



Making Connections

The Official Publication of the Louisiana Ground Water Association
Volume 10 Issue 1 Summer 2025

From the Executive Director's Desk - Summer 2025 Newsletter



It seems like we are off to a healthy start for 2025. Our January Convention was once again a very big success. I would like to once again thank everyone who attended for making this convention very successful. The six great speakers had an audience of: 25 vendor tables and 103 attendees who turned in signed agendas for credit. In an effort to increase awareness for our event, 81 vendors and or organizations were contacted. Some of the vendors we spoke to were not aware we had a 2025 LGWA Convention that was being held in January. So, a list of all these new contacts was made and will be contacted again, very early this year, in hopes they will join us for our January 2026 Convention. We are in the process of trying to recruit more companies/drillers who are currently taking the online option for credit hours to consider joining us for one of our conventions.

We had two special presentations on Tuesday Evening before Bingo. The first was to honor Joel Walton and his wonderful wife Linda. Joel led this organization for a great number of years with outstanding leadership. Of course, his wife Linda was right by his side. Please check out the photos *WorldWide Drilling Resource*® took for us in the center of this newsletter and on our website lgwa.org.

The second presentation was to recognize/honor one of the true pioneers of this industry. It was such a very humbling and great pleasure to recognize a true gentleman within the water well industry. He goes by the name of Donald "Donnie" Dees.

Mr. Don and his wife Vickie were given special honors at the convention. This was for all of the years of wonderful service and the critical role Mr. Don, and others like him, played so many years ago to ensure the continued existence of the water industry as we know and enjoy it today. Once again, please check out the photos.

Let's all hope for a truly wonderful year and have high hopes of growing this organization. We need to increase our overall membership and expand our vendor support. With this, we can put on truly great conventions people want to come to and participate in.

Thank-you once again for this opportunity to serve the LGWA. For comments or suggestions, please call me 337-654-4666 or e-mail suireterry@gmail.com

Terry

Terry L. Suire
LGWA Executive Director

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GET ASSOCIATION HELP™

What is the Purpose of LGWA?

The Louisiana Water Well Association (LWWA) was incorporated as a nonprofit organization on April 10, 1971, and has been very active since.

The purpose of the association is to:

- Strive to help drilling contractors and residents alike - working to protect, conserve, and sustain our vital water resources;
- Bringing today's new drilling technology to the forefront with all modern business management and scientific methods working together to grow our drilling industry;
- Continually improve LGWA to encourage its growth to promote, encourage, and support this vital resource - water, the sustenance of life.
- Promote and encourage harmony and cooperation between members, consulting engineers, and governmental agencies relative to the proper development and protection of the underground water supplies of the State of Louisiana;
- Generally advance the mutual interest of those engaged in the water well industry, in their own and the public welfare, and any other lawful activity.



*WWDR photos from the 2005 LGWA event.
See any familiar faces? You will fit in nicely.*



In April of 1992, a Technical Division was added to the Contractor, Manufacturer, and Supplier Divisions already in existence. The Technical Division focusses on the professional field of groundwater quality.

At the January 22, 1993 board meeting, members voted to change the association name from Louisiana Water Well Association to Louisiana Ground Water Association (LGWA). The name change was consistent with the pattern set by the National Ground Water Association previously and reflected the shift of attention within the Louisiana Ground Water Association from specific concerns of the water well profession to the broader concerns of protecting and providing groundwater resources for the State of Louisiana.

It is so much more important now than it has ever been to support LGWA. Over the past years, our numbers are truly dwindling. At every convention, we discuss the loss of more and more of our older drillers. We need new members to step in and continue the support our membership goals. We will continue to work on creating conventions people want to participate in, where vendors enjoy coming and setting up booths to display their products, inviting a variety of different speakers to give presentations of topics drillers are interested in.

LGWA conventions are more than CEUs - they build knowledge and camaraderie through new and exciting discussions with speakers on all topics, as well as one-on-one chats across the table - during bingo? Dinner? Lunch, or just any time you like. Sometimes lifelong friends are made during such events.



Attention Students!

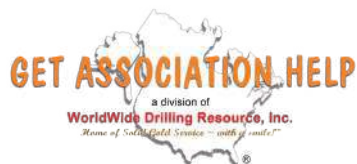
Applications now being accepted for the LGWA Scholarship. Application is on page 6 or online at: LGWA.org

We encourage you to join us in January 2026 to "give it a try."
Want to help? Much appreciated for many reasons. Call me.

