



# Making Connections

The Official Publication of the Louisiana Ground Water Association

Volume 10 Issue 2 Winter 2025

## From the Executive Director's Desk - Winter 2025 Newsletter



We find ourselves slowly coming to the end of yet another year. This has truly been an interesting year, to say the least. The January Convention was once again very successful. We had very good participation from drillers and contractors and were blessed with really good speakers. I would really like to thank the vendors who support our organization. Without this level of support, a successful convention is just not possible.

In April, we also had our normal makeup session. Those numbers were very disappointing. We had great speakers and the casino staff did an excellent job with the food preparation. However, the attendance level was down quite substantially. For this reason, the board decided to only have one convention in 2026 and no makeup session in April. The convention will be held on Wednesday, January 7, 2026 and the convention times will all remain the same. We will have our "Night Before" events - a cocktail hour, dinner, and bingo starting at 6 pm on Tuesday. This past January, the "Night Before" event turned out to be quite a success. I actually thought we were going to run out of food. All available seating was pretty much taken. Head count was a little under 100 people. We had a large number of last-minute registrations and most of them signed up for the supper. Herschel Bourque and his wife did an excellent job again this year with picking out gifts for the bingo prizes.

**If you are planning to come to the 2026 convention, please sign up early - the registration form is on page 6 of this newsletter.** It really helps with getting a head count for the number of tables and food. My wife and I were invited to attend the 2025 Texas Ground Water Association convention, which was held in Lubbock, Texas. It was such a pleasure attending the convention. We were really treated like family. We also saw a lot of familiar faces who attend our convention. We stopped at every booth and introduced ourselves while exchanging business cards. Everyone we met is getting an invitation to our convention. I think the number of participating vendors was around 150; it was a very large convention. We are also looking forward to the National Ground Water Association Convention being held in New Orleans this year.

My goal is to continue growing the LGWA, ensuring we have great conventions people want to attend and participate in. I look forward to seeing all of you on **January 6-7, 2026**. Please plan to attend our convention at the Paragon Casino and Resort in Marksville.

There will be no Makeup Session in 2026.

The January convention will be the only chance to earn education credits.

See page 6!

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](mailto:suireterry@gmail.com)

*Terry*

Terry L. Suire - LGWA Executive Director

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## LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND ENERGY

### Big Changes as Reorganization is Completed

*Adapted from information by the Louisiana  
Department on Conservation and Energy*

The Louisiana Department of Energy and Natural Resources (DENR) has formally completed its reorganization into the Department of Conservation and Energy (C&E).

The reorganization is the result of nearly two years of work involving legislative actions, input from public stakeholders, as well as intra-agency research and planning, spurred by Governor Jeff Landry's executive order, to then-DENR Secretary Tyler Gray and the Departmental Review for Innovation and Visionary Enhancement Initiative.

Back in September, Gray stepped down as secretary and Deputy Secretary Dustin Davidson became Secretary. Gray and Davidson worked closely together on planning and implementing the reorganization to ensure a smooth transition.

"Throughout this effort, we have worked to craft an approach that is guided by the core principles of transparency in communication and processes, balance in addressing the needs of economic growth and environmental stewardship, and solutions based in technology, with clear guidance to industry and the public," Davidson said. "In many ways, this agency has still been doing things the way it did when first created as DNR (Department of Natural Resources) early 50 years ago. Technology, industry, and environmental best practices have changed a great deal over those decades, and it's time this agency caught up."

Previously, the DENR was made up of four primary divisions, the Office of the Secretary, including back office financial functions and the state Energy Office; Office of Conservation, primarily dealing with oil/gas/injection/water wells and pipelines, with regulatory authority separate from the rest of DENR; Office of Coastal Management, dealing with protection of vegetated wetlands in the state's Coastal Zone; and the Office of Mineral Resources, acting for the state as mineral rights owner in matters of leasing mineral production.

