With its combined six sites, Dow is the largest petrochemical company in the state, pumping more than $1 billion annually into the Louisiana economy. At our sites in Plaquemine, Grand Bayou, Hahnville, Sterlington, Greensburg, and Weeks Island, we manufacture more than 100 basic and specialty chemicals that are shipped worldwide.

Our Annual Economic Impact
- $59.5 million in state and local taxes
- $312 million payroll
- More than $400 million in purchases from Louisiana companies

Our People
Our people are our greatest asset with over 6,000 Dow and contract employees across Louisiana

Our Size and Scope
- Integrated manufacturing operations in six locations, spanning 4,000 acres
- Manufacturing more than 100 basic and specialty chemicals that are shipped worldwide
- Our sites offer numerous convenient transportation options, including marine, rail, truck and pipeline

Our Products
Dow facilities in Louisiana manufacture more than 100 basic and specialty chemicals that serve as building blocks for hundreds of everyday products. Our chemistry can be found in soaps, detergents, food additives, cosmetics, shampoos, pharmaceuticals, computers and electronic components, vehicle parts, adhesives, athletic shoes, disposable diapers and much, much more.

Our Environmental & Social Impact
- At each of our Louisiana locations, Dow is a part of the surrounding community, seeking to balance economic, environmental and social responsibility as we invest in our communities and encourage them to invest in themselves
- Through DowGives, corporate & employee contributions, grants and volunteerism, we contribute more than $1 million annually to enhance our communities
- Committed to the principles of sustainability and Dow’s 2015 Sustainability Goals

Our Company
Dow delivers a broad range of technology based products and solutions to customers in approximately 160 countries and in high growth sectors such as electronics, water, energy, coatings and agriculture.

In 2012, Dow had annual sales of $57 billion and employed approximately 54,000 people worldwide. The Company’s more than 5,000 products are manufactured at 188 sites in 36 countries.
Table of Contents

Best of the Best
AWARD RECOGNIZES LOUISIANA OPERATIONS’ SAFETY PERFORMANCE..............................PAGE 7

Dow Brings in the Trash
LOUISIANA VOLUNTEERS “KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL”.........................................................PAGE 12

STEM-U-Lating
ACTIVITIES ACROSS LOUISIANA ..................................PAGE 18

BBQ, Baseball and Tigers
DOW SUPPORTS CANCER SERVICES WITH TAILGATE BBQ ........................................PAGE 22

Also Inside This Issue

LOUISIANA NEWSMAKERS.................................................. PAGE 4
HEROES OF ZERO – ANGUS CELEBRATES MAJOR SAFETY ACCOMPLISHMENTS............................PAGE 6
AN ISLAND WORTH ITS SALT.................................................. PAGE 8
TO YOUR HEALTH - DOW EMPLOYEES MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.................................PAGE 10

WEDNESDAY AT THE SQUARE - DOW SPONSORS SPRINGTIME “RITUAL” IN NEW ORLEANS........PAGE 14
SUMMER ON THE GULF COAST: HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS....................................................PAGE 16
WHOOP, THERE IT IS! BRINGING WHOOPING CRANES BACK TO THE LOUISIANA WILD ..................PAGE 20
AROUND THE WORLD – HELP FOR HAITI........................................ PAGE 23

On the cover: Red Cross representative, Irvin Patecek, celebrates Dow’s partnership with Red Cross with Dow employees, Tyrell Cornwell, Gaynell Landeche and Robert Colley.
Louisiana Newsmakers

1. Weeks Island employees support Camp Bluebird.
2. ANGUS employee, Karen Kay, celebrates her last days at Dow before retiring.
3. Dow’s Amerchol site (Greensburg) celebrates three years without a recordable injury.
5. St. Charles operations receives prestigious Lantern Award.
6. ANGUS site leader, Ernest Green (on left), attends the 2012 University of Louisiana at Monroe President Academy signing.

7. Grand Bayou Operations provides lunch for more than 90 paddlers at Paddle Bayou LaFourche.


9. The Assumption Chamber’s breakfast with legislators at the historic Madewood Plantation.

10. Dow Promise grant recipients from Greater Baton Rouge are recognized.
Heroes of Zero
ANGUS Celebrates Major Safety Accomplishments

Although often an unappreciated number, employees and contractors at Dow’s ANGUS facility prefer “zero” over any other, especially when it comes to injuries and illnesses.

On March 14, ANGUS, a wholly owned subsidiary of Dow, gathered for a crawfish boil to recognize and celebrate their zeros and heroes of safety.