Terry L. Suire
LGWA Executive Director
337-654-4666
suireterry@gmail.com

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The Louisiana Ground Water Association:
Helping to preserve a priceless resource - the Louisiana groundwater aquifers and recharge areas.



PO Box 81605
Lafayette, LA 70598-1605
337-654-4666

Membership in the Louisiana Ground Water Association (LGWA) is open to water well and geotechnical drilling professionals. LGWA and its members are active throughout the State of Louisiana.



Highlights from the 2025 Convention and Trade Show

During the Louisiana Ground Water Association (LGWA) 2025 Convention & Trade Show, Executive Director Terry Suire presented the former Executive Director Joel Walton with a special Thank-You plaque for his many years of service. Terry's wife Kelly had a gift for Joel's wife Linda whose help has been invaluable over the years.

Terry also presented Donald "Donnie" Dees of Westro Water Well Company, of Jennings, Louisiana, a framed special recognition certificate from the Office of Conservation for the Department of Energy and Natural Resources of Louisiana for his years of service as a water well drilling contractor from

1969 through 1989 ~ his license number is 003!

Terry explained how "Mr. Don" took them under his wing, willingly sharing his knowledge, giving his wisdom and insight so Terry and Kelly were able to continue Glenn Billeaud Pump and Water Well Service after her father, then mother passed away.



Kelly and Terry along with Vickie and Donnie Dees.



Kelly and Terry Suire along with Linda and Joel Walton.

Westro Water Well Company was started in March 1969, by Wallace Stroud, W.D. Wesley, and Carl Dees. The company drilled its first well on April 12, 1969. From the first well drilled by Westro until 1981, they drilled over 3000 water wells.

Carl and his son Donald bought Stroud and Wesley out in September 1970, and son, George Dees, became a partner in 1972. They originally purchased a 1969



Mayhew 1000 rig and in 1973, added a 1950 Mayhew rig to help with the workload. In 1976, the company purchased a third rig, a Bucyrus-Erie 10R. In 1980, they traded the two Mayhew rigs for a new diesel Mayhew 1000 and later that year sold the Bucyrus-Erie rig. They also had a 1979 Smeal 5T pump hoist in their arsenal.

Although their main interest was with oilfield supply wells, they also provided work in the domestic well field and eventually began drilling four-inch domestic wells with submersible pumps.

A little history on the owners. Carl Dees was born in 1927, graduating from Jennings High School. He served in the military during WWII in the Army. In 1947, he married Jeanne Robinson and they had six children: Donald, Karli, George, Kathryn, Karolyn, and Kristie. Before the inaugural year with Westro, Carl worked for Hunt Tool Company and B.D. Howard Water Well.

Donald "Donnie" Dees was born in 1948, graduating from Jennings High School, and went to college at McNeese State. After a couple of years, he decided to join his father in the drilling business full time although Donnie had worked on the drill rigs part time since 1964. Donnie married Vickie Trahan in March of 1973, and at that time had one child, Shannon.

In 1977, Donnie successfully passed his Mud Rotary and Pump Installation certification. The following year, he was elected to the Board of the Louisiana Water Well Association (now called LGWA). He became President three years later, in addition to being appointed by The Governor of Louisiana to the Water Well Driller's Licensing Board in 1981.

George Dees was born in 1953, he also attended McNeese State and then joined Westro in 1974, passing his certification in 1979. Other family members working for Westro were Kathryn Dees as secretary beginning in 1973 and Karolyn Dees in 1978.

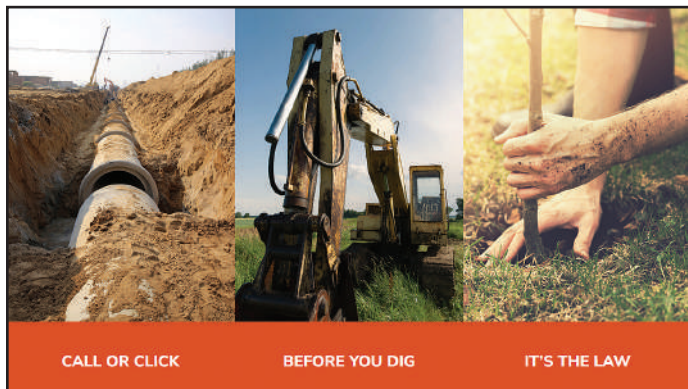
The Dee family were very proud of the people who worked for them because they were the ones who made the company what it was.