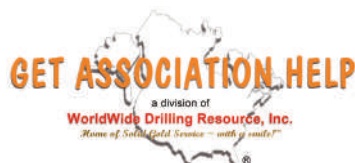
The newly completed C&E agency will be organized into six divisions, tailored to specific roles and operations. Those offices will be:

- **Office of the Secretary** - Providing overall strategic management of agency, legal services, staffing of the Natural Resources Commission, and specialized functions such as Oilfield Site Restoration
- **Office of Administration** - Will be overseen by the undersecretary and function as the centralized nexus for all core administrative and strategic operations of the agency, including strategic planning, human resources, and fiscal/budget functions
- **Office of Permitting and Compliance** - Permitting responsibilities formerly split between the Office of Coastal Management and the Office of Conservation have been integrated into a centralized structure, creating a unified framework for permitting processes across both coastal and noncoastal areas
- **Office of Enforcement** - Will handle site inspections, documentation, enforcement of state rules, and rules for federal programs over which the state has distinction (i.e. Underground Injection Control)
- **Office of State Resources** - Oversight of leasing, servitudes, and right-of-way for state lands and water resources and will also staff the state Mineral and Energy Board
- **Office of Energy** - Will work to generate Louisiana's development of a reliable and resilient energy ecosystem, fostering economic advancement while fortifying energy infrastructure against emerging challenges. It will also track energy-related statistics and trends, while acting as conduit for energy/resilience federal grant funding

"There will still be an adjustment period for some time to come - for our staff, as we break decades worth of old habits and workflows that were inefficient but familiar; for the regulated community, who we hope to see embracing the changes we are making to create understandable and predictable processes; and to the people we serve, as we make the changes needed to set and maintain modern standards for environmental protection and resource management," Davidson said.

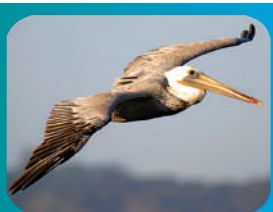
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Membership in the Louisiana Ground Water Association (LGWA) is open to water well and geotechnical drilling professionals. LGWA and its members are active throughout the State of Louisiana.



## Are You 811 Safe?

*Adapted from Information by Louisiana 811*

The Louisiana Underground Utilities and Facilities Damage Prevention Law was amended earlier this year to require at least one person on every underground excavation site to have proof of completing 811 training. This training must be renewed every year and is available free of charge through the Regional Notification Center's website.

**LA811 Online Training Now Required by Law**  
Effective Aug. 1, 2025, excavators are now required to complete the online training annually.

This annual training is designed to reinforce safe digging practices, prevent utility damages, and protect crews, communities, and critical infrastructure. Those already certified through certain federal operator qualification programs may be exempt, but all others performing excavation or demolition work are required to complete the training.

The Louisiana Damage Prevention Law became effective in 1988. It requires excavators and demolishers to call a regional notification center

at least two full business days before they begin their work.

The law also requires owner/operators of underground utilities or facilities to mark the locations or supply information to assist excavators and demolishers in determining the approximate location of underground utilities and facilities.

Louisiana 811 allows companies to simultaneously notify several underground utilities operators of the intent to dig or demolish. When a file request is made, Louisiana 811 uses a sophisticated computerized mapping system to notify members whose facilities are likely to be affected by an excavation or demolition; those members respond by marking their cables, pipelines, and similar systems so they can be avoided.

Whether you are a contractor, utility operator, municipal crew, or independent excavator, contacting Louisiana 811 before you dig keeps everyone safer and helps us all work smarter.



The online training can be accessed by visiting <https://811industrytraining.thinkific.com/courses/louisiana-811>



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## FESTIVE HOLIDAY EVENTS AROUND LOUISIANA

*Adapted from Information by the Louisiana Office of Tourism*

Those living in Louisiana enjoy its rich culture and traditions including a variety of Christmas events highlighting the magic of the season. From the twinkling lights of the Natchitoches Christmas Festival to a cajun twist on The Nutcracker, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Whether you're looking for a classic Christmas celebration or something special to the Bayou State, you're sure to find an event that's perfect for you.



*The Natchitoches Christmas Festival*

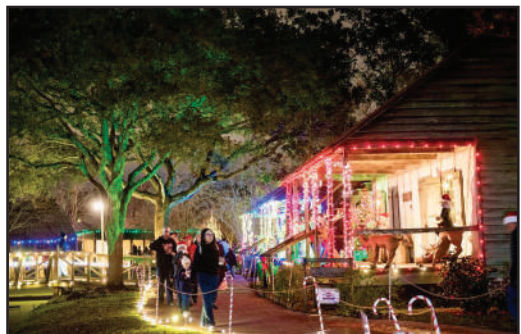
**Louisiana Holiday Trail of Lights in Central/North Louisiana** - Grab the family and hit the road for the festivities along the Louisiana Holiday Trail of Lights. Take in a Christmas parade, finish up your gift shopping, or enjoy live music in a park. With seven stops along the trail, there's Christmas magic for everyone.

