



**VOLUNTEERS
LEAD THE WAY!**



One Year Review - 2011

Help protect our childrens' future here on Earth.

www.RestoretheEarth.org



How on Earth Do We Restore the Earth?

We recognize that restoration is an entirely positive activity, its success and long term sustainability depends on ownership, partnership and support with regional, local and community stakeholders.

We actively form collaborative partnerships with multiple stakeholders, including environmental not-for profits, government agencies, communities, and businesses to create alliances to address the challenges of restoring the Earth.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

USDA Farm Service Agency • US Fish and Wildlife Service • TRG Services • State of Mississippi • State of Louisiana • City of Pascagoula • Americorps • City of Gautier • City of Ocean Springs • Mississippi State University • Land Trust of the Mississippi Coastal Plain • Louisiana State University • HalpernCarter Associates • National Audubon Society • Southeastern Louisiana University • Comite Resources • Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana • New Orleans City Park • Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program • Wetland Resources • Tierra Resources • Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries • Restore Americas Estuaries • Nature Conservancy • NRCS • For the Bayou • Home Depot Foundation • Global Green • Bethesda Green • Cypress Cove Marina • Audubon Louisiana Nature Center • USDA National Agroforestry Center • SWCDS • Sustainable Ecosystems Restoration • EKOsystems Partners • Boston Architectural College • Trident Environmental Services • Ecological Restoration Services • Mississippi Forestry Commission • Entergy Corp • National Wildlife Federation • Operation Nehemiah • Gulf Coast Response Involvement Team • Whitetail Oilfield Services • National Audubon Society • EarthShare • Black Bear Conservation Coalition • Common Ground Relief • Groundworks, USA • Cornell Lab of Ornithology • Ducks Unlimited • CLIF BAR • In Good Company • Plaquemines Parish • Local and National Volunteers

Restore the Earth Foundation's VISION

We seek to serve as a *catalyst* for:

- Creating partnerships which mobilize human potential to take action to restore the Earth.
- Encouraging environmental movements which provide the Earth with CPR, (Conservation, Protection, Restoration).
- Transforming concerns for environmental degradation into positive action.
- Inspiring each of us to *take action* restoring ecosystems.

Our approach is proactive and practical, combining innovative all natural solutions, partnerships and dedicated volunteer hard work to help the Earth to heal itself.



Volunteers plugging Gulf Saver bags

Joining REF's efforts was more worthwhile than I can describe....their ecological impact is so important as part of building momentum toward real solutions."

—Jennifer Reed, Volunteer

VOLUNTEERS LEAD THE WAY!

Restoration work is not a passive process. We roll up our sleeves, pull on our boots and help nature do its work. Working in effective partnerships, we help people become active volunteers delivering scientifically sound programs and practical work on the ground.

We invite you to join us in REF's efforts!

Help to restore the Earth by volunteering. Participate in an empowering experience, doing something positive for our environment.

Demonstrate your understanding of the vital need to take care of our degraded ecosystems for our future well being.

Develop proactive relationships with the Earth, experiencing ecological restoration through practical work, in challenging conditions, remote site locations, immersed in the ecosystems.

Experience local flora and fauna in their natural habitats and experience first hand the significance of the ecosystems.

Connect with nature. Working in forests, wetlands, and rivers provides you and others with an opportunity to observe and learn from the land itself. Unite with us in the shared task of restoring the Earth.

Share with others. Be a part of an environmentally caring community, working together.

Become a vision of hope transforming concern into empowering action.

"I commend REF's leadership role stewarding restoration efforts, creating programs and models aimed at a lifetime of environmentally focused and sustainable development." —Eliza Russell, Director of Education,

National Wildlife Federation



Volunteers deploying Gulf Saver bags....

"Seeing the restoration to maturity of 'trees in our lifetime' is the hope that REF brings to the Mississippi Gulf Coast. We would replant for our children, but now we will be able to see our heritage and native trees restore our urban forests as well as our coastal habitats re-established in our lifetime."

—Judy Steckler, Director,
The Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain

"We all teamed up to replant our devastated community and your trees brought us together"

—Troy Guillotte, City of Gautier, Mississippi



PROJECTS “boots on the ground”

We have a successful track record of responding quickly to environmental emergencies (man-made or natural disasters) and critical restoration challenges with community based models that get “boots on the ground.” To-date we have secured funding, created and implemented proven models that:

“REF has brought a much needed, innovative, successful solution to restore our valuable wetlands with the Gulf Saver Bag® initiative.”
—Shane Granier, Chief Biologist,
LA Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries



....an innovative solution for critical wetlands restorationin only 4 months providing early project success!

🌿 **Reforested 30,000 acres** in 6 Mississippi coastal counties and five Louisiana parishes, where 320 million trees were lost in the two 2005 hurricane disasters. Planted over 1.5 million, native trees that have fostered the growth of thousands more of naturally regenerated seedlings.

🌿 **Committed to providing 10,000 native bottomland hardwood trees** to completely restore 86 acres of the Audubon Louisiana Nature Center, New Orleans, Louisiana, once one of the top five urban Nature Centers in the U.S. totally destroyed by the 2005 hurricanes.

🌿 **Provided for 10,000 native cypress trees** in an initial effort to restore hundreds of thousands of acres of ailing wetlands in Big Branch National Wildlife Refuge, Slidell, La.; Spanish Lake Game and Fish Preserve, New Iberia, La.; Big Mar Lake, Plaquemines Parish; Hammond Assimilation Wetland, Hammond, La.; Barataria Preserve of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, Barataria, LA; and at Paul J. Rainey Wildlife Refuge & Game Reserve, Abbeville, La.

🌿 **Implemented the very first marsh restoration** on oil soiled wetlands in response to the Deep Water Horizon oil spill, through Restore the Earth Foundation’s Gulf Saver Bag initiative in the Pass a Loutre Wildlife Management Area, located at the southeast tip of Plaquemines Parish, where the Mississippi River empties into the Gulf of Mexico.



RESTORING THE EARTH is a “work in progress”.

REF’s collaborative partnerships offer opportunities for volunteerism, gift support and action to expand the scale and success of conservation, preservation and restoration work on critical environmental sites.

We need your help in making this happen!

“Working with REF, our volunteers ‘really get their hands dirty’ while learning the importance of restoring our coastal forests.”

—Amy LeGaux,
Director, Audubon Louisiana Nature Center



How You Can Restore the Earth...

Volunteer - Working in effective partnerships, we invite volunteers to help us deliver programs of practical work on the ground. Our projects and programs provide the opportunity for people from around the country, of all ages and backgrounds to help.

Donate - Through our website, by mail or in person provide Restore the Earth Foundation with vital gift resources to carry out our mission and vision. Contact us about giving single, recurring or planned and estate gifts to REF.

Adopt an Acre - You can help restore some of North America’s most important ecosystems.

Share Our Collective Concerns with Others



JOIN US! Take action to increase Gulf Coast reforestation and wetland restoration by two hundred percent (200%) or more during the next two years.

HELP US! Expand, enhance, and evolve partnership networks to **take action** for restoration and conservation of critical environmental sites in the northeast and Great Lakes regions and endangered sites on the west coast.

WITH YOUR INVOLVEMENT & SUPPORT! Restore the Earth Foundation will fulfill its mission and be the catalyst for creating partnerships which mobilize human potential into action to restore our **Earth**.



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THANK YOU for your Support!



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