The site marked two major safety accomplishments in 2012. For the first time since 2005, the site completed an entire calendar year of consecutive days without a personal injury/illness incident. And more than three years have passed since the last process safety incident. These zeros are significant accomplishments for ANGUS, both as an employer and as part of the community.

“We are all extremely proud of our safety performance. Everyone working here – our employees and contractors – made very real contributions to these milestones,” says Tina Murray, Responsible Care® leader. “Now we know that when we all make ‘zero’ a safety goal, we can achieve it.”

Together, 260 people from ANGUS mingled under the trees and enjoyed a feast of crawfish, sausage, potatoes, and corn while listening to Cajun and Zydeco music. For a few hours, they put aside concerns and enjoyed a well-deserved celebration of their hard work and dedication to plant safety.

“This is the first time we’ve had a crawfish boil to celebrate our safety performance. We’d like to make it an annual event,” says Tina. “As funny as it sounds, we have to work really hard to make sure zero happens. To be our best, we all put a lot of energy into safety.”

Dow’s ANGUS employees and contractors enjoy boxes full of delicious crawfish, corn and potatoes to celebrate their safety achievements.
Another festive crawfish boil, this time at Dow’s Louisiana Operations (LAO) in May, celebrated two years without an injury. It was also an opportunity to recognize the Chlor-Alkali team for being named winner of the 2012 Best of the Best Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) award.

To receive Dow’s Best of the Best award, a plant must demonstrate exemplary behaviors designed to elevate safety performance to an even higher level. “The site gives ‘ZERO’ awards to honor plants and departments that achieve a year without an incident,” explains Scott White, Responsible Care leader. “The Best of the Best award is an additional, special recognition given to those plants that exhibit extraordinary performance that goes beyond the norm.”

The LAO Chlor-Alkali facility took this year’s Best of the Best award and its name will be inscribed on the distinctive trophy beside LHC Benzene, the inaugural 2011 winner.

“I’m proud of our team’s accomplishments. This success is the direct result of years of hard work by many in Chlor-Alkali and supporting departments,” says Steve Ledoux, production leader, Chlor-Alkali.

The distinguishing behaviors that placed Chlor-Alkali among Dow’s Best of the Best include:

- Strong environment, health and safety performance
- Clear emphasis on improving line and equipment openings compliance to minimize exposure at critical points
- Rigorous focus on root causes of problems and impactful actions that ensure reliable and safe operations
- Engagement of both Operations and Maintenance employees to work as a team for the best possible results
- First plant in LAO to introduce Crew Permitting that helps improve communication
An Island Worth Its Salt

Dow’s Weeks Island site in Iberia Parish, La., is “worth its salt” in more ways than one. The manufacturing facility is built on an actual salt dome – one of five such islands on the Louisiana Gulf Coast. The Dow plant is adjacent to a Morton salt mine and surrounded by nature, including deer, black bears, armadillos, weasels and alligators.

But don’t let the natural setting fool you. Complex, state-of-the-art technology is at work inside the manufacturing plant, where specialty materials are produced around the clock. The site’s two major product platforms are based on chemical vapor deposition (CVD) processes: infrared optical materials and silicon carbide materials.

CVD 101

What is chemical vapor deposition? In simple terms, Dow employees use large furnaces to create polycrystalline zinc selenide, zinc sulfide and silicon carbide materials for Dow Electronic Materials’ Optical and Ceramic Technologies business.

“We take our raw materials – like solid, elemental zinc – and use very high temperatures and vacuum reactors to heat the metal until it is in a vapor state. We introduce process gases, and the chemical reaction begins the formation of crystals,” says Brent Romero, quality leader at Dow’s Weeks Island site.

The crystals deposit themselves in layers. The longer the deposition cycle, the thicker the material grows. Because Dow can maintain 24/7 uninterrupted operation, the material can grow to greater than 2 inches thick. Brent says the run times vary, with some deposition cycles going several hundred hours.

The results are deposits of high-purity, high-density polycrystalline zinc selenide, zinc sulfide and silicon carbide materials. Some CVD materials are grown in sheets the size of a standard sheet of plywood. CVD ZINC SULFIDE™ material is also a choice for missile domes that are deposited on custom-shaped deposition surfaces.

Products in the Marketplace

“Our CVD zinc-based materials are used for a variety of infrared applications in the defense, homeland security and commercial optics markets,” says Bob Gargione, business director for Dow’s Optical and Ceramic Technologies business. “Very critical military and unmanned reconnaissance programs rely on sensing systems, such as thermal imaging, that use our optical materials. Our products are also used for CO2 lasers for cutting and welding in places like Detroit’s auto factories.”

