

Woodlands volunteers celebrate national public lands day

More than 30 volunteers spent a beautiful beginning of fall day at Woodlands Trail and Park on Saturday, Sept. 27 to help clear trails, install directional signage and mount wood duck nesting boxes. Scouts, 4-H, the XYZ group from Chevron Oronite, volunteers from Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and the National Park Service and community volunteers joined with Woodlands Trail and Park board members to work on enhancement projects

and re-pot oak seedlings that are destined for planting next spring. McMoRan Exploration provided funds for the wood duck nesting project along with a contribution of wood duck nesting boxes from the National Wildlife Federation. Funds from Louisiana's Recreational Trails program were used to purchase directional signage to post at trail intersections. National Public Lands Day falls on the last Saturday of September. Volunteers, state, federal and

local agencies worked together to participate in this annual day of caring for shared lands.

Plaquemines Parish President Billy Nungesser assisted in mounting a wood duck nesting box along the greenway and trail and thanked the volunteers for their time and commitment. He apologized for not showing up prepared to work and offered to help in the future with projects at Woodlands Trail-America's Wetland Birding Trail in Belle Chasse.



Volunteers take a break on National Public Lands Day to stand with Plaquemines Parish President Billy Nungesser around the sign that denotes that Woodlands Trail and Park is on the Natural Areas Registry. The Natural Areas Registry program is a volunteer program under the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. The designation is made when an owner of a piece of property agrees to protect an area and its unique natural elements to the best of their ability. The designation originally made in 2005 was continued by President Nungesser's administration. Left to right: Eric Miniclier, Jan Morgan, Robert Willie, Plaquemines Parish President Billy Nungesser, Kellen Smith, Connell Vallette Adrienne Viosca (Front row) Ben Graham and Ryan Vedros.



The XYZ Network group from Chevron Oronite spent National Public Lands Day at Woodlands Trail and Park. The Chevron Oronite volunteers spent the day posting directional signs posts and mounting them along major trail intersections. Left to right: Paula Jones, Daniel Meke, Kyle Frederic, Christine Cromer, Charles Angel, Josh Byram, Katie Gonsoulin.