Preserving Louisiana's Priceless Resource Starts with a Simple Call to 811

by Billy Forest, Damage Prevention Manager, Louisiana 811

Louisiana's groundwater is one of our most precious natural resources. Our aquifers supply clean drinking water to communities, nourish agricultural land, and support vital industries across the state. The Louisiana Ground Water Association is right . . . preserving this resource is essential. And believe it or not, one of the most effective ways to protect our groundwater is as simple as making a phone call to 811 before you excavate.



How are Digging and Groundwater Connected?

Many people don't realize that buried underground utilities, like water lines, sewer pipes, gas lines, and fiber-optic cables, often run directly through or alongside our aquifers and recharge zones. When someone excavates without knowing what's below, they risk hitting and damaging these utilities. A broken sewer or gas line can contaminate the soil and nearby groundwater. Even drilling a simple water well or setting fence posts without checking for utilities can put both people and the environment at risk.

Protect the Pipes, Protect the Water

Calling 811 before starting any excavation project, big or small, connects you to Louisiana 811. Within two (2) full business days, utility companies will mark the location of underground lines on your property

for free. This step helps prevent costly utility damage and stops potential contaminants from entering the groundwater.

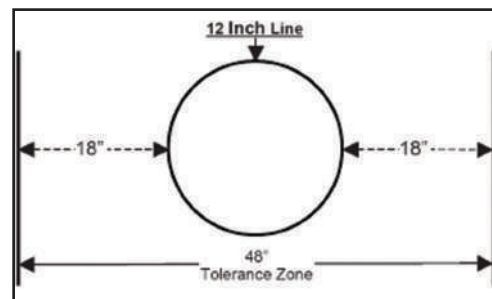
It's not just a Common Ground Alliance best practice. It's the law in Louisiana! And more importantly, it's common sense. Safe digging is about keeping our neighbors safe, protecting the infrastructure we rely on every day, and ensuring that our groundwater stays clean for generations to come.

A Shared Responsibility

Damage prevention isn't just the job of contractors and utility companies. Everyone, from landowners and well drillers to local government and agriculture professionals, has a role to play. When we all commit to safe digging practices, we do more than avoid accidents. We become caretakers of Louisiana's natural resources.

Join Us in Protecting What Matters

The next time you plan to dig, drill, or disturb the ground, remember: It only takes one call to make a difference. Dial 811 or submit a request online two (2) full days before you dig. It's fast, it's free, and it's one of the easiest ways to help preserve Louisiana's groundwater.

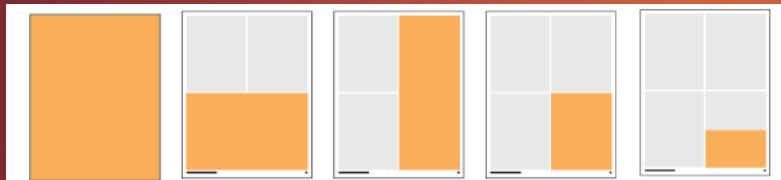


Remember to observe a Tolerance Zone when working close to a service line. The width of the zone, as specified by law, is the width of the facility (service line or pipeline, etc.) as marked plus at least 18 inches measured horizontally from each side of the facility. Any excavation within the Tolerance Zone should be performed with nonpowered hand tools or using a noninvasive method until the marked line is exposed.

Let's work together to keep our water clean, our communities safe, and our underground infrastructure intact.

LGWA Newsletter Ad Sizes and Rates per Insertion

		1 Time	2 Times
Full Page	7.75 x 9.75	\$750	\$640
Back Cover (Full Page)	8.50 x 11.0	\$900	\$765
1/2-Page Horizontal	7.75 x 4.75	\$550	\$470
1/2-Page Vertical	3.75 x 9.75	\$550	\$470
1/4-Page	3.75 x 4.75	\$375	\$310
Business Card	3.5 x 2.0	\$100	\$100



Opportunity Awaits!

Show your support of the Louisiana Ground Water Association by advertising in **Making Connections**, the association's biannual newsletter. This newsletter is distributed by mail and available online.

Free Ad Preparation
(for use in **Making Connections**).

Ronnie@worldwidedrillingresource.com

Call Ronnie at 850-547-0102
for more information.

Justin Wilson's Macaroni Salad

It's summertime, which means it's time for barbeques and boils in the south. One of the best summer side dishes is macaroni salad, and if anyone knows how to make a good one, it's Justin Wilson. Born in Roseland, Louisiana, Justin was known for his Cajun and Southern recipes. His charming personality and colorful stories not only made his cooking show entertaining, it brought a little bit of Louisiana into the lives of millions of people around the world.