Weeks Island at a Glance

Technical expertise:
Chemical vapor deposition (CVD)

Product platforms:
High-performance infrared optical materials and silicon carbide created with CVD process

Products:
CVD ZINC SULFIDE™, CVD ZINC SelenIDE™, CLEARTRAN™, TUfTRAN™ and CVD SILICON CARBIDE™ Materials

Product uses:
Infrared thermal imaging systems, CO2 laser optics, military/commercial guidance systems, external windows in jets, missile nose cones, low-power lasers for medical applications, semiconductor applications, and future LED applications

Staff:
About 70 full-time and contract workers

In April, Dow sponsored a crawfish boil for Weeks Island employees to celebrate significant milestones in safety, quality, environmental performance and in production performance and efficiencies. Jeff Stallcup, business manufacturing technology leader for Dow’s Growth Technologies business, and Bob Gargione, business director for Dow’s Optical and Ceramic Technologies, were on hand to congratulate the site.
“We make the largest windows in the market for infrared surveillance and reconnaissance applications,” says Brent. “Windows made with our materials have also gone into orbit on satellites.”
CVD SILICON CARBIDE™ material is used in semiconductor manufacturing equipment, especially in microprocessor chips that are used throughout the electronics industry in TVs, computers and cell phones. In fact, an estimated 95 percent of the world’s smart phones may have Dow materials involved in their manufacture. Another industry where silicon carbide is finding a home is in the growing LED market.
“As the world continues to adopt and migrate toward LED lighting – and with electronic devices getting smaller and faster – Weeks Island’s products will be part of supporting those movements forward,” says Bob.

Dow uses the chemical vapor deposition (CVD) production process to manufacture optical materials capable of transmitting infrared wavelengths, which are suitable for use in laser lenses, specialized windows, and other optical elements. The CVD process also produces CVD SILICON CARBIDE™ material, which Dow fabricates into specialized parts with high-wear and high-chemical-resistance properties for semiconductor manufacturing equipment.

Mark Cresanti
Weeks Island Site Leader, Responsible Care® Leader and Manufacturing Leader

Mark Cresanti likes the family feeling at Weeks Island, La. “Over the years, this site has gone through many transitions,” he says. “Through it all, a solid team – the Weeks Island family – has made this place run. I’m simply here to support them.”

In early 2013, his manufacturing role at Weeks Island, La., expanded to include site leadership. Mark first joined Dow in 2011, coming from Dell Computers, where he was senior operations leader responsible for multiple departments and shifts in its North Carolina assembly facility.

Originally from Jamestown, New York, he earned his bachelor of science degree in ceramic engineering from nearby Alfred University. Mark has more than 20 years of experience in process engineering, product development and materials management as well as operations leadership in the medical device, automotive component, consumer electronics and ceramic component industries.

“I’m excited to be part of the Weeks Island team, and I am humbled and honored to be able to support this site,” says Mark.

Mark currently lives in Broussard with his wife, Amy, and three children – and they are the focal point of his free time. “This may not sound fun, but I actually enjoy doing projects around the house,” he says. He’s also involved with his kids’ activities: his son’s Brazilian jujitsu wrestling and his twin daughters’ piano and cheerleading.
The Louisiana Marathon was a magnificent achievement for Heidi Holmes.

No, she didn’t win. In fact, she didn’t even run the 26-mile race. But the annual event in Baton Rouge also includes a half-marathon, a 5-kilometer race and a kids’ run. This year, Heidi ran the 5k, and though she finished well behind the leaders, the fact that she did finish is remarkable.

“A year ago, I weighed 223 pounds, and I was so out of shape and unhealthy that I could not have even dreamed of running in a 5k,” says Heidi, optimization engineer for Energy Systems at Dow’s Louisiana Operations and St. Charles Operations sites. Heidi lost more than 95 pounds in eight months of training leading up to the race.

“Running has become an essential part of my life, and I feel better than I have in 20 years,” she beams.

With success stories like Heidi’s in mind, Dow actively helps employees move in the right direction by being an active promoter of healthy lifestyles. Dow was a sponsor of the Louisiana Marathon, with more than 70 employees, family members and friends joining Team Dow to participate in the various running events. Many others volunteered at the Dow booth at the marathon’s Wellness & Fitness Expo, a two-day festival leading up to the races.

“We’re pleased to have community partners like Dow that understand the importance of health and wellness both inside and outside the work environment,” says Race Director Craig Sweeney.