**Celebration in the Oaks** - Located in New Orleans' iconic City Park, Celebration in the Oaks features 25 acres of dazzling lights and breathtaking, festive displays. Drive beneath illuminated oak trees on a two-mile route to see more than a million lights. You can also book a walking tour, which includes access to Carousel Gardens Amusement Park and the Botanical Garden.

**The Nutcracker - A Tale from the Bayou** - Make plans to see the Baton Rouge Ballet Theatre's annual presentation of The Nutcracker - A Tale from the Bayou, which beautifully combines the traditional Nutcracker performance with South Louisiana culture.

**Reindeer Ranch** - If you appreciate classic Christmas celebrations, you'll love Reindeer Trails. Find this luminescent park in Greenwood, where you can stroll themed trails with glimmering lights and nostalgic decor. Families can also say hello to Santa Claus, grab treats from local food trucks, and explore a holiday gift shop.

**Christmas Eve with a Réveillon Dinner** - Take part in a Christmas Eve dinner reminiscent of the old Catholic tradition of the Réveillon dinner, a feast for hungry parishioners returning from midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. The reinvention of this tradition invites everyone to celebrate at dozens of restaurants around New Orleans throughout the month of December.



*The Noel Acadien au Village in Lafayette*

**Natchitoches Christmas Festival** - This six-week celebration of the holiday season, features more than 300,000 lights to appeal to visitors of all ages. Throughout the month of December, visitors can have cookies with Santa, see drone and fireworks shows, enjoy weekly live music, and explore the massive holiday market.

**NOLA ChristmasFest** - New Orleans is known for its sense of celebration and this is especially true during the holiday season. At NOLA ChristmasFest, visitors can delight in all the Yuletide traditions, from a gingerbread village to ice skating, to sweet treats from Mrs. Claus herself. Bring the kids for cocoa, candy canes, and carnival rides.

**Louisiana Lights in Baton Rouge** - The Windrush Gardens at the Burden Museum & Gardens become an enchanting holiday oasis with the Louisiana Lights, where history meets illumination. This beautiful display of lights runs from late November to late December, giving you plenty of time to wander the displays and experience the magic of Windrush Gardens.



*Celebration in the Oaks*

**Christmas in Roseland in Shreveport** - The American Rose Center Gardens transforms into a winter wonderland during the holiday season. Visitors enjoy walking through Christmas in Roseland to see the gardens aglow with Christmas lights and displays with nightly entertainment. Stop by local vendor booths to grab a hot chocolate or pick up a gift.

**Noel Acadien au Village in Lafayette** - LARC's Acadian Village hosts an immersive Cajun holiday experience the whole family can enjoy during the weeks leading up to Christmas. Bring the kids to the Noel Acadien au Village for carnival rides, live music, food, and a visit with Papa Noel himself.

### 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.



# Santa's Helper ~ Mr. Bingle

*Adapted from Information by the Historic New Orleans Collection and St. Tammany Parish Library*

For generations, children of New Orleans would delight in hearing, "Jingle, Jangle, Jingle / Here Comes Mr. Bingle / With Another Message From Kris Kringle," as it meant Christmastime was near.

Mr. Bingle is a snowman with an upside-down ice cream cone for a hat, who carries a candy cane wand. As Santa's helper, Mr. Bingle helped kick off the holiday season in Maison Blanche department stores, promoting toys, books, children's clothing, household goods, and more.

Emile Alline Sr., Display Director at the Maison Blanche department store, initially pitched the idea of Mr. Bingle in 1947. Mr. Bingle was brought to life, not by a magical hat, but by puppeteer Edwin "Oscar" Isentrout. With the help of Ray Frederick and Harry J. Ory, he created an enchanting puppet show starring Mr. Bingle in the downtown Maison Blanche building.

In 1949, a 50-foot by 35-foot version of Mr. Bingle was built in Chicago, Illinois. It took two train cars to transport the giant snowman to New Orleans, where it would decorate the front of the Canal Street location every year during the holidays. The cherished holiday character even had his own televised holiday specials every December alongside Pete the Penguin and Dr. Walrus, to promote Maison Blanche products.

Mr. Bingle became such an icon he even joined Santa in his arrival at the New Orleans airport. From there, Mr. Bingle and Santa would parade to various Maison Blanche stores around the city, before ending up at the downtown store and its "Toyland" display.



