



Mississippi Water Resources Research  
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## IN THIS ISSUE:

The date has been set for the 2004 Water Resources Conference. You'll find the *Call for Abstracts* in this issue of **LORE!**

The **Mississippi State University Extension Service** is developing a water-quality based environmental stewardship educational program for agricultural land managers. This effort is part of a multi-state Extension co-programming initiative recently signed by the Extension Directors of Louisiana State, Mississippi State, and Arkansas.

Read more inside from:  
**MSU Extension Soil Specialist, Larry Oldham, Ph.D.**

**Mississippi State**  
UNIVERSITY

125 YEARS  
1878-2003

# L.O.R.E.

*Lakes, Oceans, Rivers and Estuaries*

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## ***GeoResources Institute Objectives:***

- ~Increase the fundamental understanding of Earth's natural resources systems
- ~Develop natural resources management capabilities (Decision Support Systems) that capitalize on this knowledge:

***Protect and enhance land and water resources through applications of science-based knowledge; Enhance the productivity and profitability of agricultural and forestry systems through science and advanced technologies; Optimize land-use management practices by converging technologies and capabilities; Develop watershed management strategies and knowledge to promote sustainable economic development, community viability and natural resources conservation***

- ~Maximize information that can be derived and utilized from remote sensing and other geospatial technologies for socio-economic benefits
- ~Develop an educated public



## From the Director

We've put the wraps on the 2003 Mississippi Water Resources Conference, and by many, if not all, measures it was a great success. Attendance was the same as last year and, given the budget problems that state agencies are facing, that counts as an increase in my books. I've gotten very positive feedback on the topics we covered this year, and on the greater use of plenary sessions with prominent speakers on relevant state and national issues. The Planning Committee is already actively working on next year's conference; please contact us with suggestions for topics or speakers. The Call for Abstracts for the 2004 conference is included in this newsletter, and we'd like to have outstanding technical papers and posters for the conference.

The GeoResources Institute has created a Listserve for a statewide discussion group on water-related issues. All of you who have provided us with your e-mail address were automatically added to the Listserve when it was created, and you should've already been getting e-mails from us. If not, simply send an e-mail to [water@gri.msstate.edu](mailto:water@gri.msstate.edu) with no subject line, and in the text body type 'subscribe'. We're trying not to send what some would consider spam through the Listserve; however, funding opportunities, position announcements, and articles on water resource issues have been sent. We hope you'll join if you haven't already. Also, feel free to contribute any of the above to the Listserve.

The Institute is involved in a number of national issues; some from a policy advisory standpoint and some that are developing funding opportunities. Some of these include: TMDL, invasive species, water quantity, homeland security, and health-related issues regarding failing septic systems.

This will be the next to last paper issue of the newsletter that you'll receive. Beginning next year, we're planning to move the newsletter to an all-electronic format. This gives us more flexibility to have larger issues with more color, reduces printing and mailing costs, and allows us to get it to you in a timelier manner. We plan on posting it to the web and sending everyone an e-mail about its availability with a link to the URL; that way you can view or download it whenever you like, but you don't get bogged down with a large e-mail attachment. Be looking for all future issues at [www.gri.msstate.edu](http://www.gri.msstate.edu).

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## Feature Article

The Mississippi State University Extension Service is developing a water-quality based environmental stewardship educational program for agricultural land managers. This effort is part of a multi-state Extension co-programming initiative recently signed by the Extension Directors of Louisiana State, Mississippi State, and Arkansas.

Louisiana developed the Master Farmer program over the past few years to assist producers in dealing with agri-environmental issues. The Environmental Stewardship component of the Master Farmer program has three phases: 1) eight hours of classroom instruction on water quality issues, conservation programs and services, and other environmental concerns, 2) participation in continuing education opportunities at model farms with installed and monitored Best Management Practices, and 3) developing and implementing a Conservation Plan.

The program is focused on voluntary, locally-led solutions to natural resource concerns. It is synergistic to various on-going environmental stewardship initiatives throughout Mississippi, and will complement them. The unique multi-state aspect allows us to utilize LSU's experience, and to co-plan with Arkansas, so that start-up efficiencies allow for more effective use of limited resources. However, the Mississippi program will be unique to the state, and focus on the unique resource concerns in different regions.