Here is his recipe for Macaroni Salad:

- 1 pound of elbow or spiral macaroni, cooked, drained, cooled
- 1 cup chopped onions
- 1 cup chopped dill pickles
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1 cup chopped green onions
- 1 cup fresh parsley (be sure to include the stems and leaves) chopped
- 1 cup pimento-stuffed green olives (Justin said to cut each of them in half)
- 1 cup chopped bell pepper
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 5 chopped hard-boiled eggs (about 2 cups)

Mix each of the ingredients into the macaroni as you add them to the bowl.



You can find more of Justin's recipes, cookbooks, and videos online at justinwilson.com

Once you have the veggies and everything else mixed through, it's time to start the dressing in a separate bowl.

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- ¼ cup of Creole mustard (you can use spicy brown mustard, whole grain mustard, or stone-ground mustard instead)
- 1½ Tbsp. of olive oil
- 1 tsp. of Louisiana Hot Sauce (more if you want, but not much more)
- 2 Tbsp. lemon juice (Justin said fresh lemon juice is always better)

Mix the dressing until well blended and pour into the macaroni mixture. Give it all a good stir to combine everything together, then add about 1½ teaspoons of salt and mix it in. Cover and place the salad in the refrigerator for a day - Then enjoy!



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Louisiana Ground Water Association Scholarship Application

February 28th of each year is the final day scholarship applications will be accepted.

All items required by this application must be completed as stipulated; incomplete applications may be eliminated from consideration.

The Louisiana Ground Water Association (LGWA) will award up to two scholarships to qualified applicants.

To be considered, you must be an immediate family member of an LGWA member, or an LGWA member's employee. Applicants must be high school seniors intending to start, or be currently enrolled in a two- or four-year college program, or attending an independent water well drilling school. Studies should include groundwater science, drilling, ground source heating / cooling, dewatering, or related courses.

Completed applications must be accompanied by an official copy of the student's high school or college transcript, class rank, and SAT / ACT scores.

Recipients will be required to maintain a 2.0 grade point average. The fall semester scholarship will be awarded \$750 once the association receives a copy of the recipient's fall semester transcripts. An additional \$750 will be awarded for the spring semester once a copy of the spring semester transcripts are received.

Student Name: _____ E-mail: _____

LGWA Member Name: _____

Student's Relationship to LGWA Member: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Planned Graduation Date (High School): _____ (College): _____

College Major (if Declared): _____

LGWA Member Company Name: _____

Company Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Name of High School / College: _____

School Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

In addition to this application, please include (attached on a separate sheet):

- List all high school honors and awards.
- List all extracurricular activities.
- Describe an event in your life that has made you the person you are today and how it has affected your goals.

ALL ITEMS ABOVE MUST BE SUBMITTED.

Signature of Applicant

Date: _____

Signature of Parent

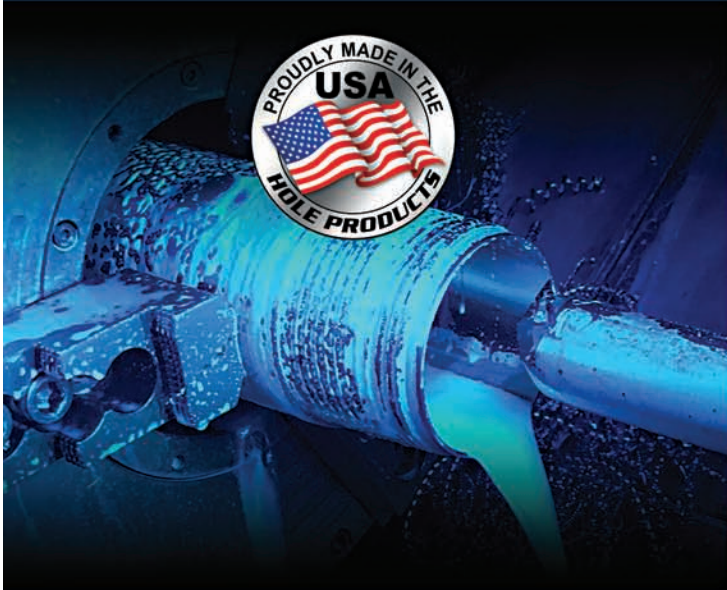
Date: _____

Please return the application and all additional items to: Terry Suire, P.O. Box 81605 Lafayette, LA 70598 suireterry@gmail.com 337-654-4666



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MEMORIES FROM THE 2025 LOUISIANA GROUND WATER

All photos are compliments of ?



