

# Trailblazer news

good for the land . . . good for the people

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## Trailblazer Provides Funding for New Community Project in Lincoln Parish

**Project Provides NE Louisiana With New Venue for Community Sports Development and Competition**

Archers will soon have an opportunity to sharpen their skills at a new 3D archery range in Lincoln Parish. The Lincoln Parish Police Jury has dedicated a 10-acre tract of land in the Lincoln Parish Park for the new range. Located north of Ruston on Highway 33, the Lincoln Parish Park will offer three-dimensional foam targets of most of the wild species native to our area to test the skills of recreational archers and provide bowhunters an opportunity to fine tune their bows in preparation for hunting season.

"The archery range is being made possible by a collaborative effort among the Lincoln Parish Police Jury, Trailblazer RC&D, corporate sponsorships, and individual donations," said Glenn Scriber, Lincoln Parish District 6 Police Juror. "Trailblazer RC&D committed foundation funding of \$8,000 to the archery range in support of development of a community-based, sustainable recreational opportunity for Lincoln Parish and the surrounding areas." Scriber represents the Lincoln Parish Police Jury on the Trailblazer Board of Directors.

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Dear Friends,  
I am very excited to share news with you this month of two new and exciting Trailblazer projects: the new Lincoln Parish 3D Archery Range and Trailblazer Tuesdays at the Lincoln Parish Library.

As you will read in this newsletter, the 3D archery range promises to be a huge economic and educational opportunity for Lincoln Parish and surrounding areas. We are very happy to be a part of this groundbreaking project. Our participation is made possible by support we receive from our partners and sponsors. Their investment in Trailblazer is an investment in your community.

We are blessed to have community support through the Lincoln Parish Library that will enable us to offer a series of after hours workshops. A wide range of topics will be discussed by a host of subject-matter experts. I hope to see you at the library on the first Tuesday of every month!

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,  
P. Ellzey Simmons  
Chief Executive Officer  
Trailblazer RC&D

## Upcoming Events

**5/7/21: Wildlife Forum/Field Day**  
Columbia, Louisiana, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Call LSU AgCenter at (318) 649-2663 to pre-register.

**5/14/21: Farm Pond Construction and Management Workshop with LDWF & NRCS; Red Oak Lake, Haughton, Louisiana - Call or text (318) 237-8350 to pre-register.**

## After Hours Community Workshops

**TRAILBLAZER**  
tuesdays

*at the Lincoln Parish Library*

BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
Lincoln Parish Police Jury  
Lincoln Parish Library  
Trailblazer RC&D

6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

First Tuesday of  
Every Month

No Cost to Attend

Timely Subjects

**Lincoln Parish Library**  
910 North Trenton Street  
Ruston, Louisiana  
First Tuesday of Every Month  
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

## TO REGISTER:

Call the  
Lincoln  
Parish  
Library at  
(318)  
251-5030

**FREE  
Registration**

**Outstanding  
Speakers**

## Tuesday, May 4, 2021

Working With Your Forestry  
Consultant with Tim Holland, Mudd  
and Holland Forestry Consultants

## Tuesday, June 1, 2021

Finding Rare Animals in Louisiana  
with Matt Courtman, Louisiana  
Outdoorsman

## Tuesday, July 6, 2021

Pollinators with Sabrina Claeys,  
Quail Forever

# Community

**SUPPORTING  
SUSTAINABLE  
COMMUNITIES**

Trailblazer Funding for Lincoln Parish Project, continued from Page 1



Image by Josef Lix from Pixabay

“Archery is a growing sport all across Louisiana,” said Bob Brotherton, President of the Trailblazer RC&D Board of Directors. “It is very popular in our public schools with students shooting in 4-H clubs and archery teams, and the Lincoln Parish range will be a tremendous benefit for Lincoln Parish and surrounding parishes.”

**Trailblazer’s funding for the Lincoln Parish Archery Range is made possible by funding from our sponsors and supporters.**

**Their investment in Trailblazer is an investment in your community.**

A typical archery range uses flat targets. A 3D archery range, such as the one being constructed in Lincoln Parish, uses three-dimensional animal targets to challenge archers at each station. 3D archery competitions attract thousands of archers in events across the nation.

Brotherton is also the District 1 Police Juror in Bossier Parish, and he shared that a similar range is being planned by the Bossier and Webster Parish Police Juries. “We are working with Camp Minden in Webster Parish to develop a 3D range there so we can host competitive events,” said Brotherton. “I went to Paris, Texas,

with representatives of the Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission to check out the venue for the 3D Archery Championships, and I saw 1,500-2,000 enthusiastic competitors shooting at 3D targets.”

