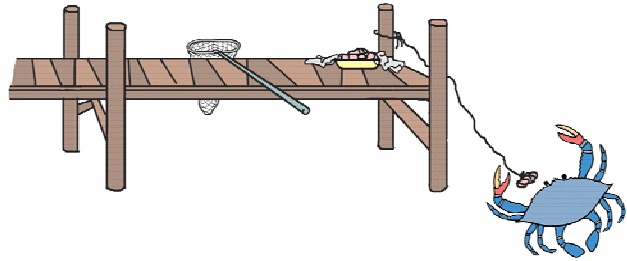




Crab Lines



Dear Friends,

Welcome Back to Crab Lines. Crab Lines is an email distributed information bulletin sent out by the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program (**BTNEP**) which will keep all subscribed members up to date on issues and events related to the estuary, as well as the Program Office.

Please allow me to update you on the all of the exciting activities taking place this week. On Friday, September 26, as part of our celebration of National Estuaries Day, BTNEP staff and Management Conference members will be conducting a live Internet broadcast from the Golden Meadow Hurricane Protection levee. Students and teachers around the country will be participating from their classrooms in an interactive virtual tour of not just the levee site, but of beautiful Elmer's Island on the Louisiana coast as well. Our estuary is one of 8 estuaries around the country being featured on **Estuary Live!** BTNEP is scheduled for a 65-minute tour on Friday morning from 10:45 a.m. until 11:50 a.m. Visit www.btnep.org and click on the Estuary Live button on the right side of the screen for more information about Estuary Live, and to find out how to submit questions on line.

Then on Saturday, September 27, leave the Internet behind and come out to Peltier Park in Thibodaux for our 7th annual "**La Fete d'Écologie**", from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Also held in recognition of National Estuaries Day, this celebration of the rich culture, ecology and economy of the Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary features great food, live entertainment and a wide variety of exhibits and demonstrations by area craftsmen as well as environmental and economic exhibits by many of our Management Conference Partners. This year, noted author, Mike Tidwell, author of *Bayou Farewell: the Rich Life and Tragic Death of Louisiana's Cajun Coast* will be signing books throughout the day, and will also give welcoming remarks and participate in a live remote radio broadcast.

Other attractions include a special appearance by Amanda Shaw, the 12-year-old fiddling sensation who calls Mandeville, Louisiana home. Amanda has performed at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, the French Quarter Festival and the Rosie O'Donnell show. Amanda will play from 2:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. Local talent also abounds at the festival: Dr. Will Robichaux, who will accompany the Spumanti Singers, will also delight festival visitors with calliope music throughout the day, and the event is commemorated by a poster designed by Thibodaux native Susan Talbot Hoffman. Hoffman, whose works of native plants and coastal landscapes have been exhibited in the United States and Australia, captures the diversity of the natural resources in our system while celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Louisiana Purchase. Proceeds from the sale of our poster will benefit the Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary Foundation. For more information about the festival, visit www.lafete.btnep.org.

So please, join us at La Fete d'Écologie on Saturday, September 27, 2003 from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Look for our insert in area papers this week for a complete schedule of events and activities. If you can't make it to the festival, but are interested in other events and activities of the BTNEP, please visit our website at www.btnep.org.

You have been sent this letter because your name and email address was listed in our office database. You may have visited our office, visited our display booth at a fair or festival, or contacted us via email to express your interest in our program. Since this is our first posting of Crab Lines in quite some time, it is really a test of what we hope will be a way to quickly and efficiently relay information to those who have a vested interest in the activities and progress of the Barataria Terrebonne National Estuary Program.

If at anytime you wish to be removed from this mailing list, simply let us know via email to sandra@btnep.org requesting removal and you will be promptly taken off the list. However, we hope that you will pass this email on to others and invite them to subscribe as well. To subscribe, simply send an email to the same email address above asking to be added to the list. As always, comments and suggestions are welcome.

Thanks for your time, and your interest in the BTNEP. See you at the festival!

With Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Kerry M. St. Pé". The signature is written in a cursive style with a clear, legible font.

Kerry M. St. Pé
Program Director