Healthy State of Mind

Dow’s commitment to wellness takes different forms in different locations around Louisiana. In Sterlington, for instance, Dow has about 160 employees and 110 contractors. “Our site does not have an on-site fitness center, so we tap into the local fitness centers in the area,” says Tina Murray, Responsible Care Leader for Sterlington.
“Until a few years ago, Sterlington didn’t have an on-site nurse. Now Annette Harrison fills that role with an expertise and enthusiasm that benefits everyone,” Tina says.

With Annette on board, Dow made AngioScreens available at no cost to all employees and contract workers. An AngioScreen is a non-invasive heart disease and stroke screening that takes less than 10 minutes to perform. Employees, regardless of their schedules, had an opportunity to have their cardiovascular system checked. Dow also offered free blood sugar checks for everyone at the site, and arranged for a local doctor to provide follow-up counseling. Sterlington coordinates multiple community blood drives a year on site, to promote wellness across the area.

“We’ll do anything to help our people learn how to help themselves be healthier,” Annette explains. “I’m here to make sure that everybody is taken care of.”

**On The Go at SCO**

Fitness and community service also shared the spotlight at this year’s United Way of St. Charles 5K/10K Bridge Run. More than 40 Dow employees and their families participated in the run, and the company was one of 15 event sponsors.

“The combined impact of our volunteers, corporate funding and increased awareness about the event helped United Way to draw one of the largest crowds in event history,” says Jordan Tremblay, Public Affairs Manager at SCO.

And the broad participation in the event has a positive impact on the wellbeing of the company’s people, according to Fawn Bradshaw, process engineer and philanthropy leader of SCO’s New Professionals Network. “When all your friends are doing it, you think ‘Well, you’re involved, I want to get involved, too.’ It gets people more interested in having a healthy lifestyle.”

Personal connections can be motivating in many ways. In Greensburg, employees who lost a coworker to cancer in 2001, formed a team to take part in the North Tangi Relay for Life, which benefits the American Cancer Society. They also viewed the event as a teambuilding opportunity and a way to get some great exercise.

Whatever it is that gets them going, it’s clear that Dow people are moving in the right direction.
Dow Brings in the Trash

Louisiana Volunteers “Keep America Beautiful”

If it looked like trash, Dow employees across Louisiana set their sights on it. It was all part of seven local clean-up events in March and April for the 2013 Great American Cleanup (GAC).

Dow-sponsored GAC events across Louisiana included trash cleanups, tree plantings, household hazardous materials disposal days and even a garden center extreme makeover. The company provided volunteers, financial support, supplies such as personal protection equipment, and oftentimes access to university experts. Though the activities varied, the underlying goal of each event was the same: beautify local communities.

GAC is the signature program of Keep America Beautiful, and is the nation’s largest community improvement program. This is Dow’s sixth year as a national sponsor and the GAC is a key initiative of the company’s Contributing to Community Success objective as part of the 2015 Sustainability Goals. More than 50 events were held in Dow communities throughout the U.S. from March through May.

“Participation from Dow employees and communities continues to grow with each year of our partnership with Keep America Beautiful and we could not be more proud,” said Keep America Beautiful Board Member Howard Ungerleider, executive vice president, Dow Advanced Materials.

We do this because we want to be good neighbors in our parish. We live and work here, so we’re glad to volunteer for events that make our community better.

- Scott White, Responsible Care Leader, Dow Louisiana Operations

ANGUS: Trash Bash, Tree Planting and Hazardous Waste Collection

In early March, nearly 100 Dow employees and community members – including Boy Scouts and a local youth dance team – picked up trash and planted crepe myrtle trees. Dozens of volunteers tackled a 17-mile stretch of road in Sterlington, hauling off 57 bags of trash. Others grabbed shovels and planted 37 crepe myrtle trees along Highway 2. By the time they gathered at town hall for lunch, their town shined just a little brighter.

On April 13, Dow and Ouachita Parish partnered to host a Household Hazardous Waste cleanup day for the community. More than 250 people showed up, arriving in cars and trucks with cleaning chemicals, tires, outdated medicines, paints, electronics, batteries and other hazardous waste. Toxicology students from the University of Louisiana at Monroe were on hand to keep the hazardous materials from ending up in ditches and landfills.

Louisiana Operations: Hazardous Materials Collection and Extreme Garden Makeover

Also in March, Dow’s Louisiana Operations site partnered with West Baton Rouge Parish to hold the West Baton Rouge Hazardous Household Materials Day (HHMD). About 25 Dow employees and Environmental Science students from Louisiana State University were on hand to unload and properly dispose of hazardous materials. More than 150 cars and trucks rolled in with old electronics, paints, oils and batteries.

