

Trailblazer news

Volume 12 • Issue 10 • October 2022

good for the land . . . good for the people



Sept 6



Sept 6



Sept 8



Sept 29



Sept 29



Sept 13



Sept 12

Dear Friends,
From food plots and whitetail deer to honey bees, Trailblazer's September audiences enjoyed a wide range of timely topics. In October, Trailblazer keeps delivering great information—featuring DUCKS and TIMBER—and special presenters. Check out the dates and register to attend!

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

*Get Well Wishes
To Our Friend
Bob Brotherton*

*May the Lord
watch over you
and strengthen
you as you
recover!*

Get well soon!

September 2022 Workshop Update

**Value Added
Bee Products**
Sept 6, 2022
Ruston, LA

**Fall Food
Plots**
Sept 8, 2022
Winnfield

**Whitetail
Deer
Management**
Sept 12, 2022
Homer

**Whitetail
Deer
Management**
Sept 13, 2022
Bossier City

**Chronic
Wasting
Disease
Update**
Sept 29, 2022
Monroe

WORKSHOPS

5

ATTENDEES

115

RATINGS

88%
OUTSTANDING

SPONSORS

22



WHAT DID YOU LIKE THE MOST?

Great explanations of different products.

Food plot fertilization and seed type.

Land management, crops for deer.

Incredibly
informational
and thorough.

Statistics represent a total or average for the five September workshops.

UPCOMING TRAILBLAZER EVENTS

October 4 - 6 p.m.
**Waterfowl Habitat: Where
are the Ducks with
Jim Ronquest**
VP of Development Drake
Waterfowl - Lincoln Parish
Library - Ruston, LA

October 7 - 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Forestry Wildlife Field Day
Red Oak Lake
Potter Road
Haughton, LA
Lunch Provided

October 11 - 6 p.m.
**10 Timely Timber Tips With
Ricky Kilpatrick**
Bossier Parish Libraries
History Center
Bossier City, LA

October 14 - 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Forestry Wildlife Field Day
Brooks Road
Choudrant, LA
Lunch Provided

TO REGISTER FOR THESE EVENTS: Call or text (318) 237-8350.

Community Please join us in October!

October Workshops/Field Days

WATERFOWL HABITAT
Where are the ducks?
WORKSHOP

Featuring
Jim Ronquest
VP of Development at
Drake Waterfowl
Former RNT-V Co-Host & Producer

OCT 4
2022

Lincoln Parish Library
910 North Trenton Street
Ruston, Louisiana
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Join us at 5:00 p.m. for gumbo!

FORESTRY WILDLIFE
field days

Featuring
Forest
Management
for Wildlife

HAUGHTON
October 7, 2022
Red Oak Lake
1495 Potter Road
Haughton, Louisiana
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Lunch Provided

CHOUDRANT
October 14, 2022
232 Brooks Road
Choudrant, Louisiana
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Lunch Provided

10 TIMELY
TIMBER
TIPS
WORKSHOP

October 11, 2022
Bossier Parish Libraries
History Center
2206 Beckett Street
Bossier City, Louisiana
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Join us at 5:30 p.m.
for refreshments!

With
Ricky Kilpatrick
Timber Expert
Retired
Area Forestry Agent
LSU AgCenter
Extension Service

FREE
Registration

**Call today to
register for
these events!**

**Call or text
(318) 237-8350**

Trailblazer RC&D workshops are offered free of charge because of the support of our great sponsors and partners! October sponsors:

- Energy Transfer
- Hunt Forest Products, LLC
- Mudd & Holland Consulting Foresters, LLC
- Weyerhaeuser
- Allstate Land & Timber Co., Inc.
- National Wild Turkey Federation
- Burnham Construction
- Canfor Southern Pine
- Louisiana Forestry Association
- Lincoln Parish Police Jury
- Bossier Parish Police Jury
- Bossier Parish Libraries
- Progressive Bank
- LSU AgCenter
- D'Arbonne Soil and Water Conservation District
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



FOREST PRODUCTS, L.L.C.

Family-owned and -operated since 1978, Hunt Forest Products LLC is a full-service wood products company committed to sound forestry management.

We are grateful for Hunt Forest Products' continued support of Trailblazer RC&D initiatives! Their support enables us to serve our community with quality conservation education workshops and field days.

To learn more about their products, visit www.huntforpro.com

Persons with disabilities who anticipate needing reasonable accommodations or who have questions about physical access may contact Trailblazer RC&D at (318) 237-8350 or ceo@trailblazer.org prior to the meeting or event.

