



Volume 3, Issue 5

May 7, 2013

### Events on the horizon:

- May 2, 3** Claiborne Parish Water Fest @ Claib. State Park
- May 6** WQ Presentations @ Jackson 4H Achievement Day
- May 16** BTF Meeting @ 10:15 am
- May 23** Community Meeting w/ Chesapeake, Ringgold 7:00
- June 29** Landowner's Workshop with Paul Spillers (tba)

HAVE A PROJECT IDEA ?

**WE WANT TO HEAR IT!**

PH 318. 255-3554

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# TRAILBLAZER NEWS

## Entrepreneurial Training Held In Minden

The workshop was held at the Webster Parish Library in Minden, La.

Attendees each received an entrepreneurial information packet containing two example business plans, power point lesson (from presentation), owner's checklist for starting a new business, and various other useful handouts to assist new entrepreneurs.

The presentation consisted of information on the Trailblazer Entrepreneurial Program, statistics about business failures, what it takes to be an entrepreneur, myths about running your own business, business plans, key questions to ask one's self about starting a new business, different types of business, sources of financing and sources of assistance in getting businesses started.

There was also time for discussion and questions at the end. One of the participants has a small scale home improvement business that he is looking to expand; he had a questions about getting and LLC license. Other participants simply had business ideas but have not yet begun their ventures.

### Workshop Evaluation Results

*At the end all participants filled out an evaluation survey and these are the results:*

- Did the presentation meet your expectations? 1 "good", 2 "very good" and 1 "excellent"
- How well did presenters interact with the group? 4 "excellent"
- Please rate the overall experience: 2 "very good", and 2 "excellent"

### What did you like most:

- There is a lot of helpful information
- The handouts and websites
- Take time to answer all questions
- The different websites to look up for information

### What did you like least:

- Not enough information on pros and cons of the different types of businesses
- Handout small print
- Everything was good

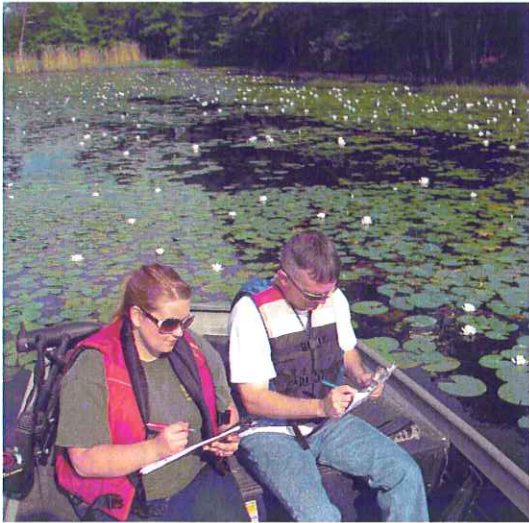
### Other Comments:

- Need a follow up class with more information



Participant filling out sign in sheet.

## Caney Lake Boat Tour Conducted



Ellzey Simmons & Olivia Ward took Greg Waldron, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, out on Caney Lake to observe the watershed.



The May 3rd visit to the CLI greenhouses proved very informative for the BTF team.

## Bistineau Task Force

Here are some BTF news briefs:

- ★ The next BTF meeting is scheduled for May 16th at 10:15 am at the Webster Parish Courthouse in Minden.
- ★ A future BTF meeting is being planned for Ringgold.
- ★ New projects are on the horizon in cooperation with the Caddo Lake Institute.
- ★ We are told "*The Weevil release is very effective at Caddo Lake*".
- ★ A special meeting is being scheduled with Lee Esienberg, Texas A & M, regarding weevil research.
- ★ The USDA-Agricultural Research Service has agreed to research new biological controls of Giant Salvinia.
- ★ The BTF Action plan is being revised. Submit your "action items" now!
- ★ The Bienville, Bossier, and Webster parish police juries are tremendous supporters of the BTF.
- ★ You are invited to attend the meetings and hear more BTF news.