Later that month, an abandoned greenhouse in Baton Rouge got an extreme makeover and students at the Career Academy Public Charter High School’s culinary program got a brand new garden. Dow employees, LSU School of Engineering students associated with Engineers Without Borders, and Career Academy teachers and students joined together to chop down overgrown bushes, haul off long-ago left behind bags of fertilizer, and clean and organize in and around the building.

The garden makeover was a Dow CommunityGives event. CommunityGives promotes volunteerism with a “pay it forward” approach, giving donations to school programs in exchange for community service hours.


On March 16, St. Charles Parish hosted its 15th annual Household Hazardous Materials Collection day. As a major sponsor for the event, Dow provided much needed people-power to assist in the collection and sorting of materials from old paint and motor oil to tires and technology equipment. More than 375 vehicles dropped off hazardous materials that day at three locations in Luling, LaPlace and Lutcher.

A week later, Dow employees and family members joined members of the St. Charles Parish 4-H Club to clean a large section of Mississippi River levee along River Road in Luling. Working in two groups, they hauled off trash bags filled with cans, foam, plastic bottles and other debris.

Grand Bayou Operations: Trash Bash

On April 20, more than a dozen Dow retirees and community volunteers set their sights on a major intersection in Assumption Parish. The intersection of Highway 70 and Highway 1 got a major lift that day when the group removed 15 bags of trash and trimmed back overgrown grass. The volunteers also tackled several miles of Highway 70, filling another 10 bags with litter.
Dow employees participated in Great American Cleanup Events during March and April, 2013.
If it’s spring and Wednesday in New Orleans, there’s one place to be … Wednesday at the Square. Sponsored by the Young Leadership Council (YLC), this free concert series welcomes more than 6,000 people to Lafayette Square each week to enjoy food, drinks and musical acts. Along with the live entertainment, local merchants and artists sell art, souvenirs and more.

Wednesday at the Square was launched in 1999 by the Downtown Development District (DDD) to support businesses in downtown New Orleans. With volunteer help from the YLC, the event gave people working in New Orleans a reason to linger after work for dinner, shopping, and socializing. In 2006, the YLC, a non-profit civic organization created to develop leadership through community projects, took over lead sponsorship for the production.

Today people from the city and surrounding areas look forward each year to food, fair, fun and musical performances by famed musicians, such as local favorite Anders Osborne and nationally acclaimed artists Irvin Mayfield and Kermit Ruffins.

“YLC Wednesday at the Square has become a springtime ritual and staple of the New Orleans festival season,” says Curry W. Smith, executive director, Young Leadership Council. “The community looks forward to the concert series in much the same way it looks forward to Mardi Gras, Jazz Fest and the Saints season.”

Dow is one of several community institutions and corporations that are integral to the success of Wednesday at the Square.

“Without the support of Dow and our other sponsors, YLC would not be able to produce these concerts,” says Curry. “We are happy that we can add to the cultural offerings enjoyed by residents of New Orleans and southeast Louisiana.”
Dow employees and their families enjoy the free concert during Wednesday at the Square.
If it’s early summer on the Louisiana Gulf Coast, then it’s hurricane preparedness season. As a major employer in the state, Dow focuses on being ready when Mother Nature strikes, especially at its operating sites, in the communities in which it operates, and among regional emergency response organizations.

Preparing Dow Sites

Just as individuals and families ready themselves and their property for tropical weather, Dow sites do, too. Between the company’s two major coastal sites – Louisiana Operations in Plaquemine and St. Charles Operations in Hahnville, near New Orleans – Dow has more than 30 operating units. Each year, a team of individuals from every operating unit methodically runs through a checklist of activities. The exhaustive list includes such activities as physically preparing for harsh weather (debris cleared, materials tied down, etc.), ensuring ample supply of emergency materials, updating contact lists, checking communications systems and identifying hurricane crew members.

A major part of early summer preparations is ensuring Dow’s Mobile Emergency Operations Center (MEOC) is ready to roll. The MEOC is a self-contained emergency response center housed in a tractor trailer. The mobile center has audio-visual, satellite, radio, phone and computer equipment – everything Dow would need to manage operations through an emergency.

Preparing Local Communities

As a corporate neighbor along the Gulf Coast, Dow actively supports local community emergency response efforts. To celebrate Dow’s 10th anniversary in St. Charles Parish in 2011, for example, Dow made a donation toward the construction of a new Emergency Operations Center for the parish. The new EOC is expected to open later this year and replaces the current center located in the basement of the Parish courthouse.

