

An Invitation to World Wetlands Day Activities at Caddo Lake

On Saturday, February 2nd, the Caddo Lake Ramsar Clearinghouse¹ will hold a half-day workshop in honor of the Caddo Lake Ramsar site, designated as a “Wetlands of International Importance.” This meeting will focus on 1) issues of concern with the recent increase in oil and gas activity in the Caddo Lake area and 2) problems with another invasive species of concern, Chinese tallow.

World Wetlands Day marks the day in 1971 when the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands was adopted. Each year, February 2nd is celebrated in over 95 countries as a time to recognize the vital importance of wetlands and the positive effects wetlands have on public health, the economy, and the environment.

Meetings of the Clearinghouse are intended to provide information to the community and respond to concerns in the community over the health of Caddo Lake, the associated wetlands, and the economy and welfare of the surrounding communities. Thus, invasive aquatic vegetation, the economic value of the new Wildlife Refuge, water pollution, risks of mercury in fish and other similar issues have been the subject of prior Clearinghouse meetings.

RSVPS ENCOURAGED - so we can plan refreshments

AGENDA

Saturday, February 2, 2008
Karnack Community Center

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| 9:30 | Welcoming |
| 9:35 | World Wetland Day: Rick Lowerre, President, Caddo Lake Institute |
| 9:45 | Caddo Lake Area Petroleum Industry, Historical Summary: Sam Collier ²

Current Activities, Trends and Issues: Phillip B. Baldwin, Jr, Attorney, Marshall Tx.

State Regulation of Oil & Gas Activities: Mike O'Quinn, District Director, Kilgore Office, Railroad Commission of Texas |
| 10:45 | Questions and Answers |
| 11:15 | Break |
| 11:30 | Chinese Tallow: Impacts on Caddo Lake and Potential Community Involvement
Vanessa Adams, Biologist, Caddo Lake Wildlife Management Area, TPWD |
| 12:15 | Questions and Answers |
| 12:30 | Adjourn |

¹ The Clearinghouse is composed of the City of Uncertain, the Greater Caddo Lake Association, the Caddo Lake Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism and the Caddo Lake Institute.

² Sam Collier has recently published the book, North Caddo Parish, with Acadia Publishing, as part of the Images of America series. It includes a chapter of the history of oil and gas development on Caddo Lake in Louisiana from its start at the turn of the century until the 1950s. The book is available.