

St. Bernard Parish Profile



Report to Stakeholders

February 2010

About the LSU AgCenter

The LSU AgCenter is dedicated to providing innovative research, information and education to improve people's lives. Working in a unique statewide network of parish extension offices, research stations and academic departments, the LSU AgCenter helps Louisiana citizens make the best use of natural resources, protect the environment, enhance agricultural enterprises and develop human and community resources.



Program Highlights

Agriculture & Natural Resources

St. Bernard Parish homeowners had their landscape, lawns and urban forestation totally destroyed by Katrina. In an effort to re-beautify and return to normal standard of living educational workshops, seminars, lectures, publications and meetings were provided. Areas of emphasis included timely economic, traditional, and environmentally beneficial plantings of lawns, trees, shrubs, and vegetable gardens. Ongoing projects include school landscaping parish wide tree plantings, and individual homeowner problems.

Sea Grant Marine Advisory Agent provided leadership to the MSC (Marine Stewardship Council) on seafood issues. When completed, the Louisiana Crab Industry, and all of its products, will be the only Gulf of Mexico product so certified. By the year 2012, major retailers, such as Wal-Mart, will only carry MSC certified products, thus giving Louisiana clear market advantage for its crab products.

4-H Youth Development

One of the key issues facing St. Bernard Parish is coastal restoration. Through a combined effort of St. Bernard Parish Government, the St. Bernard School Board, Chalmette High School, St. Bernard Parish Council and the LSU AgCenter we are trying to address this issue. This past year Councilman Fred Everhardt was able to secure a grant that brought 144,000 cypress seedlings into St. Bernard Parish @ the same time the 4-H program did a parish wide service project at each school which enabled us to purchase 10,500 seedlings and Parish Government received a grant for 35,000 seedlings. In cooperation with Mr. Wayne Warner Principal of Chalmette High School we have begun a long range restoration project. Students from the various biology classes have taken field trips from January through March to help plant Bald Cypress seedlings through out St. Bernard parish. Each time a field trip was taken the objective was to plant at least 500 seedlings. By the time the field trips were completed close to 500 hundred students had participated. These field trips were not only beneficial to the parish, but also gave our youth the opportunity to see what many others already know, that the need for further protection is paramount to St. Bernard.

Sixty-two teachers in St. Bernard schools participated in Youth Wetlands Week which the AgCenter started over 3 years ago to increase awareness of wetlands issues with youth. Teachers received a box of materials along with a binder of wetlands lesson plans. Targeting grades 4th through 12th reaching approximately 2,450 youth.

Another emphasis of the 4-H program has been afterschool enrichment. Currently, afterschool enrichment programs are being presented at five schools. Enrichment lessons have also been presented to students at Andrew Jackson summer camp. 4-H members past and present teach enrichment lessons to kindergarten students through 5th grader for four weeks.

Family & Consumer Sciences

The St. Bernard Parish Volunteers for Family and Community "LVFC" members work in cooperation with the LSU AgCenter. For 17 years, the Christmas Tour of Homes sponsored by LVFC raised over \$100,000 for 4-H, school system and other St. Bernard based charitable organizations. Since Hurricane Katrina the Christmas Tour of Homes has showcased how St. Bernard Parish is coming back. The members of LVFC have gotten the community involved through sponsorships and local Parish designers using their time and talent to decorate the homes in the tour. The St. Bernard Home Tour encouraged the rebuilding of neighborhoods and added to cultural resources and family activities.



St. Bernard Parish Extension Office

Address: 8201 W. Judge Perez
Chalmette, LA 70043

Phone: 504-278-4234

Fax: 504-278-4239

Email:

St. Bernard@agcenter.lsu.edu

Web site:

LSUAgCenter.com/Terrebonne

Office Hours:

8:00a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Wayne Burgess

Parish Chair

wburgess@agcenter.lsu.edu

Lauren Faust

4-H Agent

lfaust@agcenter.lsu.edu

Alan Vaughn

County Agent

avaughn@agcenter.lsu.edu

Albert P. "Rusty" Gaude

Sea Grant Marine Agent

agaude@agcenter.lsu.edu

Patricia A. Fleming

Administrative Assistant

pfleming@agcenter.lsu.edu

Programs

•4-H and Youth Development

•Agriculture & Natural Resources (ANR)

Horticulture/Lawns and Gardens

Pest Management

Fisheries/Wetlands

Coastal Restoration

•Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS)

Tour of Homes

Community Outreach

Who we reach.