The 2026 LGWA Annual Meeting and Trade Show will be held at the Paragon Casino & Hotel in January 2026.

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Welcome to the Oldest Settlement in Louisiana - Natchitoches

Natchitoches (pronounced nack-a-tish), Louisiana, is the oldest settlement in Louisiana. Although the land itself has a rich history before becoming part of the United States, it proved to be an important part of the Louisiana Purchase. Natchitoches was established as a French trading post on the Red River in 1714 by Louis Juchereau de St. Denis as part of French Louisiana. The city was named after the indigenous Natchitoches people.

In April 1805, Louisiana's first governor, William Claiborne, signed an act which divided the Louisiana Purchase Territory into 12 parishes. At the time, Natchitoches parish, which is still one of the largest parishes in the state, was composed of what is now eight other Louisiana parishes. The City of Natchitoches was actually incorporated on February 5, 1819, after Louisiana had become a state in 1812.

American immigrants were quickly drawn to Natchitoches Parish, and by 1890, it was ranked third in population. The area is known for its beautiful long leaf pine hills composed of oak uplands and home to several nationally protected areas including the Kisatchie National Forest, the Red River National Wildlife Refuge, and the Saline Bayou.



Photos courtesy of Cane River National Heritage Area.

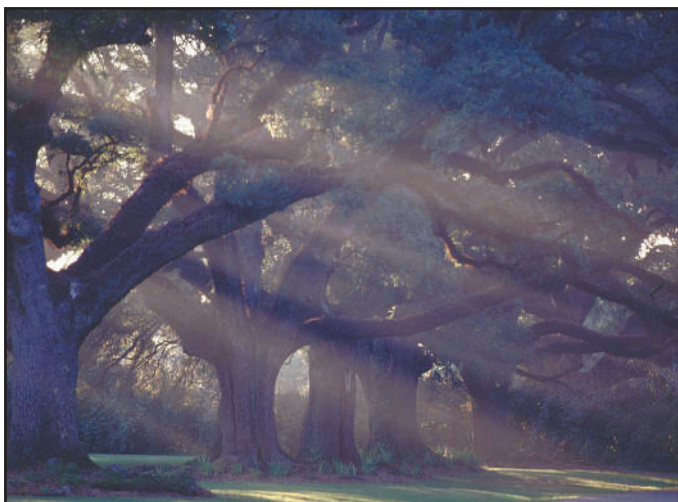
The Parish has preserved much of its history, including the Cane River Creole National Historical Park which provides examples of French and Creole architecture with more than 60 historic structures. Visitors can also explore the many preserved plantation homes dating back to the early 1800s in the parish.

Dubbed the City of Lights, Natchitoches has also served as a backdrop for numerous iconic films, but it is probably best known as the city where the movie *Steel Magnolias* was filmed.

At the heart of the historic town is Front Street, where wrought iron balconies, restaurants, and shops face the beautiful Cane River Lake highlighting the National Historic District. The 33-block district is a shopper's paradise and a bed and breakfast lover's dream. In fact, Natchitoches is the Bed and Breakfast Capital of Louisiana with over 35 inns offering more than 125 rooms. The city is also home to several art galleries, museums, as well as nature and wildlife preserves. Fort St. Jean Baptiste is a replica of the 1732 French colonial fort, where visitors can learn how French marines lived in colonial days.



Complimentary guided walking tours of the Natchitoches National Historic Landmark District are available, weather and staff permitting.



Oaklawn Plantation's oak allée is one of the longest in Louisiana. Live oaks such as these were used to mark the formal entrance to plantations in the area.

History continues to be made in modern times with the recently opened Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwest Louisiana History Museum honoring more than 300 legendary Louisiana athletes, coaches, and other sports figures, such as Shaquille O'Neal, Anna Koll, and Tommy Hodson, among others. Additional sport-themed exhibits and interactive media celebrate the history and importance of sports in Louisiana.

In 2005, the Natchitoches Events Center opened in the National Historic District. The 39,000-square-foot space is within walking distance of shops, restaurants, attractions, and accommodations.

Cane River Lake also serves as a spring training location for numerous rowing teams from universities such as the University of St. Thomas, Kansas State University, University of Kansas, Louisiana State University, Alabama, Texas, Georgia, and more.