In coming months, community organizations will work together with the Lincoln Parish Police Jury to put the finishing touches on the new archery range. It is anticipated the range will be open by September 1, if not sooner. Fees, hours of operation, and range rules are currently being finalized, and will be made available when the range opens. The Lincoln Parish 3D Archery Range will be maintained by the Lincoln Parish Police Jury, a board consisting of Police Jury members and area citizens, along with input from the Lincoln Parish Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Committee. If you have any questions about the new Lincoln Parish 3D Archery Range or you would like to discuss sponsorship opportunities, contact Glenn Scriber at (318) 680-4658.

## Archery in Louisiana Schools

The Archery in Louisiana Schools (ALAS) program is an affiliate of the National Archery in the Schools program (NASP) and is sponsored in Louisiana by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF). This program introduces students in grades 4-12 to international target style archery. It is taught as part of the school’s curriculum, usually during physical education classes. Students who attend a school that participates in the ALAS program are eligible to compete in ALAS and NASP sanctioned competitions. If you are interested in having the ALAS program available to your children, please contact the LDWF ALAS State Coordinator Chad Moore at (318) 371-3043, ext. 3503, or [cmoore@wlf.la.gov](mailto:cmoore@wlf.la.gov). For more information visit: [www.wlf.louisiana.gov/page/alas](http://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/page/alas).



## Large Audience in Ruston for April 6 All About Hummingbirds Workshop

Fifty-one people attended Trailblazer RC&D’s “All About Hummingbirds” workshop on April 6, 2021, at the Lincoln Parish Library in Ruston, Louisiana. Presenters shared information on how to attract hummingbirds to your yard, hummingbird migration patterns and habitat, feeders, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service technical and financial assistance, and much more. Participants especially enjoyed Ancie Parkman’s presentation and tips on flowers and hummingbirds. This workshop was made possible by the support of ENABLE Midstream Partners; Mudd & Holland Consulting Foresters, LLC; Burnham Construction, Inc.; Lincoln Parish Police Jury; Lincoln Parish Library, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service; and Trailblazer RC&D.

# Conservation CONVERSATION

## POORLY MANAGED Forest Roads ARE DETRIMENTAL TO WATER QUALITY

Forest roads are a necessary part of managing a forest. They are used for planting, harvesting, managing the timber, fire protection, recreation, basically, all access to the land. Forest roads can be temporary and used only to accomplish a specific project or permanent with a gravel surface for year-round use. Whatever the design or use, a poorly constructed or poorly maintained forest road can be the largest source of nonpoint source pollution. Implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) on your forest roads can save you from expensive erosion repairs and degraded water quality.



Ben Jackson, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org

### Examples of Permanent Forest Road Best Management Practices

| Location and Planning  | Construction  | Drainage  | Water Crossings   | Maintenance   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| Use of tools such as soil surveys, topographic maps, and aerial photographs can help achieve the most practical road construction results. | Road bank slopes should be 2:1 ratio. Seeding, mulching, or other stabilizing means should be used to reduce the potential for erosion. | Ensure that culverts, water turnouts, and broad-based dips empty road runoff onto the undisturbed forest floor. | Excess material and woody debris from road construction should be cleared from streams and drainage ways. | Ditches, wing ditches, and culverts should be kept free of logging debris or other obstructions to allow unrestricted passage of water. |

**From:** A guidebook of BMPs Recommended for Louisiana Timber Producers. This guidebook was created through a partnership effort of the Louisiana Forestry Association, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, and Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry. It can be found online at: <http://www.ldaf.state.la.us/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/BMP.pdf>.

To learn more about how forestry BMPs can improve your forestland, contact your local office of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. A conservationist will work with you to develop a forest management plan that will help you meet your goals for your land.



Doug Page, USFS / BLM, Bugwood.org



Brett Mann

### Behind the Scenes HERO

This is Brett Mann of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Brett is the person behind the scenes who puts together a lot of the NRCS resource materials that are distributed at Trailblazer outreach meetings. We appreciate Brett's hard work and thank him for his service!



NEW VIDEO  
**Resources**

**Trailblazer's YouTube channel offers something for everyone!**

Scan this QR code with your Smartphone to visit Trailblazer's YouTube channel!



