



State of Louisiana

Department of Environmental Quality



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ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

Tickfaw State Park site for special Canoe Trip

BATON ROUGE – Each year for the past five years, children attending McMains Children’s Developmental Center has had one special, educational day outdoors. The sixth annual trip will be Saturday, May 14.

Saturday’s adventure pairs children from the McMains Center, along with their families, with volunteers from DEQ and BASF for a scenic trip down the Tickfaw River.

The event will be held this year at Tickfaw State Park, which offers many nature opportunities for the kids. The area is teeming with wildlife such as turtles, birds, herons and alligators for the children to observe and hear.

Tickfaw State Park is waiving the usual fees for canoes, park entrance and the park picnic pavilion. During the trip, children and their families have a chance to see some of south Louisiana’s unusual swamp life, while enjoying a relaxing canoe ride. Following the ride, families and volunteers are invited to the Tickfaw Park Pavilion for a jambalaya lunch provided by BASF and Chris Mayeux of DEQ. This will be the fifth year that Wright Percy will provide insurance for the event.

The McMains Children’s Developmental Center, located on College Drive in Baton Rouge, treats children with a variety of developmental disabilities ranging from cerebral palsy to learning and speech difficulties. This outing provides the children and their families with an outdoor adventure many of them may have thought impossible. Therapists from the McMains Center assist those children needing extra help in the canoes. The therapists also participate with family members and volunteers to provide paddle power as the children cruise down the bayou. There will be many activities on the shore for participants.

Capital Area United Way uses its annual Day of Caring to pair area companies and organizations with United Way member agencies such as the McMains Center to provide volunteer and financial assistance in a variety of creative ways.

For more information on the canoe trip, contact Albert Hindrichs at DEQ. He can be reached at (225) 219-3584, or by E-mail at al.hindrichs@la.gov.