More recently, Natchitoches received additional national recognition as a Preserve America Community, a Great American Main Street, and a Distinctive Destination.

So, if you are looking for a unique vacation spot this summer, Natchitoches may be just what you're searching for.

For more information about activities in Natchitoches, visit www.canerivernha.org



Louisiana Ground Water Association Convention & Trade Show

Membership and Convention Registration

January 6-7, 2026

Paragon Casino

Marksville, LA

Company: _____

WW Contractor License Number: _____

Address: _____

City, ST, Zip: _____

Attendee Name: _____

Company E-mail: _____

Personal E-mail: _____

Company Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Payments:

Annual Dues (includes convention registration): \$175	
Nonmember Convention Registration: \$175	
Student and Government Employee Registration: \$75	
Banquet Fee Per Person: \$35	
Late Registration Fee if Paid after December 1, 2025: \$25	
Total Due	

Attendees, please return this form with your check made payable to LGWA, P.O. Box 81605 Lafayette, LA 70598
Questions? Call Terry at: 337-654-4666 or e-mail suireterry@gmail.com

Tabletop Exhibitor Application

Company: _____

Address: _____

City, ST, Zip: _____

Representative Name: _____

Company E-mail: _____

Personal E-mail: _____

Company Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Payments:

Exhibit Fee (includes membership for current year): \$350 Includes draped table and 2 chairs	
Night before convention dinner (per person): \$35	
Total Due	

Name Badges Should Appear as Follows:

Exhibitors, please return this form with your check made payable to LGWA, P.O. Box 81605 Lafayette, LA 70598
Questions? Call Terry at: 337-654-4666 or e-mail suireterry@gmail.com

Bring Hummingbirds to Your Garden

For centuries, hummingbirds have been zipping around gardens throughout the Americas. Although they are some of the smallest birds in the world with most species measuring between three and five inches long and weighing less than a marshmallow, they are big pollinators depositing ten times as much pollen as bumblebees. Their brightly-colored feathers and ability to fly in any direction, even backwards, make them nature's perfect little acrobats flittering from flower to flower.

Wonder why we call them hummingbirds? These tiny, but mighty birds are able to beat their wings roughly 80 times per second, which makes an audible humming noise to humans. Actually, they don't flap their wings at all, they rotate them in a figure 8 pattern.



A female ruby-throated hummingbird enjoying the nectar from a cardinal flower.



The shrimp plant can reach two to six feet tall, and is easy to spot with its colorful, drooping, shrimp-like bracts, but it's the white flower inside that attracts hummingbirds and butterflies.

Surprisingly, hummingbirds don't have a keen sense of smell. They count on bright colors to find their food and are particularly attracted to the color red, which is why you'll notice them around feeders with red parts, red plants and flowers, even red clothes on a gardener. Experts warn not to use red dye in hummingbird feeders as it may harm the birds. Instead, use plain, clear sugar water (one part white sugar mixed with four parts water).

Water - Hummingbirds love moving water, so adding a small solar-powered fountain to your birdbath may bring them to your garden - they also love to play in water mists and sprays.



Male and female ruby-throated hummingbirds.

For gardeners wanting to attract more hummingbirds to their yard, we have a few tips - remember, the habitat should have food, water, and shelter.

Let's start with food - Hummingbirds consume nectar as their primary food source; they also eat spiders and insects. They use so much energy they must eat at least half their body weight every single day to replace the calories they burn. This means they need to eat practically from sunrise to sunset, as they visit over a thousand flowers a day.

They use their long slender beaks to sip nectar from brightly colored flowers. Consider planting high-nectar, tubular, brightly colored flowers such as honeysuckle, hibiscus, trumpet vine, salvia, and shrimp plant. Be sure to leave plenty of space between plants to give the birds enough room to hover and navigate from flower to flower.

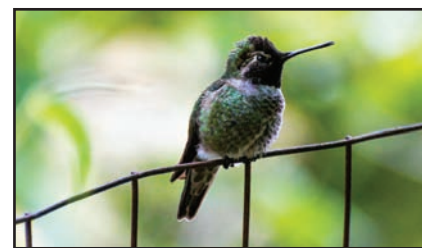


Trumpet vine flowers grow all over Louisiana.

Shelter - Hummingbirds need shade.

Herbs, flowering shrubs, crape myrtles, hawthorns, dwarf trees, and vines can all be used to create an ideal habitat.

