

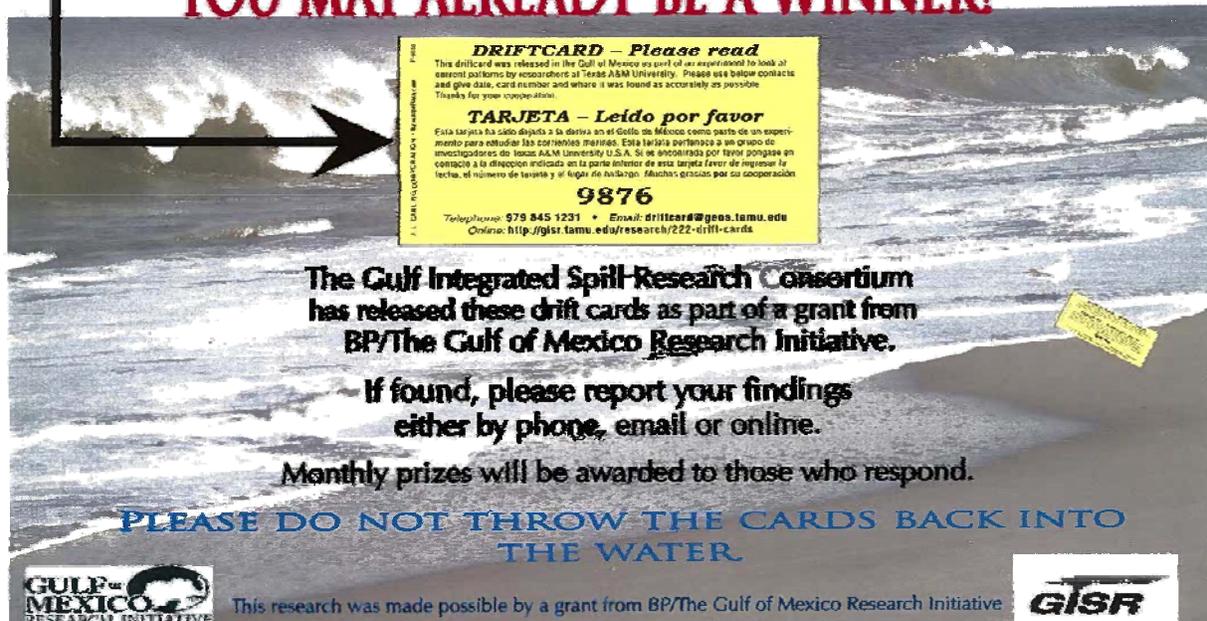
## Coastal & Marine Resource Newsletter

### Drift Card Experiment

The Gulf Integrated Spill Research consortium (Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative funded consortium lead by Texas A&M University) is conducting a drift card experiment. Environmentally friendly, bright yellow drift cards are being deployed on vessels of opportunity to better understand surface circulations in the Gulf of Mexico. An essential component of this program is public awareness. Only those cards which are found and reported give use data points to work with.

We ask that you would please post the attached fliers in public areas (marinas, public offices, etc.) to help make the public aware of this program and increase our card recovery rate.

**IF YOU FIND ONE OF THESE,  
REPORT IT!  
YOU MAY ALREADY BE A WINNER!**



**DRIFTCARD - Please read**  
This drifcard was released in the Gulf of Mexico as part of an experiment to look at current patterns by researchers at Texas A&M University. Please see below contacts and give date, card number and where it was found as accurately as possible. Thanks for your cooperation!

**TARJETA - Leído por favor**  
Esta tarjeta ha sido dejada a la deriva en el Golfo de México como parte de un experimento para estudiar las corrientes marinas. Esta tarjeta pertenece a un grupo de investigadores de Texas A&M University U.S.A. Si se encuentra por favor pongase en contacto a la dirección indicada en la parte inferior de esta tarjeta favor de ingresar la fecha, el número de tarjeta y el lugar de hallazgo. ¡Muchas gracias por su cooperación!

**9876**  
Telephone: 979 845 1231 • Email: [drifcard@geos.tamu.edu](mailto:drifcard@geos.tamu.edu)  
Online: <http://gist.tamu.edu/research/222-drift-cards>

**The Gulf Integrated Spill Research Consortium  
has released these drift cards as part of a grant from  
BP/The Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative.**

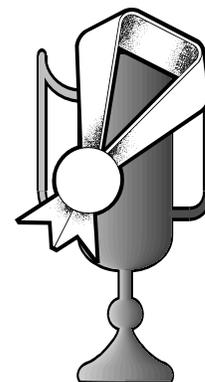
**If found, please report your findings  
either by phone, email or online.**