Trailblazer RC&D events are conducted in accordance with Louisiana Department of Health COVID-19 guidelines. If you are not feeling well or you have been exposed to COVID-19, please stay home.

Please check our website for a complete listing of events. Hope to see you in October!

www.trailblazer.org

TO REGISTER FOR THESE EVENTS: Call or text (318) 237-8350.

Conservation Conversation

For workshops on soil health and nutrient management, check Trailblazer RC&D's events calendar at: www.trailblazer.org

Nutrient Management

Nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium are essential plant nutrients. Whether you are a farmer growing hundreds of acres of crops or livestock—producing food, fiber, and fuel for our nation—or you are a backyard gardener growing vegetables or caring for your lawn, nutrient management is essential for success.

While nutrients are necessary for plant development and growth, over application of nutrients can be harmful to the environment. In

addition, fertilizer costs are rising at alarming rates, and over application can result costly losses to the farmer or gardener. Best nutrient management practices can help farmers and gardeners achieve efficient and effective use of nutrients. Practices as simple as choosing the right fertilizer product and applying the right amount at the right time can make a big difference in reducing nutrient losses.

If you are an agricultural producer and you are interested in learning

more about nutrient management and soil health or developing a nutrient management plan, contact your local office of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Their services are free, and nutrient management can improve soil health and lower business costs.

If you are a gardener and you are interested in learning more about using fertilizers in your garden or on your lawn, contact your local Cooperative Extension Service to discuss soil testing.

Best Nutrient Management Practices

Efficient use of nutrients can be achieved by the adoption of best nutrient management practices.

RIGHT AMOUNT

RIGHT SOURCE

RIGHT PLACEMENT

RIGHT TIMING

Budget, supply, and conserve nutrients for plant production.

For more information on nutrient management, see USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Conservation Practice Standard 590 at https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1046433.pdf

Commercial fertilizers are a major source of nutrients for farmers and gardeners alike; however, animal manure and other organic materials are also sources for nutrients for plants.

Learn more about nutrient sources in NRCS Conservation Practice Standard 590.



The potential net savings to farmers who adopt a nutrient management plan is estimated to be an average of \$30 per acre for cropland.

From: USDA Announces New Opportunities to Improve Nutrient Management, <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/la/newsroom/releases/?cid=NRCSEPRD1949625>

NRCS: New Funding for Nutrient Management

The Inflation Reduction Act included new conservation funding to support climate-smart agriculture. This funding will provide opportunities for agricultural producers to improve nutrient management.

Using this funding, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will incentivize nutrient management activities through key conservation programs, including the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and the Conservation Stewardship Program

(CSP) and expand nutrient management support through technical service providers.

This is part of USDA's broader effort to address future fertilizer availability and cost challenges for U.S. producers.

Contact NRCS at your local USDA Service Center to learn how NRCS can help you with nutrient management.

See local NRCS contacts on page 5.

News

Events, happenings, and milestones

NEWS FROM LDAF

LDAF announces Apprenticeship Project for Growing New Beekeepers in Louisiana

The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) is offering an opportunity for beekeeping apprenticeship projects to high school agriculture students.



Through the Apprenticeship Project for Growing New Beekeepers in Louisiana, LDAF will sponsor five high school agriculture programs and/or educators with up to \$10,000 in beehive and beekeeping resources to establish, with the help of students, an apiary (bee yard) of up to eight beehives at their schools.



This program is designed to address the loss of small producer-operated beehives in Louisiana due to beekeeper aging and the need for a new generation of beekeepers to maintain the industry, as well as benefit overall specialty crop production in Louisiana.

The window to apply is October 1 through October 22, 2022. Application information is available on the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry's (LDAF) website at <https://www.ldaf.state.la.us/apprenticeship-project-for-growing-new-beekeepers-in-louisiana/>.

For questions regarding the program or application, please contact Mark Earl at 318-487-5089 or mearl@ldaf.state.la.us.

NEWS FROM LDWF

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in Whitetail Deer

Franklin, Madison and Tensas Parishes CWD Control Area Regulations for the 2022-23 Deer Season

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has adopted regulations for the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Control Area in northeast Louisiana. The current CWD Control Area includes all of Tensas Parish and portions of Madison and Franklin parishes.

The regulations are intended to reduce further spread of the disease. The regulations are in response to a CWD positive detection on Jan. 28, 2022 of an adult buck harvested in Tensas Parish. CWD is a neurodegenerative disease of white-tailed deer and other members of the deer family. The disease is infectious, always fatal, and has no known treatment.