The better prepared we are for hurricane season, the safer our people, our property and our community will be.

- Kevin Gaubert, Emergency Services & Security Technologist at Dow’s St. Charles Operations.
Supporting Regional Emergency Response

The American Red Cross has been providing emergency services across the country for more than a century. To help the organization continue to serve Louisiana residents during hurricane season and throughout the year, Dow provides strong support to the organization’s Southern Louisiana Region.

This year Dow in Louisiana contributed $100,000 to the American Red Cross of South Louisiana, making Dow the largest corporate donor to the chapter. “At Dow we understand the importance of supporting the American Red Cross not only in years where we see major hurricanes, but all the time,” says Stacey Chiasson, Louisiana Public Affairs Leader.

“Dow has been a fantastic corporate partner with the Red Cross. Dow understands and fulfills a commitment to give back to the community in ways that help the entire region,” says American Red Cross of South Louisiana Regional CEO, Kay Wilkins.

“Dow’s contribution is essentially a gift to every community in South Louisiana. Because of Dow’s gift, the Red Cross is able to be ready at a moment’s notice. Dow’s support is crucial in helping us be prepared to respond when families need our help,” she says.

Wilkins says Dow’s support isn’t only financial, it also includes training its employees to serve as Red Cross volunteers in case of emergency. “We are immensely grateful to Dow and its employees for supporting the work of the Red Cross, and in helping promote the message that no one is exempt from disasters – therefore, every company and every household needs to be prepared.”

Hurricane Checklist — Be Prepared

Hurricanes are strong storms that can be life-threatening as well as cause serious property-threatening hazards such as flooding, storm surge, high winds and tornadoes. Preparation is the best protection against the dangers of a hurricane. Know the difference between the threat levels and plan accordingly.

**HURRICANE WATCH:** Hurricane conditions are a threat within 48 hours. Review your hurricane plans. Get ready to act if a warning is issued, and stay informed.

**HURRICANE WARNING:** Hurricane conditions are expected within 36 hours. Complete your storm preparations and leave the area if directed to do so by authorities.

**Prepare for a Hurricane**

- Listen to a Weather Radio for critical information from the National Weather Service
- Check your disaster supplies. Replace or restock as needed
- Bring in anything that can be picked up by the wind (bicycles, lawn furniture)
- Close your windows, doors and hurricane shutters. If you do not have hurricane shutters, close and board up all windows and doors with plywood
- Turn your refrigerator and freezer to the coldest setting. Keep them closed as much as possible so that food will last longer if the power goes out
- Turn off propane tank
- Unplug small appliances
- Fill your car’s gas tank
- Create a hurricane evacuation plan with members of your household. Planning and practicing your evacuation plan minimizes confusion and fear during the event
- Find out about your community’s hurricane response plan. Plan routes to local shelters, register family members with special medical needs and make plans for your pets to be cared for
- Obey evacuation orders. Avoid flooded roads and washed out bridges

For more information about hurricane preparedness visit www.redcross.com/prepare/disaster/hurricane.
It’s a sultry summer day in Louisiana, but students across the state are much too busy learning about science and math subjects to focus on the weather.

The future of the United States and Louisiana depends on its ability to prepare the next generation to be innovators in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), yet today, far too students are prepared for the challenge ahead.

So, how can students be encouraged to pursue STEM careers? And how prepared are Louisiana’s educators to teach STEM subjects? In June, Louisiana Public Broadcasting (LPB) aired a Public Square episode, “STEM Status: Science, Technology, Engineering and Math in Louisiana,” to search for answers to these questions and many more. Sponsored by Dow, the program featured a panel of STEM experts from across the state including Dow Public Affairs Leader, Stacey Chiasson. Learn more by viewing the episode: www.lpb.org/publicsquare.

Sponsorship of LPB’s Public Square is just one example of what Dow is doing all over Louisiana to support and promote STEM education. From an endowment to create a science chair to a grant for a team of student recyclers in St. Charles, Dow is busy providing opportunities to both students and teachers.

**Plaquemine**

A five-year Dow grant, announced in 2009, has allowed St. John High School to endow its first science chair, William Gregg. He has been busy not only teaching advanced courses and helping elementary teachers with science experiments, but building programs like an extracurricular robotics team.

“We have a two-day competition each year where students must build a robot. They are given parameters for what the robot must do, and then they design and test it,” says St. John Administrator, David Dean. “The kids love the challenge, and they learn a lot from it!”