6,656 - Youth (includes 454 4-H members & 13 school 4-H clubs)
 5,725 - Adults
 5,500 Ag & Natural Resources
 Family Consumer Sciences

How we reach them:

4-H clubs Summer Camp
 School Enrichment Demonstrations
 Field days Workshops
 Newsletters Afterschool Programs
 Publications

Expanding our efforts:

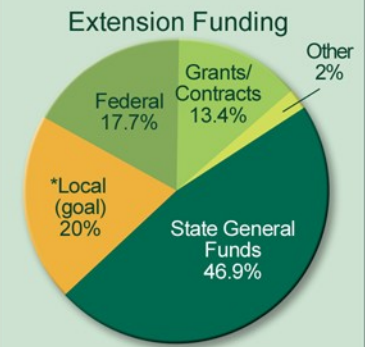
150 Volunteers -
 4-H, LFVC, Students who volunteer for Coastal Restoration

Parish Facts

LSU AgCenter County Agents provide research-based information on plant, aquaculture, wildlife and animal enterprises to St. Bernard Parish clientele. The 2008 total dollar amount from these commodities were:
 —Plant enterprises - \$205,300
 —Aquaculture and wildlife - \$13,467,022.
 —Animal enterprises - \$690,313.

Data from the Louisiana Ag Summary
Web site: LSUAgCenter.com/agsummary

Population - 37,722
 Land area (square miles) - 465.04
 Persons under 18 years old - 20.2%
 Persons 65 years old and over - 8.8%
 Median household income - \$33,093
 Persons below poverty - 18.9%



**Local Funding
 St. Bernard Parish Government
 St. Bernard Parish School Board*

How we are funded.

You are the local supporters and beneficiaries in the LSU AgCenter's Extension programs. Just 20 percent support keeps these programs in your community.

Your parish extension office offers programs in:

- Sustaining Louisiana's agriculture, forestry and fisheries.
- Building leaders and good citizens through 4-H youth development.
- Family, nutrition, health and community development to enhance the quality of life for Louisiana citizens.

Local Issues & Plans for this year.

1. Increase productivity and profitability of Louisiana Agriculture.

- Conduct educational lectures for hobby citrus growers/horticulture/fishermen
- Write news column, web page content, and seminars on agriculture practices
- Conduct farm and home educational visits

2. Promote the wise use of natural resources and protection of the environment.

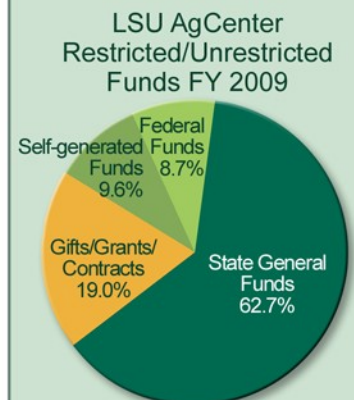
- Focus points of St. Bernard LSU/Sea Grant
- Hurricane recovery programs for commercial/recreational fishery sector
- Parish representative for Louisiana Crab Task Force and Louisiana Catfish Promotion and Research Board
- Recreational marine bait development for SE Louisiana
- Remote set facilities for enhanced oyster production in SE Louisiana
- LRA Task Force member for Gear and Technology program
- Advisory capacity to Parish President and Council members
- Sustainable use of Post -K resources by area citizens

3. Build strong leaders and good decision makers through 4-H Youth Development

- St. Bernard Parish Jr. Leader 4-H Club helps youth develop leadership and citizenship through service learning projects.
- Afterschool enrichment teaches teamwork and decision making skills to youth.
- Youth Wetlands Week helps youth gain an appreciation and knowledge about the importance of the wetlands in St. Bernard Parish.
- Youth have participated in service projects including cypress seedling plantings, marsh grass plantings and the building and placing of Wood Duck boxes.
- Students at four elementary schools learned about eating healthy and exercise by participating in Smart Bodies.

4. Strengthen individuals, families and communities through education, leadership and action

- Continue Community outreach
- Continue teaching defensive driving classes for seniors
- Help with youth development programming
- Continue volunteering efforts in St. Bernard Parish
- Continue LVFC Club programming



For the latest research-based information on just about anything, visit our Web site: LSUAgCenter.com