to:

Woodlands Trail and Park, Inc.
"Creating a Legacy"
Our Lady of Holy Cross College
4123 Woodland Drive
New Orleans, Louisiana 70131

(504) 433-4000 (Phone/Fax)
E-mail: woodlandstrail@aol.com

Join Woodlands Trail and Park in
"Creating a Legacy"
for future generations

ULL and Hiking Club Join Recovery Effort

In February, University of Louisiana instructor, Dr. Barbara Benson, chose the Woodlands site as a weekend work field trip for her students in Naturalist and Docent Practices. The students camped out over the weekend and began the task of climbing over and moving fallen trees and limbs to re-

mark trails. The Louisiana Hiking Club and area volunteers worked with the students to clear trees and debris as the trails were marked. The ULL students became so invested in the Woodlands effort, they unanimously voted to forego a trip planned to an established park, to return to Woodlands for a second weekend in March. Although not the typical trail maintenance activity of the Louisiana Hiking Club members, they also chose to return in March and help clear more trails.



Louisiana Hiking Club and University of Louisiana Lafayette Students in Naturalist and Docent Practices

Woodlands Receives National Award

Woodlands Trail and Park received a national honor with a grant from the Kodak American Greenways Awards Program in Arlington, Virginia. Funding from Kodak will help develop trails leading to a grouping of ten WWII Ammunition Magazines nestled in the bottomland hardwood forest in Belle Chasse. In addition to the grant award, Woodlands Trail and Park will be showcased as a national model for its innovative efforts to unite the river communities of Orleans and Plaquemines Parish with a series of educational, recreational and historical greenways.

New Challenges - New Friends

"Gumbo" Coalition

We are grateful to the "gumbo" of private citizens, corporations, interest groups and governmental entities that have made re-establishing trails possible.



Yellow-crowned Night Heron

Chevron Oronite, Oak Point Plant
ConocoPhillips Company
Home Depot, Stumpf Blvd.
Lowe's, Manhattan Blvd.
Louisiana Hiking Club
Meme's Café and Catering
Office Depot, Lapalco
Plaquemines Parish Government
Popeyes, Belle Chasse Hwy.
Print-All
University of Louisiana Lafayette

Woodlands Trail Classic - A Grand Success!

The misty morning fog did nothing to dampen the spirits or attendance at the first Woodlands Trail Classic - Fun Run and 5K family event held in Belle Chasse. Participants donned New Year's party hats, courtesy of Party City, and proceeded to "Laissez les Bon Temps Rouler" along the

Mighty Mississippi River. According to members of the New Orleans Track Club, the Woodlands race had record



attendance for a first time event. Thanks to Tulane University's generous agreement to allow Woodlands Trail and Park to utilize their property for the race, participants were able to have a glimpse of bottomland hardwoods and WWII Ammunition Magazines that are similar in characteristic to sites to be seen along the future Woodlands Trail route.

SAVE THE DATES

June 03, 2006 - National Trails Day
Woodlands Trail site. Presentations include "Leave No Trace" by Babs Evers and Master Educator Tom Rogers 11 a.m.

June 24, 2006 - Mignon Faget Palmetto jewelry will be available through Woodlands Trail and Park at www.woodlandstrail.com or (504) 433-4000

December 31, 2006 - Woodlands Trail Classic 5K & Fun Run, 8 a.m., Belle Chasse. Contact www.woodlandstrail.com or (504) 433-4000 for sign-up / sponsorship

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