**Baton Rouge**

Across the river from Dow’s site in Plaquemine, more than 90 students from Greater Baton Rouge participated in the inaugural year of Louisiana Resource Center for Educators (LRCE) Reach for Success Math & Science Summer Camp. Supported by Dow, students in 4th through 12th grades participated in 16 days of math and science instruction correlated to four weekly field trip destinations. In addition, the master math and science teachers at the camp hosted student teachers from LRCE’s certification program who will be new teachers in Louisiana STEM classrooms for the 2013-14 school year.
“With a waiting list for any openings that might occur at the camp and students constantly asking why math and science isn’t ‘this fun during the school year,’ the camp obviously ignited an interest in the STEM areas for these students,” says Jaime Finane, LRCE director of certification solutions.

St. Charles Parish

Teachers can get advanced training through the Smithsonian Science Education Center. Science teachers from around the country attend the Smithsonian Science Education Center in Washington, D.C., to receive advanced training, with the support of Dow. Several teachers from the St. Charles area attended the program at no cost to their districts.

Meanwhile, a long-term partnership with several area schools continues to provide opportunities for students. One such partnership is the St. Charles Borromeo Green Team. This group of eighth-graders learns about science through activities such as regular collection of recyclable materials from around the school.

Sterlington

Travelling north, near Dow’s ANGUS facility in Sterlington, high-achieving high schoolers from across the state and beyond gathered at the University of Louisiana-Monroe for the President’s Academy, a five-day residential college preparatory program.

Academy participants choose one of four career paths to study in depth. The students who choose physical sciences spend much of their time working at the ANGUS plant with professional scientists and other employees.

“For us, it is important to interest kids in science and technology,” says Ernest Green, site leader for ANGUS, a wholly-owned Dow subsidiary and founding sponsor of the President’s Academy. “We get a lot of excitement from our employees. When you bring students in, our employees are proud to share what they do.”

This past July, Dow hosted a dinner for the inaugural class of Baton Rouge Community College Westside Campus, the new community and technical college located in Iberville Parish. More than 50 local students enrolled in electrical and instrumentation coursework offered over the summer. The official ribbon cutting ceremony will take place in the fall. Fall classes will include nursing and industrial maintenance coursework such as pipefitting, millwright, electrical and instrumentation. Dow has been a major supporter of the new college, having made a $1 million donation towards the construction of the new facility in 2011.
The Audubon Nature Institute in New Orleans is a priceless community treasure. With its zoo, aquarium, public parks, IMAX theater and something called the “Insectarium,” visitors get an up-close, interactive look at nature and wildlife.

Today, three years have passed since Dow made a multi-year commitment to support the Whooping Crane Recovery Program. The Audubon Institute is playing a critical role in bringing endangered species back from the brink of extinction with its focus on bolstering the population of the delicate and majestic whooping crane.

“We were the first place where the whooping cranes were bred in captivity at Audubon Zoo in the 1950s,” says Laurie Conkerton, executive vice president of development for the Audubon Nature Institute. “It’s really special for us to be in the business again with whooping crane chicks.”

Dow is the presenting sponsor of Audubon’s Whooping Crane Recovery Program, underwriting critical research and animal care efforts that will help restore this endangered species to its native Louisiana.

“We have been able to sustain our whooping crane program by paying for keepers’ time, care of the birds and feeding the birds,” Laurie says. “Dow has really helped us take care of the birds and preserve the species.”

**About the Whooping Crane**

In the early 20th century, whooping cranes were a prevalent sight throughout North America. The majestic, white birds with black-tipped wings stand approximately 5 feet tall with a wingspan of 7-1/2 feet and are named for the sound they make. Whooping cranes are the tallest birds in North America.

According to BirdLife International, the whooping crane population was estimated at about 10,000 before Europeans settled in North America. Habitat destruction and hunting took its toll on the whooping crane. By 1870, less than 1,500 whooping cranes existed. In 1938, the entire whooping crane species was reduced to just 15 adult birds. In 1967, the whooping crane was officially declared endangered.

“It’s a very delicate species”

Audubon’s recovery program is part of a larger, national network of zoos, wildlife preserves and government organizations dedicated to increasing the whooping crane population. Audubon’s contribution to this effort is facilitating the breeding process.

“We’re one of five facilities in the country producing fertile whooping crane eggs,” says Megan Savoie, Audubon’s whooping crane coordinator. “It’s not easy to get them to pair up in captivity. It’s a very delicate species.”

A whooping crane in the wild begins laying eggs at two or three years old, but in captivity, the cycle doesn’t begin until about nine years. Megan points to the whooping crane’s fickle nature.