Farmers and ranchers know that developing a wildlife habitat on their land is beneficial to the health of their land. The same wildlife habitat development principles that farmers and ranchers use can be followed in your backyard. This short video introduces you to common conservation practices for your farm, ranch, and backyard and provides information on how to get financial and technical assistance from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

To view, go to: <https://youtu.be/mXZuCj52iw4>



A Forestry 101 for Landowners workshop was offered by Trailblazer in 2020 for forest landowners to provide information on how to make their woodlands healthier, more profitable, and sustainable. These videos are excerpts from this workshop. They feature Dr. Rick Williams, State Forester for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, discussing wind and weather damage to timber and forestry best management practices.

To view, go to: <https://youtu.be/8bq285KoVT0> and . . . [https://youtu.be/fM\\_Qx\\_3zvt0](https://youtu.be/fM_Qx_3zvt0)

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCGghA8uiafntp92cYXWI5nw](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGghA8uiafntp92cYXWI5nw)  
[www.trailblazer.org/video-gallery](http://www.trailblazer.org/video-gallery)



Other videos available on Trailblazer's YouTube channel include:

- Estate Planning
- Web Soil Survey
- Forest Soil Health
- Wildlife Food Plots
- Farm and Ranch Pond Construction and Management
- Wildlife Habitat Development and Conservation Stewardship Program

**Subscribe to our channel today!**

**Subscribe to our YouTube channel today and don't miss a video!**

A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA!

# Lagniappe

SUPPORT OUR FARMERS  
BUY LOCAL FARM-FRESH FOOD!

## Are you interested in finding a source of locally grown, farm-fresh food?

As part of their online Coronavirus Information Center, the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and forestry collaborated with the LSU AgCenter to offer a web-based directory of Louisiana farms selling directly to consumers.

Check out the directory at:

<https://www.ladaf.state.la.us/covid-19/>

Just click on "LA Farm Food Map and Directory" and select your region. You might be surprised to find a farmer in your area selling fresh vegetables, grass-fed beef, eggs, fruit, or dairy!



USDA NRCS

**The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** provides America's farmers and ranchers financial and technical assistance to voluntarily put conservation on the ground.

### NRCS COVID Precautions

Due to current COVID-19 conditions, NRCS staff are working with customers through phone, mail and online communications. Field work continues with appropriate social distancing to help producers with conservation planning and financial assistance through Farm Bill programs.

#### NRCS Local Contacts:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Bienville Parish:</b><br>(318) 377-3950, ext. 3           | <b>Jackson/Lincoln Parishes:</b><br>(318) 255-3136, ext. 3 |
| <b>Bossier Parish:</b><br>(318) 872-4949                     | <b>Union Parish:</b><br>(318) 368-8021                     |
| <b>Claiborne/Webster Parishes:</b><br>(318) 377-3950, ext. 3 | <b>Winn Parish:</b><br>(318) 357-8366, ext. 3              |

### NRCS Online Services Available with eAuth Account

All USDA Service Centers, including those with NRCS field offices, are not currently accessible to customers in person. Online services are available to customers with an eAuth account, which provides access to the farmers.gov offsite link where producers can view USDA farm loan information and payments and view and track certain USDA program applications and

payments. Customers who do not already have an eAuth account can enroll at [farmers.gov/sign-in](https://farmers.gov/sign-in). Online NRCS services are available to customers through the Conservation Client Gateway link which can be found at [www.nrcs.usda.gov](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov). Customers can track payments, report completed practices, request conservation assistance and electronically sign documents.

**Not sure who to contact? Get in touch with Trailblazer RC&D at [ceo@trailblazer.org](mailto:ceo@trailblazer.org), and we will put you in touch with the right people to address your resource concern.**

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# MANY THANKS TO OUR Sponsors PARTNERS AND FRIENDS



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CONSULTING FORESTERS, LLC  
Tim Holland (318) 286-2802



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**United States Department of Agriculture**

Natural Resources Conservation Service



**SOUTHERN PINE**



*Friends of Trailblazer*  
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries  
LSU AgCenter  
Claiborne Parish Library  
USDA APHIS  
Minden Farm and Garden



BIENVILLE PARISH POLICE JURY



BOSSIER PARISH POLICE JURY



CLAIBORNE PARISH POLICE JURY



LINCOLN PARISH POLICE JURY



UNION PARISH POLICE JURY



WEBSTER PARISH POLICE JURY



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“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.”

Psalm 19:1  
New International Version  
(NIV)



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Call before you dig.**

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