



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

NEWS RELEASE

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11-86-SB

August 11, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve Presents "Treasure Hunting With a Twist"

BILOXI, Miss. – The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources' (MDMR) Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR), in partnership with the Walter Anderson Museum of Art (WAMA) are presenting a free Adventure Quencher activity featuring *"Letterboxing—Treasure Hunting With a Twist"* on Saturday, August 20, 2011 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Letterboxing is a growing hobby that combines hiking, treasure hunting, art and journaling into a fun and mentally challenging outdoor adventure for all ages.

The introductory course on the art and strategy of letterboxing will be held at the NERR located at 6005 Bayou Heron Road, Moss Point, Miss., and workshop materials will be provided free of charge. Participants will make their own stamps and journals, venture to the NERR's new letterbox and learn how to build and hide their own letterbox in an environmentally friendly way. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please contact Jennifer Buchanan at 228-475-7047 or jen.buchanan@dmr.ms.gov for more information.

The NERR is located near the community of Pecan in southeast Jackson County, 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 plant and animal species and serves as an essential nursery habitat for numerous important commercial and recreational fish species. The NERR is managed through state-federal partnership between the MDMR and its local partners: Mississippi Secretary of State's Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mississippi State University, The Nature Conservancy, The University of Southern Mississippi 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.

Attached:Flyer

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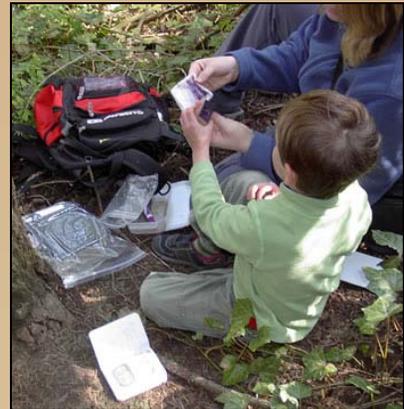
LETTERBOXING—Treasure Hunting with a Twist A Free, Lifelong Hobby the Whole Family Can Enjoy

What: FREE Letterboxing Basics Workshop

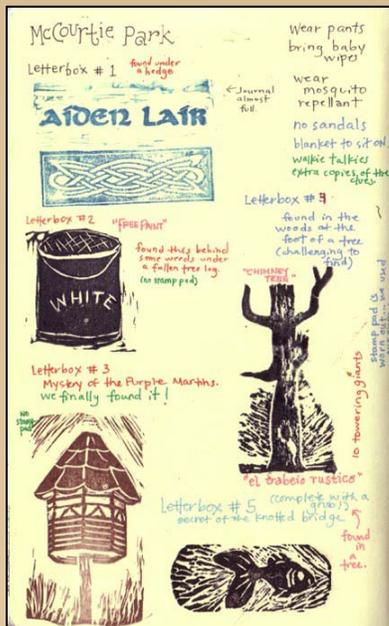
When: Saturday August 20, 2011

Time: From 9:30 AM till noon

Where: Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
Coastal Resources Center
6005 Bayou Heron Road
Moss Point, MS 39562



Journal
Example



This growing hobby combines hiking, treasure hunting, art and journaling into a fun and mentally challenging outdoor adventure. Participants follow clues posted on the internet to seek out hidden letterboxes. No expensive electronic GPS/navigational unit is required. You only need your own stamp, a stamp pad, a journal, a pen or pencil and sometimes an inexpensive compass.

These letterboxes have been hidden around the world by previous travelers for you to find. Each letterbox consists of a watertight container, a stamp, and a logbook. Most of the stamps are handmade by the originators of the letterboxes. Once you find a letterbox, all you do is stamp the journal in the box with your stamp and use the stamp in the box to leave an image in your journal!

In this workshop you will:

Make Your Own Stamp and Journal · **Venture** to our New Letterbox · **Learn** How to Build and Hide Your Own Letterbox in an Environmentally Friendly Way

For more information or to sign up for this event, please contact:
Jennifer Buchanan at jen.buchanan@dmr.ms.gov or 228.475.7047.

Sponsored by: The Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve and
The Walter Anderson Museum of Art