Dillard's Inc. bought the Maison Blanche chain in 1998. The company, recognizing the cultural importance of Mr. Bingle, distributed a press release welcoming the popular character.

After a brief stint at Lakeside Mall, Dillard's donated the 50-foot papier-mâché figure of Mr. Bingle to the Friends of City Park. Since 2005, it has been ringing in the Christmas season in New Orleans as part of the annual Celebration in the Oaks display.

Mr. Bingle dolls and merchandise continue to be sold today and are available at Dillard's locations and on their website.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

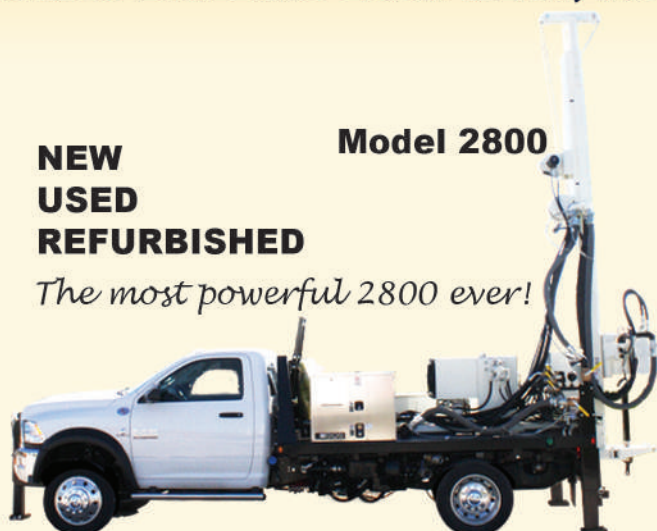


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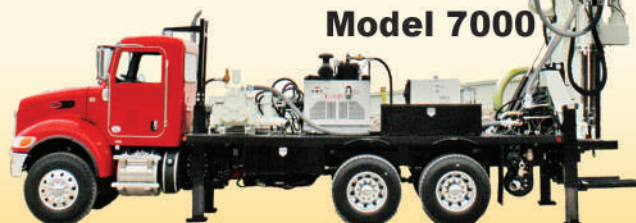


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## Louisiana Ground Water Association Convention & Trade Show

### 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: \_\_\_\_\_

**REMINDER - There will be no makeup session for 2026.**

#### Payments:

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

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](mailto:suireterry@gmail.com)

### Tabletop Exhibitor Application

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City, ST, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Representative Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Personal E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Payments:

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

Name Badges Should Appear as Follows:

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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](mailto:suireterry@gmail.com)



## Louisiana Ground Water Association Scholarship Application

**February 28<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:suireterry@gmail.com) 337-654-4666



## Recipes for the Holiday Season

*Adapted from Information by Donn E.'s Cooking, Inc. Recipe File*

Looking for a way to wow people this holiday season? Consider preparing this delicious Plump Raisin Bread Pudding that Karolyn Dees does better than anyone else. This recipe makes a large pan, one 2½-inch steam table pan, and serves about 50 people.

### Plump Raisin Bread Pudding

2 loaves of fresh bread (less 4 slices)	4 cans of evaporated milk
20 egg yolks	4 cups of sugar
4 teaspoons of vanilla	1 box of raisins

8 cups of whole milk  
1-1/3 cups of melted butter (not margarine)

Begin by plumping your raisins. Place raisins in a sauce pan, cover with water, and bring to a boil. Turn off the heat and let them sit for about 10-15 minutes, then drain the liquid off.

Soak the bread in milk and egg mixture.

Work the bread with your hands until there are no lumps or hard pieces.

Combine the rest of the ingredients into the mixture.

Place in large pan and bake at 275°F - 300°F - It will take 3-4 hours.

Cook until center jiggles but is not liquid.



Although this bread pudding tastes great as is, you might want to jazz it up for the holidays with a lovely Rum Sauce.

### Rum Sauce

3 cans of evaporated milk  
1½ cans of whole milk  
(use the empty evaporated milk cans)

9 egg yolks  
Bacardi rum

1½ cups of sugar  
cornstarch slurry (cornstarch mixed with cold water)

Mix the egg yolks, milks, and sugar together, and stir well. Cook on a medium heat until it bubbles and thickens - Do not leave unattended! If it isn't thick enough, you can add some of the cornstarch slurry. Add rum to taste.

Drizzle over warm bread pudding.