“Whooping cranes don’t deal well with captivity because they need water and space,” she says. “They have very strong feelings about each other, who they like and who they don’t like...people included. And they can read you better than you can read them.”
One Egg at a Time

Since 2004, Audubon has contributed 20 fertile whooping crane eggs to the repopulation effort—an impressive amount, considering the bird’s delicate nature and small population.

For Megan, the opportunity to contribute to the whooping crane’s survival is as personal as it is professional.

“These are beautiful, beautiful birds,” she says. “It’s our responsibility as humans to care about endangered species and nurture them. Not just for us, but for future generations. It’s the right thing to do.”

500 and Counting

And the effort is paying off. With only 15 cranes in existence 80 years ago, today the whooping crane population is up to about 500.

“Our Whooping Crane Recovery Program has been successful, thanks to the hard work and determination of many people here at Audubon and the generous contribution from Dow,” Laurie says. “We can’t thank Dow enough for supporting this important, ongoing work to sustain the whooping crane.”
Dow employees and their families shared BBQ at a Louisiana State University vs. Southern University baseball tailgate with families from Cancer Services’ Bella Bowman Children’s Program before heading into the stadium to watch the game. “Our Bella Bowman Children’s Program is for children who have cancer and for their siblings,” says Chrissy Dupuy, development associate with Cancer Services, a Capital Area United Way Agency. “We love creating a chance for them to spend quality time together without having to think about cancer or worry about how to pay. Dow and LSU are amazing partners that help make nights like this possible, and we are so appreciative for their fantastic partnerships.”
Around the World

Did you know that Dow has sites in 36 countries? Dow’s six sites across Louisiana are a part of the Company’s 188 sites across the world. From Pennsylvania to the Netherlands… from Turkey to Thailand… each day, Dow employees are making an impact in their local communities. In this edition, read about Dow’s partnership with Habitat for Humanity.

Dow has been a proud supporter of Habitat for Humanity since 1983. As the first corporate sponsor for Habitat, Dow’s commitment and contributions reach beyond science and technology to embrace the Human Element, the need to be a responsible corporate citizen and the mission to help provide sustainable housing. Dow is honored to celebrate 30 years of partnership with Habitat for Humanity!

HELP FOR HAITI

Volunteers Help a Struggling Nation Get Building

As the plane approached the airport, the jaw-dropping reality of Haiti’s poverty stunned even those who knew what they had signed up for.

“You see the pictures on TV of shantytowns, and I was kind of expecting that, but I wasn’t expecting it to go on and on for miles,” recalls Dow employee Brad Blanchard, part of a nine-person team sponsored by Dow that traveled to the impoverished Caribbean nation last fall for a Habitat for Humanity building blitz. For eight days, this band of volunteers sawed, nailed, pounded and painted. When it was over, they left the place just a little better off than when they arrived.

Former President Jimmy Carter organizes a Habitat blitz build such as this one every year, rallying hundreds of volunteers and contributors from across America and around the globe. Carter chose Haiti as the site of both the 2011 and 2012 blitz builds because of the continuing effects of earthquakes, hurricanes and years of economic and political headwinds. The nation is in tatters. But its people push on.

The Habitat plan was to build 100 houses in eight days. More than 600 volunteers were divided into teams of about a dozen people, each team working on two houses at a time. The volunteers worked all day at the construction site, then took buses to a nearby sleeping area supplied with tents, security personnel and other necessities.

The Dow volunteer group worked on two houses near the ones being built by President Carter and his team, which included country music stars Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood. Some of the volunteers had construction experience, but most just worked hard and did whatever was asked of them. There was one power saw station for every 16 houses, so most of the work was done by hand. Steadily, the houses rose.

The hard work and trying conditions were worth it, Brad says, because now there are 100 families living in a pleasant, safe community.

“I’d do it again in a heartbeat,” Brad says. “After a week of cold showers and long days and living in tents, I was glad to get back to the states, but all of us said we would go back again.”

Dow’s sponsorship made it possible for the nine-person team to take part in the Haiti project, and six of the team members were Dow employees, including Bo Miller, the company’s global director of corporate citizenship and president of The Dow Chemical Company Foundation.

“I can’t tell you how proud I am to work with people who are willing to do so much, time and time again, to make the world a better place,” Bo says. “That’s what it’s all about.”
The Dow Chemical Company empowers 6,000 employees and contractors in Louisiana and generates $1 billion for the state’s economy every year.

Our people keep business growing, but they don’t stop there. Dow employees volunteer thousands of hours each year to help build community success. Inside the plant and out in the community, the people of Dow in Louisiana mean business. Dow.com/Careers

Dow in Louisiana
Our people mean business.