



CITY OF KENNER

PRESS RELEASE

MICHAEL S. YENNI
MAYOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARTIFICIAL REEF TO BE BUILT NEAR LAKETOWN FISHING PIER

Kenner, LA. - Thanks to a partnership between private business, a marine resource conservation group and the state, an artificial reef – designed to attract fish and promote fishing in Laketown - will be built in Lake Pontchartrain on the west side of the Williams Boulevard fishing pier, officials said.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark this important event will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, at the fishing pier. City, parish and state officials are scheduled to attend.

The reef is a project of the Coastal Conservation Association of Louisiana (CCA), which has partnered with Shell Oil Company, the state Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and Pontchartrain Materials on what will be the 13th reef built by CCA and its partners and the fourth in Lake Pontchartrain.

“This will be a tremendous enticement for people to fish off of the pier because the reef will attract fish in significant numbers,” Yenni said. “This fits in line with our 2030 Plan to take advantage of the city’s current resources to enhance future development. Laketown is already a popular destination and this should add a new stream of visitors.”

The first two reefs in Lake Pontchartrain – the South Shore Reef and the Kim and Dudley Vandendorre reefs – relied on recycled materials from the I-10 Twin Spans that were damaged in Hurricane Katrina. They were opened in 2010 and 2011. A third reef, the St. Tammany Fishing Pier Reef, was opened last year.

“We think that the construction of this new reef at the existing fishing pier will help it become a popular spot to fish Lake Pontchartrain,” said CCA Louisiana Conservation and Habitat Chairman John Walter. “We expect trout, redfish and flounder to be plentiful over this new reef.”

The location of the Kenner reef, to be built with 2,000 tons of crushed limestone, was specifically chosen for people who want to fish off of the pier, said East Jefferson CCA Chapter President Bill LeJeune.

It is being paid for with money provided by Shell, CCA’s Building Conservation Trust and the LDWF Artificial Reef Trust Fund. Continuing support of CCA’s Artificial Reef Program is provided by the Paul Candies Family.

“This is a wonderful example of the state partnering with business and non-profits to benefit the community,” Yenni said. “If you like to fish, this could make our pier a very popular location.”

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