The disease can be transmitted from live deer, deer carcasses or other environmental sources such as plants or soil contaminated from exposure to CWD positive deer or deer carcasses. To learn more about CWD and complete regulations, go to: <https://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/page/cwd>

For more information, contact LDWF Deer Program Manager Johnathan Bordelon at jbordelon@wlf.la.gov.



Here is a summary of CWD Control Area regulations:

- All supplemental feeding, including mineral or salt licks, is prohibited within the Franklin, Madison and Tensas Parishes CWD Control Area. The purpose of this feeding ban is to reduce the potential for the spread of CWD through artificial congregation of deer at bait sites.
- The use of approved bait not normally ingested by deer for feral hog trapping will be allowed.
- The export of cervids, cervid carcasses or parts of cervid carcasses originating within the Franklin, Madison and Tensas Parish CWD Control Area is prohibited, except for: meat that is cut and wrapped; meat that has been boned out; quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached, antlers, clean skull plates with antlers, cleaned skulls without tissue attached, capes, tanned hides, finished taxidermy mounts and cleaned cervid teeth.
- Export exceptions for taxidermy, which require a permit, have been established. The deer head waiver permit must be completed before moving the deer head outside of the CWD Control Area to a taxidermy business. The permit is available on the LDWF CWD webpage (link above). Additional taxidermy waiver instructions on transport and disposal are available by visiting <https://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/assets/Hunting/Deer/Files/Taxidermy-waiver-instructions-CWD-Control-Area.pdf>

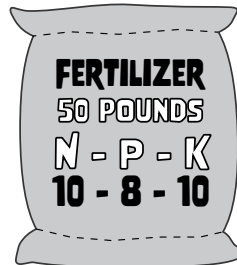
Food for Thought

Information worth pondering

Exactly how much fertilizer is in that bag?

Often referred to as NPK (Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium), bags of fertilizer available at a farm or garden store offer options such as 10-10-10, 20-20-20, 10-8-10, or any number of combinations of numbers.

These numbers represent the percentage of each nutrient in the bag of fertilizer.



(see video below)



50 pound bag of 10-8-10 contains 14 pounds of fertilizer (nutrients) and 36 pounds of filler

Let's break down a 50-pound bag of 10-8-10 (NPK)

N – Nitrogen

Multiply 50 (pounds) by .10 (ten percent) = 5 pounds of Nitrogen

P – Phosphorus

Multiply 50 (pounds) by .08 (eight percent) = 4 pounds of Phosphorus

K – Potassium

Multiply 50 (pounds) by .10 (ten percent) = 5 pounds of Potassium

YouTube FANTASTIC TRAILBLAZER Fall Wildlife Food Plot Series!

1. **Soil Testing**
<https://youtu.be/SWo5yGiv6lo>
2. **pH and Fertilizer**
<https://youtu.be/mH8jlhjGJb0>
3. **Web Soil Survey**
<https://youtu.be/eCNFFCXypMg>
4. **Food Plot Size**
https://youtu.be/oJxHe_SNxho
5. **Location Considerations**
<https://youtu.be/GePTMLTCbG4>
6. **Plants - Cereal Grains**
<https://youtu.be/nDCQIYhyu-U>
7. **Plants - Clovers**
<https://youtu.be/ITq8lcBxmt8>
8. **Plants - Brassicas/Winter Peas**
<https://youtu.be/mPbS2Q5AhqE>

Learn more about fertilizers and soil pH on this video!

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

provides America's farmers and ranchers financial and technical assistance to voluntarily put conservation on the ground. If you are interested in learning more about NRCS opportunities, contact your local field office or go to **www.nrcs.usda.gov**.

NRCS Local Contacts:

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

Unsure who to call? Contact Trailblazer RC&D at (318) 237-8350, and we will put you in touch with the right people.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English. To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Partners & Friends

Thank you for your support!



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



Natural Resources Conservation Service



FRIENDS

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

LSU AgCenter

Claiborne Parish Library

Village of Athens

USDA APHIS

Lincoln Parish Library

Bossier Parish Library

Webster Parish Library

Paul D. Spillers

Thank You!
for your support



302 REYNOLDS DRIVE
RUSTON, LOUISIANA 71270
(318) 255-3554
ceo@trailblazer.org

"My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."
Psalms 73:26
New International Version (NIV)



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

811 is the national call-before-you-dig phone number. You should call a few business days before you begin any digging, including common projects like planting trees and shrubs or installing fences and mailboxes.

Check us out on YouTube!