So, now you have a bunch of egg whites on your hands. Don't throw them away; consider making an angel food cake or some meringue. Egg whites freeze remarkably well, so if you don't have time to use them right away, freeze them for future use. Here's a tip for freezing egg whites - freeze them in an ice tray, then pop the cubes into a resealable freezer bag. Remember, 2 tablespoons of egg whites equals 1 large egg white. Thaw them in the fridge overnight before using them. According to the American Egg Board, you can safely store frozen egg whites for up to a year.

Just in case you were looking for a recipe to use up some of those egg whites, here is a festive Meringue Wreath Cookies recipe that is fairly easy to make.

### Meringue Wreath Cookies

4 large egg whites  
¼ teaspoon of kosher salt  
½ teaspoon of pure vanilla extract

¼ teaspoon of cream of tartar  
1 cup of sugar  
green gel food coloring

Preheat your oven to 225°F

Line your baking sheets with parchment paper and draw 12 3-inch circles on the paper using a pen or pencil. Be sure to space the circles at least 2 inches apart. Flip the parchment paper over so the circles are face down on the tray; you should be able to see the circles through the paper.

Beat the egg whites, cream of tartar, and salt with a whisk attachment on a medium-low speed until frothy. Increase the speed to medium and slowly add the sugar one tablespoon at a time. Continue beating until stiff peaks form, about 4 minutes. Whisk in the vanilla and green gel food coloring (enough to get the shade you want).

Fill a piping bag with your meringue. Pipe wreaths using the traced circles as a guide. You can use different tips to create different looking wreaths. If you are using dots or stars, make sure each dot (or star) is touching so it looks like a wreath.

Decorate the wreaths with Christmas sprinkles before cooking (they aren't going to burn with this recipe). Bake for about 2 hours, or until the meringue surface is dry. Turn off the heat, but keep the meringues in the oven for an additional hour as the oven cools. This helps remove moisture from the meringue without overbaking them. Carefully remove the cookies from the parchment paper and store in an airtight container at room temperature.



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## ***Astrological Signs in the South***

Let's face it, things are a little different down here in the South. We have our own way of cooking, speaking, and getting things done. So, it only makes sense that we have our own astrological signs. Forget about the goats, rams, lions, crabs, and scorpions, let's focus on the astrological signs for Southerners:



**OKRA (Dec 22 - Jan 20):** Although you have a crude appearance, you are actually very slick on the inside. Okra can have tremendous influence on everything it touches. An older Okra can look back over their life and see the seeds of its influence everywhere. They should stay away from Moon Pies.

**CHITLINS (Jan 21 - Feb 19):** Chitlins come from a humble background. In fact, they are often uncomfortable talking about where they actually came from. However, Chitlins can make something of themselves if they are motivated and have plenty of seasoning. When it comes to dealing with Chitlins, be very careful. Chitlins can burn and then erupt like a volcano, making a terrible mess. Chitlins are best with Catfish and Okra.

**BOLL WEEVIL (Feb 20 - Mar 20):** With an overwhelming curiosity, Boll Weevils are unsatisfied with the surface of things, and feel the desire to bore deep into the interior of everything. Needless to say, you are very intense and driven - it's as if you have an intense inner hunger.

**MOON PIE (Mar 21 - Apr 20):** You're the type who spends a lot of time on the front porch. It's easy to recognize Moon Pies, "big" and "round" are key words here. You are known for being very sweet, some may say too sweet, but you stick with those around you.

**POSSUM (Apr 21 - May 21):** When confronted with life's difficulties, Possums have a tendency to withdraw and develop a "don't-bother-me" attitude. Sometimes you become so withdrawn, people actually

think you're dead. This strategy is probably not psychologically healthy, but seems to work for you. One day, however, it won't work, and you may find your problems actually running you over.

**CRAWFISH (May 22 - June 21):** Crawfish is a water sign. Crawfish prefer the beach to the mountains, the pool to the golf course, the bathtub to the living room. When you get into hot water, you tend to get out of it quickly to avoid feeling all mushy. Although not very attractive physically, crawfish have very good heads.

**COLLARDS (June 22 - July 23):** Collards have a genius for communication. They love to get in the "melting pot" of life and share their essence with those around them. Collards make good social workers, psychologists, and baseball managers. As far as your personal life goes, if you are Collards, stay away from Moon Pies, it just won't work.

**CATFISH (July 24 - Aug 23):** Catfish are traditionalists in matters of the heart, with one exception: Whiskers may cause problems for loved ones. Catfish are never easy to understand; they prefer the muddy bottoms to the clear surface of life. Above all else, Catfish should stay away from Moon Pies.

