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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 6:00 A.M.  
Thursday, October 21, 2010

### **Lafourche Parish Government Asks Citizens to “Be Air Aware”** *Air Awareness Days Scheduled for October 22 and 29*

Lafourche Parish Government is asking parish residents to help raise air quality in Lafourche Parish by using good “air-awareness practices.” While these practices should be used every day, parish officials have established *Air Awareness Days* on Friday, October 22 and Friday, October 29, and they are asking that everyone follow these recommendations as strictly as possible on those two days.

- **Postpone Yard Work.** Use gas-powered lawn equipment in the cooler evening or early-morning hours. Use hand tools when possible.
- **Reduce Power Demand.** Turn off fans and lights when not home or in the room. Lower air conditioners to reduce power use. Minimize trips to the refrigerator.
- **Limit Solvent Usage.** Avoid using charcoal lighter fluid, dry cleaning fluids, oil-based paints, and other flammable liquids. When painting, use a brush instead of a sprayer.
- **Burn Carefully.** Try to avoid using a fireplace or wood-burning stove, but when you do, use well-seasoned wood. Do not burn trash, leaves, and other materials (*there is a state-wide burn ban in effect*).
- **Limit Chemical Use.** Use household, workshop and garden chemicals in ways that keep evaporation to a minimum. .
- **Choose Alternative Transportation.** Consider walking, biking, carpooling or using public transportation to help to reduce emissions.
- **Drive Less Frequently.** Combine errands to reduce travel and refrain from prolonged engine idling. Avoid waiting in long drive-thru lines. Park your car and go in.
- **Keep it in the Tank.** Fill up at the gas station after dusk to avoid releasing fumes during the hottest parts of the day. Be sure the pump has a fuel tank opening cover on the nozzle to avoid excess fumes being released. Avoid spilling any gas, and do not “top off” the tank.
- **Refrain from Aggressive Driving.** Avoid rapidly accelerating or braking. Follow speed limits.

With enough participation, parish residents will help raise air quality throughout the parish. For a more extensive, organized list of good “air-awareness practices”, and for more information, residents can log on to the *Be Air Aware* section of the parish website: [http://www.lafourchegov.org/be\\_air\\_aware.aspx](http://www.lafourchegov.org/be_air_aware.aspx). There is also a link to this section on the homepage.