



## MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

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# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### ***Build a Rain Barrel Workshop to Be Held Feb. 16 at Grand Bay NERR***

BILOXI, Miss. – Build a rain barrel for your yard at the next *Adventure Quencher* activity on Feb. 16, 10 a.m. to noon, at the Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in partnership with Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant and the Auburn University Marine Extension and Research Center. February's adventure will include a presentation on water conservation followed by the construction of a rain barrel to take home with you. The presentation is free; however, the rain barrel kit costs \$40. You must pre-register **and turn in your barrel fee by Feb. 13** in order to be involved in the construction phase of the workshop. Participants must have a way to transport their completed rain barrel to their home.

After the presentation, participants will move outdoors to tour the grounds of the facility to see how the Reserve has incorporated cisterns (giant rain barrels) into their building design. An optional tour of the Reserve's green building will also be offered. Light refreshments will be served. This is a family-friendly event. For more information please contact Jennifer Buchanan at (228) 475-7047 or [jen.buchanan@dmr.ms.gov](mailto:jen.buchanan@dmr.ms.gov).

The Grand Bay Coastal Resources Center is located at 6005 Bayou Heron Road near Moss Point, Mississippi. For directions to the Center and more information on these events, please visit our website at [www.grandbaynerr.org](http://www.grandbaynerr.org).

The Grand Bay NERR is located in southeast Jackson County, Mississippi and includes wetlands and waterways from Bang's Lake to the Alabama state line. A major goal of the Reserve is to provide for research coordination and dissemination of scientific data to the community and local decision-makers to provide sound information on which to base management decisions.

The 18,000-acre reserve is home to several rare or endangered plant and animal species and serves as an essential nursery habitat for numerous important commercial and recreational fish species. The Reserve is managed through state-federal partnership between the DMR and its local partners—Mississippi Secretary of State's Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mississippi State University and the Nature Conservancy—and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the state by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to provide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes. Visit the DMR online at [www.dmr.ms.gov](http://www.dmr.ms.gov).



**Photo Caption: This is an example of the typical rain barrel that will be constructed during the workshop. Picture provided by MS-AL Sea Grant.**

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