**Monthly prizes will be awarded to those who respond.**

**PLEASE DO NOT THROW THE CARDS BACK INTO  
THE WATER.**



## Texas Sea Grant Team Earns Superior Service Award

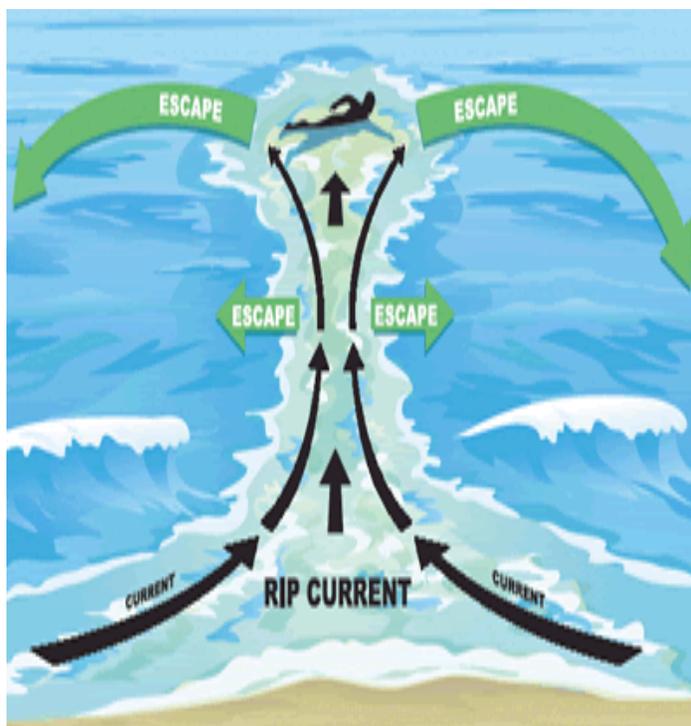


Texas A&M Extension Service Director Dr. Doug Steele (far left) presented team Superior Service Awards to, from left, Julie Massey, Terrie Looney, Rhonda Cummins, Dr. Russ Miget, Gary Graham and Mike Haby. Team members John O'Connell, Tony Reisinger and Ginger Easton did not attend the awards ceremony. -Photo by Jim Hiney

The annual Superior Service Awards recognize AgriLife Extension faculty and staff members who provide outstanding performance in Extension education or in service to the organization. Texas Sea Grant's Extension Program is operated jointly with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Our own Coastal and Marine Resource Agent Terrie Looney was a recipient!! Way to Go Terrie!!

## How to Avoid and Survive Rip Currents

### Learn how to swim!



- Never swim alone.
- Be cautious at all times, especially when swimming at unguarded beaches. If in doubt, don't go out!
- Whenever possible, swim at a lifeguard protected beach.
- Obey all instructions and orders from lifeguards.
- If caught in a rip current, remain calm to conserve energy and think clearly.
- Don't fight the current. Swim out of the current in a direction following the shoreline. When out of the current, swim towards shore.
- If you are unable to swim out of the rip current, float or calmly tread water. When out of the current, swim towards shore.
- If you are still unable to reach shore, draw attention to yourself: face the shore, wave your arms, and yell for help.

If you see someone in trouble, get help from a lifeguard. If a lifeguard is not available, have someone call 9-1-1. Throw the rip current victim something that floats and yell instructions on how to escape. **Remember, many people drown while trying to save someone else from a rip current.**

## Sea Shell Salad

### What you need:

#### Utensils:

- Colander
- Measuring spoons
- Measuring cups
- Mixing bowl
- Mixing spoon
- Cutting board & knife

#### Ingredients:

- 1 $\frac{3}{4}$  cup pasta shells
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup celery\*, chopped
- $\frac{1}{3}$  cup carrots\*, grated
- $\frac{2}{3}$  cup sour pickles
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup onion\*, chopped
- 12.5 ounces light tuna in water\*
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup light mayonnaise
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup low fat plain yogurt

### What to do:

1. Wash your hands and clean your cooking area.
2. Cook dry pasta shells in water until tender and allow pasta to cool.
3. Wash and chop celery, carrots, pickles, and onions.
4. Add tuna, chopped vegetables, mayonnaise, and yogurt\* to mixing bowl and mix gently.
5. Chill salad and serve on a lettuce with sliced carrots.

**Note:** Please drain the yogurt before mixing with the vegetable and tuna mixture. This will keep salad creamy.

**Prep Time:** 10 minutes

**Cost per serving:** \$0.19

Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size 1/2 cup (128g)	
Servings Per Container 9	
Amount Per Serving	
<b>Calories</b> 200	Calories from Fat 15
% Daily Value*	
<b>Total Fat</b> 1.5g	<b>2%</b>
Saturated Fat 0g	<b>0%</b>
Trans Fat 0g	
<b>Cholesterol</b> 15mg	<b>5%</b>
<b>Sodium</b> 390mg	<b>16%</b>
<b>Total Carbohydrate</b> 32g	<b>11%</b>
Dietary Fiber 2g	<b>8%</b>
Sugars 4g	
<b>Protein</b> 16g	
Vitamin A 15%	Vitamin C 2%
Calcium 4%	Iron 10%

### MyPyramid:

- $\frac{2}{3}$  ounce Grains
- 1 ounce Meat & Beans

\* WIC Approved Food Package

This material is provided by the USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-Ed).

