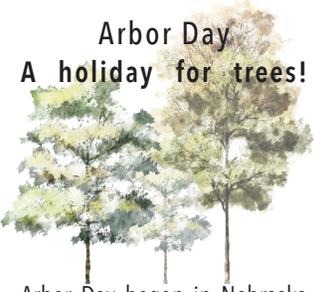




Arbor Day A holiday for trees!



Arbor Day began in Nebraska with pioneer and nature enthusiast J. Sterling Morton. Morton was an advocate for planting trees and encouraged others to plant trees, as well. In 1872, the tree-planting holiday was proposed, and it is estimated that on April 10, 1872, over 1 million trees were planted in Nebraska! Arbor Day was officially proclaimed a legal holiday in Nebraska on April 22, which was Morton's birthday. Today, Arbor Day is celebrated nationally on the last Friday in April, but many states observe Arbor Day on different dates according to the best tree planting conditions in their area. For Louisiana, Arbor Day is celebrated on the third Friday in January.

Organize a tree identification hike or a "biggest tree" or "oldest tree" search in your community, choose a public park to clean up, volunteer with a local tree planting organization like the Lafayette Garden Club, or plant a single tree to celebrate Arbor Day.

Visit ArborDay.org for more detailed information on ways to get involved!



Food Recovery Network First pick-up for UL

On December 14, the Office of Community Service along with the Office of Sustainability completed the University's first food recovery! Food Recovery Network is a 501©3 non-profit organization whose mission is to unite students at colleges and universities to fight food waste and hunger by recovering surplus food from their campuses and surrounding communities that would otherwise go to waste and donating it to people in need.

This organization encourages students to do most, if not all, the work to organize food recovery projects. The Office of Community Service has volunteered to spearhead this initiative. In order to complete the first food recovery, UL's food supplier, Sodexo, was chosen as the food donor. On campus, we serve over _ people, and with an operation this size, leftover food is inevitable. Thanks to Food Recovery Network, Sodexo, and the Office of Community Service, a total of 380 lbs. of food was donated to Second Harvest Food Bank. Instead of 380 lbs. of food going to the waste stream, it will now be distributed throughout southwest Louisiana through Second Harvest.

Second Harvest is a food bank that provides food to 582 partners and programs across 23 parishes in Louisiana. Together, they make up the largest anti-hunger network in the state.

According to the Food Recovery Network, 1 in 7 households in the United States suffers from food insecurity while 40% of our food is wasted.

If you or someone you know may be interested in becoming part of UL's Food Recovery Network, contact Dylan Harrell, graduate assistant for the Office of Community Service at dylanharrell93@gmail.com.



New Graduate Degree!

Get a Master's Degree in Environmental Resource Science

Last month, the Louisiana Board of Regents approved the University's new degree program that offers a Master's degree in environmental resource science!

"This interdisciplinary degree program complements the discipline-specific graduate programs offered in the Ray P. Authement College of Sciences and is slated to begin in August 2017," said Dr. Azmy S. Ackleh, dean of that college. It will be available through UL Lafayette's School of Geosciences.

The new graduate program will produce highly trained environmental scientists who will address challenges primarily related to water and soil resources. Its focus is strategic for

What's inside:

Food Recovery Network 2017

Arbor Day 2017

New Environmental Resource Science Graduate Degree

Volunteer: Your New Year's Resolution

Bag It! Is your life too plastic?

Tip of the Month

Make a commitment to carpool with friends, coworkers, or classmates this semester! Not only will you save money on parking, car maintenance and gas, you will reduce your carbon footprint, improve air quality, and help decrease traffic congestion!

Some not-so-obvious benefits include...
-making new friends
-gaining usable commuting time to study, check email, etc.
-getting time to vent before getting home (what's said in carpool, stays in carpool!)



University Sustainability Plan 2016-2020

Good news! The University's first Sustainability Plan will be published this semester!

The purpose of the Sustainability Plan is to allow us, as a University, to reach sustainability-related goals by following specific objectives outlined in the Plan. The Plan is separated into four categories:

- Campus as a Living Lab
- Operations
- Academics and Research
- Engagement

Within each category are subcategories that cover all operations within the University. Collaboration among all departments, offices, and colleges is needed to reach our sustainability goals. By holding ourselves accountable for our environmental impact and pledging to reduce that impact, we can make a big difference on campus and within our community!

Once the Plan is published, take the time to look through it to see if you can make changes according to the objectives not only on campus, but also in your own home!

Louisiana and aligned with the state's workforce needs.

Dr. David Borrok, director of the School of Geosciences, noted that "Louisiana's core economic sectors are direct reflections of the natural resources available in our state, and some of our most critical resources are water and soil."

Dr. Durga Poudel, a professor in the School of Geosciences, noted that "our Gulf Coast setting in the hub city of Louisiana is the perfect location to study water and soil resources. With a strong agricultural industry, the petroleum industry, and the fact that our state hosts 40 percent of the nation's freshwater wetlands, there is no shortage of local research and career opportunities in environmental science."