In Louisiana, the most common species to spot is the ruby-throated hummingbird. The males can be easily spotted with their fiery red throats, while females have green and white feathers. You can see them every year from March through September. Since hummingbirds migrate to and from Mexico and Central America, a sharp eye may also be able to see a few other



The smallest bird is the bee hummingbird, which is only two inches long.

species such as the rufous, allen's, and black-chinned varieties in the state.



Mud Rotary Drilling with SIMCO's 2800

by Ryan Gross
Rig Sales
SIMCO DRILLING
EQUIPMENT, INC.

The geology in Louisiana can be demanding. The State of Louisiana's Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) uses its SIMCO 2800, equipped for mud rotary drilling, to meet the demand for geotechnical drilling and sampling.

The crew, under the supervision of Johnny Sanford a licensed Louisiana water well driller and Geotechnical Program Supervisor with DOTD, oversees the dam borings and soil sampling near Turkey Creek Lake in Franklin Parish.

Robert Perry, with his years of drilling experience, is operating the controls as he conducts dam borings and sampling. The crew used both split spoons and shelby tubes with NWJ drill pipe for sample collection.

On-site, the samples of clay, and clay with sand, were collected and logged by Ewart T. Quick, Brandon Watson, Christopher Ferguson, Vershawn Jones, and Zhyshone Wyatt. A series of 50-foot soil borings and sampling along the dam, including casing, was completed.



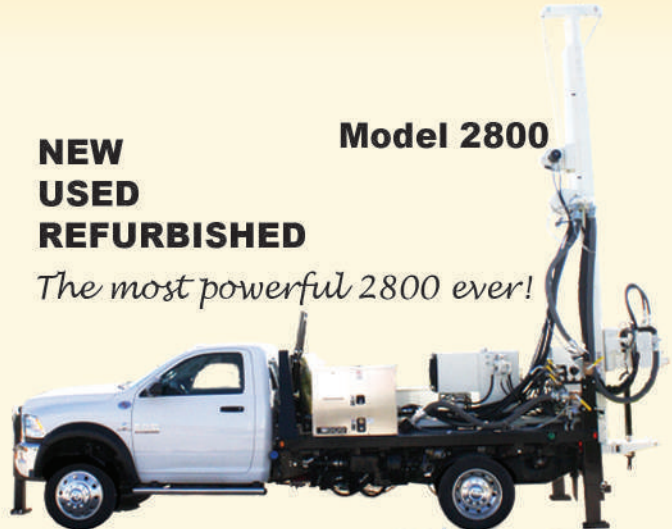
This SIMCO 2800, with the mud rotary geotechnical drill rig package, was mounted on a 4x4 crew cab Freightliner 108SD truck chassis. It also has a Centerline Mono piston pump giving the rig the uphole velocity needed for the drilling conditions across the state. This versatile rig is capable of drilling a variety of boreholes including geotechnical, geothermal, monitoring wells, and water wells.



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WELL DEVELOPMENT: THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY

As well drilling professionals, we see many wells, including new ones, not performing as they should, with specific capacity and well efficiency much lower than should be for the hydrogeological conditions. It can often be a bit of a mystery why these wells do not perform as well as they should. Oftentimes, the answer lies with incomplete well development.



The well development process is an integral part of establishing a well which produces at its maximum capacity, but can often be an afterthought during the well drilling and construction process. The process of well development is really just a series of techniques to repair borehole damage caused by drilling - remove drilling mud and establish as clear a flow path as possible for groundwater to move in the well. Well development can be as simple as using a surge block and air lift system to remove the drilling debris from the well, filter pack, and surrounding formation, but drilling mud can be tricky to remove, especially when a significant volume gets lost into the formation, and it can require extra effort to recover in those cases. Dispersants and chlorine can help with recovering bentonite-based drilling mud out of the formation. Screen size, filter pack, formation characteristics, and other factors all need to be accounted for when implementing effective well development.

Where well development can go wrong is with a lack of proper measurement techniques, which should be spelled out in the drilling contract. Well development should continue beyond just obtaining

clear water if there are still sanding or turbidity issues; if specific capacity is seeing improvement each time it is measured; and if well efficiency is still showing improvement, as well. By having measurable standards for well development in the drilling contract, it becomes a "no negotiation" issue and the development process must continue until those standards are met.

Examples of measurement standards during well development can include:

Sand: Measure sand using a sand tester. Sand content should average not more than 5 mg/L (milligrams per liter) for a complete pumping cycle of two-hour duration when pumping at the design-discharge capacity. No fewer than 10 measurements should be taken at equal intervals to permit plotting of sand content as a function of time and production rate, and to determine the average sand content for each cycle.