**GRITS (Aug 24 - Sept 23):** Your highest aim is to be with others like yourself. You like to huddle together with a big crowd of other Grits. Although you are known for being a bit corny, you dream of traveling anywhere they have cheese, gravy, bacon, butter, or eggs.

**BOILED PEANUTS (Sept 24 - Oct 23):** You are passionate about helping your fellow man. Unfortunately, those who know you best - your friends and loved ones - probably find your personality salty, and their criticism will probably affect you deeply because you are much softer than you appear. Take comfort in knowing on the road of life, people will always pull over and stop for you.

**BUTTER BEANS (Oct 24 - Nov 22):** Butter Beans get along with everybody. If you are a Butter Bean, you should be proud; you've grown on the vine of life and feel at home no matter what the setting. You can sit next to anyone. However, you too, shouldn't have anything to do with Moon Pies.



**ARMADILLO (Nov 23 - Dec 21):** You have a tendency to develop a tough exterior, but are actually quite gentle. You're most comfortable surrounded by old friends, a fire, some roots, fruit, worms, and insects. Armadillos do not worry, they just roll with it. Dating an Armadillo is hard as they never open up. They are almost prehistoric in their behavior patterns shelling out bad jokes and hiding behind emotional armor.



**No matter your sign, we hope you have a joyful, prosperous, and Happy New Year!**

**Reminder - There will be no makeup session for 2026!**  
The January 6-7 trade show will be your only opportunity to earn education credits - Registration Form is on page 6.



## Mark Your Calendar

Make plans to attend the Louisiana Damage Prevention Summit scheduled for January 27-29, 2026, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Lafayette in Lafayette, Louisiana.

The Summit brings a diverse group of industry leaders and professionals together, including:

- Skilled excavators and expert utility locators
- Key personnel from gas, water, electric, and telecommunications companies
- Influential municipal and county officials
- Decision-makers from state and federal regulatory agencies
- Representatives from Louisiana 811
- Dedicated individuals committed to the safe installation and protection of underground utility lines




This is a great opportunity to join the conversation, expand your network, and be part of the movement shaping the future of underground utility safety and innovation. In addition to networking with industry professionals and regulatory agencies, attendees will be able to enjoy:

- Focused training, workshops, and breakout sessions covering the latest trends in damage prevention and underground utility safety. Level up your skills and learn from industry experts.
- Competitions such as the "Locate Rodeo" where locators showcase their skill and win prizes - including a grand-champion cash award.
- An exhibit hall featuring vendors, technology demonstrations, and the latest in tool innovations. Stay ahead of the curve and discover cutting-edge trends and breakthrough technologies at the trade show.

Plus, get critical updates on Louisiana's dig law and its potential impact on your business.



For more information, visit <https://actsnowinc.com/la-summit>

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Wastewater \_\_\_\_\_

Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

In between print issues, the **WWD R Team** prepares **E-News Flash** - an electronic newsletter filled with articles not included in our print issue.





**Yes! I'm interested in receiving**  
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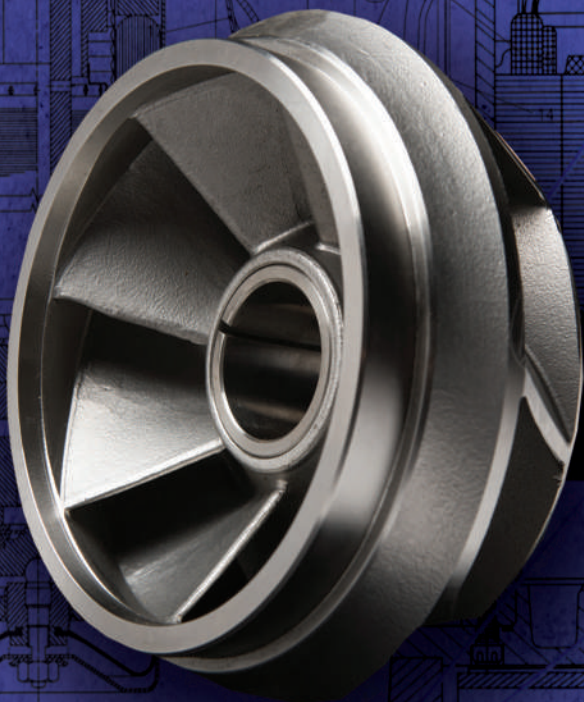
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