According to the School of Geosciences, their goal is to educate and prepare students for a career in which they investigate, characterize and manage those water and soil resources responsibly and effectively.

If you or someone you know is interested in this exciting new degree, visit the University News page for the full story, or go to geosciences.louisiana.edu for more information about the application process and admission requirements.

Add 'Volunteer' to Your New Year's Resolutions! Commit your time to serving others

Improve your New Year's resolutions this year by adding a 'Volunteer' objective! Not only will you benefit from volunteering your time and efforts, you will be helping others in need. Volunteering can push you out of your comfort zone. It can introduce you to new people or places and open new doors of opportunity. Take the time to improve your community and to possibly make a difference in someone else's life by getting involved in service projects, whether it is through a community organization or through a service program here at UL.

Some service projects happening this semester at UL are:

Food Recovery Network	Office of Community Service
Fête de la Terre, an Earth Day celebration	Office of Sustainability
Campus Clean Up (April 8)	Student Government Association

Service-based clubs on campus to join are:

AmeriCorps	Office of Community Service
Circle K International	ULLafayetteCKI@gmail.com
Habitat for Humanity - UL	Office of Community Service
Students for Sustainability	Office of Sustainability

Although these clubs are centered around service, there are benefits to joining almost any club on campus, because most clubs require service hours and either organize their own service projects or get involved in community or campus service initiatives.

UL partners with many organizations within our community, such as:

- Keep Louisiana Beautiful
- Project Front Yard
- Bayou Vermilion District
- TECHE Project
- Healing House

Local Farmers Markets

Lafayette Farmers & Artisans Market at The Horse Farm
Every Wednesday 4:00 pm-7:00 pm;
Every Saturday 8:00 am-noon

Lafayette Hub City Farmers Market
Oil Center (427 Heyman St. across from Champagne's)
Every Saturday 8:00 am-noon

Arts Weekend
Local artists join the Hub City Farmers Market
1st & 3rd Saturday of each month



E-Cycling Reminder

If your office or department has empty ink cartridges or toner cartridges that need to be recycled, fill out our web form online that can be found on our webpage, sustainability.louisiana.edu in the 'Find it Fast' menu. We will pick up the items from you as soon as possible!

[r] E - CYCLE
electronic recycling



Single-stream Recycling on Campus

We have been working to get the recycling systems operating smoothly in every building on campus. To maintain efficiency, we have collaborated with custodial staff and department heads to understand how recycling works in each building and where improvements can be made. Contact us with any comments or questions you may have regarding the recycling system in your building, and thanks again for your participation in our Zero Waste initiative!

zero
waste

Reminder
Keep up to date by following us on **Facebook** (University of Louisiana at Lafayette Office of Sustainability), **Pinterest** (UL Office of Sustainability), and **Instagram** (ul_sustainability)!



Hosted at Vermilionville by filmmakers and enthusiasts on the last Monday of each month is a FREE cultural film series, *Les Vues*, that showcases various themes surrounding different aspects of culture! Screenings will include features, documentaries, student film, shorts, animation, etc., and following each screening will be an open discussion between the audience and curator relating to the themes of the screening.

We are especially excited about this month's film, *Bag It*, a film by Suzan Beraza's, curated by Amanda Waddle and Bayou Vermilion District Commissioner Catherine Schoeffler Comeaux of No Waste Louisiana! This film offers an entertaining look at plastic and attempts to persuade viewers to live a less-plastic lifestyle.

Synopsis:

"Try going a day without plastic. Plastic is everywhere and infiltrates our lives in unimaginable and frightening ways. In this touching and often flat-out-funny film, we follow "everyman" Jeb Berrier, who is admittedly not a tree hugger, as he embarks on a global tour to unravel the complexities of our plastic world. What starts as a film about plastic bags evolves into a wholesale investigation into plastic and its affect on our waterways, oceans, and even our own bodies. We see how our crazy-for-plastic world has finally caught up to us and what we can do about it. Today. Right now."

In addition to meaningful discussion, viewers can look forward to door prizes, reusable shopping bag swap (bring extra reusable bags you may have at home), free food and drinks, but make sure to bring your own cup, as this is a Zero Waste event! Admission is free, but a suggested \$5 donation will go toward the cost of screening and curating costs for the series.



bag it is your life too plastic?

For more information, visit Les Vues Free Film Series: Bag It FaceBook page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1220498841367493/>.

Photo credit: BagItMovie.com



Bag It!

Is your life too plastic?

Got an Idea?

Great ideas come from everywhere, and we would love to hear yours!

Please share it with us!
Just email us at sustainability@louisiana.edu

Stay Connected

Be sure to use our website [sustainability.louisiana.edu] as one of your sustainability resources! There, you'll find UL news, planning and progress updates, green guides, links to environmental footprint calculators, transportation information, and ways to get involved around campus and in the community!

Some programs we offer on campus include E-Cycle, Single-stream recycling, and S.W.A.P Shop for faculty and staff.

Feel free to contact us with questions or comments!

sustainability@louisiana.edu email
337.482-0054 phone



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Sustainability