Turbidity: Turbidity should be measured using standard Environmental Protection Agency methods and be less than 5 NTU (nephelometric turbidity unit) at the completion of development.

Specific Capacity: Specific capacity should be calculated during the development process and continue as long as the well's specific capacity continues to increase significantly.

Well Efficiency: Well efficiency requires an observation well for reliable calculations. Well efficiency is calculated as the ratio of actual drawdown as measured in the well versus projected drawdown based on observation well data, as calculated on a semilog scale. A well efficiency of 70-80% is considered to be an efficient well where well efficiency of below 60% indicates an impaired flow path to the well, which can often be traced to well development or poor well design.

WE

WANT

TO
HEAR

FROM
YOU

You may notice this issue of ***Making Connections*** is a little different. Acting on suggestions we received over the past few conventions, the decision was made to include more lighthearted and fun content, in addition to industry-related articles.

This is your newsletter, so we want to know what you think of the changes and more specifically, what you'd like to see and read about in future issues.

Do you have a funny joke? A great recipe? A witty story to share with your fellow LGWA members?
A tip for fellow well drilling professionals?

Send it to us! Either by e-mail to suireterry@gmail.com
or regular mail to: PO Box 81605 Lafayette, LA 70598-1605

A Disappointing Meatball Tree



When I was a child, I would visit my grandparents in Louisiana. When I was there, I would listen to a cassette tape they had with kid songs, and one of my favorites was *On Top of Spaghetti*. In case you don't know the song, it tells the story of someone who loses their poor meatball when somebody sneezes. As it rolls away, it ends up in a garden, under a bush, where it turns into mush. The following summer, the meatball grows into a tree full of meatballs.

My Pawpaw wanted to prove to me the song was real. He took me out to their vegetable garden and had me carefully bury a meatball near the edge of the garden. Although I wasn't sure if it would work, I was excited at the thought of being able to pick meatballs off my very own tree.

A few months later when I went back, I was shocked. Right where we had planted the meatball was a plant with what looked like little green meatballs all over it. I grabbed one and ate it, but it didn't taste like a meatball. In fact, it was gross! Maybe they weren't ripe, maybe they needed to be cooked. As I stood there staring at the meatball tree, my grandmother called to me and asked what I was doing in her garden. I explained that I was checking my meatball tree.

"Meatball tree? What are you talking about?" I explained that Pawpaw and I had planted a meatball like it says in the song, and I took her to my meatball tree.

"Cher babe, your granddaddy is pulling your leg. Those there are brussels sprouts." I was embarrassed, mad, and disappointed all at once. I could hear my grandfather in the garage, just laughing his head off.

You know, he teased me about my meatball tree clean into adulthood. He was so proud of how funny his practical joke was. Eventually, I joined him in laughing at how hopeful I was for a meatball tree. It still makes me laugh when I think about it today.

Oh, and in case you're wondering, I still think brussels sprouts are gross!



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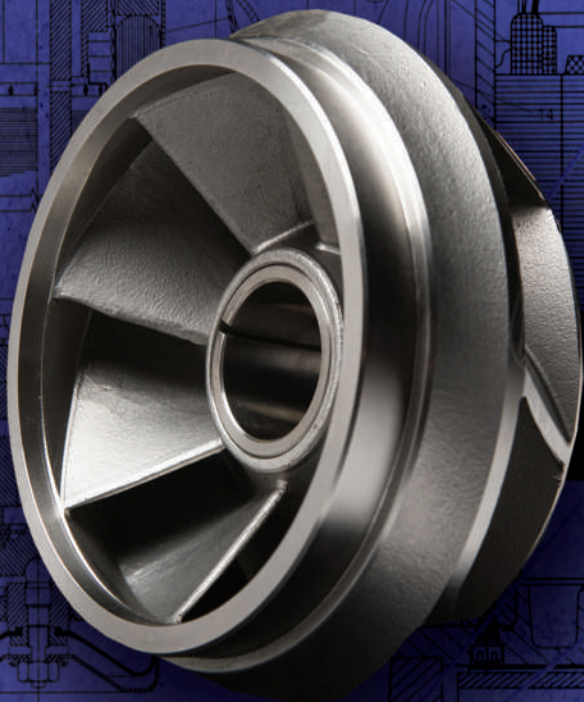
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