

# NEWSLETTER



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## Education & Outreach

We have recently assisted Gillis Elementary in the acquisition of 500 bitter panicum plants that they will be growing out and then planting along the coast to reduce erosion along our beaches. We will use this partnership as a model for other schools that would like to participate in “green” projects in our area



We have also signed on as a Partner with the State DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) in their Environmental Leadership Program. This voluntary program partners the LA DEQ with businesses, federal entities, municipal, academic organizations, community organizations, and individuals to promote a cleaner and better environment for Louisiana. Organizations committed to improving the quality of Louisiana’s environment through pollution prevention, waste reduction and/or other environmental improvements are eligible to join this program.

## Preservation & Conservation

We have added 167.80 additional acres of conservation servitudes in the last year and now hold servitudes on 364.60 acres. One of these servitudes is on a coastal terracing/marsh restoration project along Big Lake and the others are on prairie and pine savannah sites.



## LOUISIANA NATIVE PLANT INITIATIVE (LNPI)

With the assistance of many partners, including the CPC, LNPI has expanded with production facilities now at McNeese State University, Nichol’s State University and the University of Louisiana. A new professorship through McNeese’s agriculture department has initiated some research on establishment and maintenance of native plant production fields. The awarding of a federal appropriation in support of native plant research to McNeese has assisted in keeping this work moving forward.



“PLANT OF THE MONTH” – *Hymenocallis caroliniana*  
aka Spider Lily

Blooms in late Summer  
Prefers light (filtered shade to full sun)  
Habitat must be wet and maintain moisture

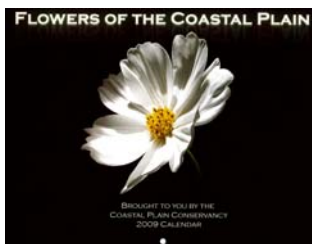
## Kayouchee & MSU Update

The CPC continues to support the production of native seeds, primarily through their involvement with the Louisiana Native Plant Initiative (LNPI). The CPC set aside land for LNPI's first production site, the Kayouchee Prairie. The Kayouchee Prairie site is being maintained for seed production with seed from 7 species harvested in 2008. These seeds have been used for seed increase at other LNPI sites. In addition, CPC, LNPI, and McNeese are looking at the viability of moving the production site to McNeese's Dripp's Farm. Several logistic issues remain to be resolved, but this site could offer the ability for expansion and research.

In March it was reported that Dr. Kee has prepped a 2 acre site on the McNeese Farm. Planting will occur on this site along with some experimental work on seeding rates, herbicide testing and fertility testing.



The CPC in conjunction with McNeese State University will be hosting a demonstration of the RELIEF BTE units designed to convert biomass to energy. The demonstration will be held at the McNeese Farm on Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-3:00pm. Renewable Fuels International, LLC will conduct the demonstration of their portable experimental unit which will convert switchgrass, a native prairie grass, and woodchips to produce energy.



2009 Calendars are still available... Filled with exquisite photos of flowers of the Coastal Plain, taken by a local photographer Geoff Russell. Please contact Dondra Hayes to get your copy! 337-721-5712 or [dhayes@lacassane.com](mailto:dhayes@lacassane.com)



CPC & The Brimstone Museum announce their Children's Cultural Program to be presented on August 8<sup>th</sup> for education on Preservation & Conservation of Native Plants & Grasses. For more information call Thom Trahan at the Brimstone Museum (337)527-0358.