The program presented by the LSU AgCenter is sponsored by Louisiana Farm Bureau, and endorsed by the Louisiana Cattlemen's Association. Other agencies involved in the coalition include NOAA, USDA-NRCS, Louisiana Conservation Districts, and the Louisiana Departments of Agriculture, Environmental Quality, and Natural Resources. Since January, MSU-ES has conducted needs-assessment research, conducted coalition building discussions, program planning, and curriculum review. Giving the favorable response to this background work, implementation planning is underway with a targeted four pilot county programs in early 2004. Curriculum is being developed and adopted, and coalition membership communications will continue throughout 2003.

*This article was submitted by Larry Oldham, Ph.D., Extension Soil Specialist at Mississippi State University Extension Service. You may reach Larry at (662)325-2311 or by email at [lolddham@pss.msstate.edu](mailto:lolddham@pss.msstate.edu).*

# Call for Abstracts

## 2004 Mississippi Water Resources Conference

### Conference Sponsors:

Mississippi Water Resources Research - GeoResources Institute  
U.S. Geological Survey, Mississippi District Office  
Mississippi Dept. of Environmental Quality's Offices of Land and Water Resources and Pollution Control  
Mississippi Water Resources Association

**April 20-21, 2004**

Eagle Ridge Conference Center  
Hinds Community College, Raymond, Mississippi

Abstracts for presentations and posters must contain 200-400 words and are to be prepared on *any water resources related topic*. Authors should understand that if their abstract is accepted, they agree to register for the meeting, pay the appropriate registration fee (or late fee) and present their paper/poster. If you fail to attend the meeting and do not cancel in writing by April 2, 2004, you are still responsible for paying the appropriate registration fee upon receipt of an invoice from Water Resources. Papers/Posters not presented at the Conference will not be published in the *Proceedings*. A registration fee of \$75.00 (\$100.00 late registration) covers all conference activities and a copy of the *Proceedings*. (Student fee is \$20.00.)

**IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR 2004:** We will no longer edit or correct manuscripts. Accordingly, authors are strongly encouraged to closely adhere to the instructions to authors that will be provided later. We also reserve the right to return manuscripts with substantial grammatical errors to authors for revision. If authors do not quickly revise and resubmit their manuscripts, they may not be included in the *Proceedings*.

### All submissions must include the following information:

**Paper Title**

**Key Words (3-5 from list below)**

**What your Paper is to be considered for: Oral Presentation, Poster Presentation or Both**

**Presenter's Name, Title and Affiliation**

**Presenter's Address, Phone, Fax and Email**

**Any Co-Author/s and Affiliation**

**Are you an Undergraduate/Graduate Student, and if yes, what year and major/discipline?**

### KEY DATES:

Abstracts Due by **November 15, 2003**

Papers Due by **April 2, 2004**

### SEND ABSTRACT TO:

Ms. Patricia Wilson, 2004 Conference Coordinator

[pmac@gri.msstate.edu](mailto:pmac@gri.msstate.edu)

## Keywords

Acid Deposition, Agriculture, Climatological Processes, Conservation, Drought, Ecology, Economics, Education, Floods, Geomorphological and Geochemical Processes, Ground Water, Hydro Geochemistry, Hydrology, Irrigation, Law, Institutions & Policy, Management & Planning, Methods, Models, Nitrate Contamination, Nonpoint Source Pollution, Nutrients, Recreation, Sediments, Solute Transport, Source Water, Surface Water, Toxic Substances, Treatment, Wastewater, Water Quality, Water Quantity, Water Supply, Water Use, Wetlands

## ***Water and water related land resources issues in Mississippi, and neighboring states, will continue to be of growing importance.***

**W**ater resource issues have expanded in scope over the past 2 decades to include ground and surface water (interaction and a growing emphasis on basin/watershed scale management.) Because of this expansion, inter- and multi-disciplinary efforts are required, and education, outreach and research pertaining to these issues has been coordinated through the GeoResources Institute.

**B**ecause of the regional, if not national, scope of water resources issues, funding opportunities from federal, state, and even private agencies will increase. The GeoResources Institute is positioned to quickly and effectively respond to research and subsequent information dissemination needs of federal, state and private agencies regarding water resources.

**W**ater Resources has expanded to include a coordinating role among units at MSU with expertise, mandates, and/or existing research and education programs directly or indirectly associated with water resources issues. The GeoResources Institute's goal is to be the premier entity in the state and region for information and expertise on water resources issues.

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**Patricia Wilson**, Staff Assistant/  
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