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin.

The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Revised: February 18, 2011



## Correcting Low Oxygen

### Watch for Potential Oxygen Depletions

Oxygen depletion accounts for 85% of all fish die-offs in Texas farm ponds. As the water continues to get warmer, the water holds less oxygen, yet the fish need more because of their metabolism increases. Thus, a pond that supported 2,000 to 3,000 pounds of fish per surface acre in the winter can easily become fish soup during the long, hot days of summer.

A surface acre of water - 43,560 square feet - can support a total of 1,000 pounds of fish. That is total weight of all water breathing animals - minnows, tadpoles and crayfish included.

Oxygen only enters the water through the top 1/4 inch layer. Depth does not count when calculating the fish capacity of the pond.

While aeration can increase the capacity some, it does not allow for an unlimited poundage of fish.

### Determining Oxygen Problems

Many pond owners are not aware of a potential problem until they find dead fish. Some things to watch for are:

1. Just at daylight, fish are at the surface gulping for air. Oxygen is lowest at night. Early morning gasping is a signal of an impending oxygen crash.
2. Several hot, still cloudy days that reduce plant photosynthesis and oxygen production.
3. Excessive algae or plant growth. While plants make oxygen during the day, they use it at night. The double load of fish and plants using oxygen at the same time can crash a pond.
4. Aquatic herbicide treatments that kill large amounts of plants. Not only do the oxygen producing plants die, but the decay process uses oxygen. Use caution when applying aquatic herbicide in water over 75 degrees.
5. Over feeding and over fertilization. The more fish eat, the more their metabolism increases and the more they fertilize the water. High metabolism increases oxygen use. Fish waste feeds bacteria that also uses oxygen.

If there **might** be a problem, take corrective measures immediately. Fish can die in minutes without sufficient oxygen.

Repeated exposure to low oxygen levels can also cause stress and eventual death.

1. At first sign of any water problem, stop feeding. Fish can live several weeks comfortably without food.
2. Reduce the fish load below 1,000 pounds per surface acre. It is much more pleasant to catch them out for the freezer than to scoop them out for the dump.
3. Circulate the water with a pump. Set the water intake just below the surface so that it sprays into the air while creating a surface current.
4. Add fresh well water, but aerate it well before it enters the pond. Water straight from the well has very little oxygen in it.
5. In an extreme emergency, back a boat on the trailer into the pond and run the motor in a fixed position to circulate the water.

For additional information about ponds, contact me at Texas AgriLife Extension Service, at 409-835-8461 or 409-727-2191 extension 8461.



Terrie Looney  
Jefferson-Chambers County  
Coastal & Marine Resource Agent

TL:mbf



It's time to get prepared — an active hurricane season is being predicted.

Grab and Go Bucket Contents

- Towel & washcloth
- Complete change of clothes
- First aid kit
- Flash light
- Radio
- Extra batteries
- Keys- house, car, etc
- ID- DL, SS, insurance
- Toilet paper
- Hygiene items- soap, tooth brush, etc.
- Comb or brush
- Wipes
- Paper & pens
- Deck of cards
- Gloves
- Hat
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray or wipes
- Black garbage bags (3)
- Clothes pins (6+)
- Can opener
- Bowl and utensils-stainless
- Non perishable food- 3 days
- Bottled water
- Hard candy
- Drink mix- tea, coffee, etc.
- Bandana
- Sewing kit or safety pins
- Swiss army knife or tool
- Sharp knife
- Duct tape
- Money- small bills
- Extra glasses
- Medication list (prescription copy)
- Home inventory list
- Family contact list
- Emergency number list
- Map
- \*\*\*\*\*

Terrie Looney  
Coastal and Marine Resource Agent  
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# TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION



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## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



A couple of young fellers were fishing at their special pond off the beaten track when out of the bush's jumped the Game Warden !! Immediately, one of the boys threw his rod down and started running through the woods, and hot on his heels came the Game Warden.

After about a half mile the fella stopped and stooped over with his hands on his thighs to catch his breath and the Game Warden finally caught up to him.

"Lets see yer fishin license, Boy !!" the Warden gasped. With that, the fella pulled out his wallet and gave the Game Warden a valid fishing license. "Well, son", said the Game Warden, " You must be about as dumb as a box of rocks !! You don't have to run from me if you have a valid license!"

"Yes Sir", replied the young feller," But my friend back there, well, he don't have one"...



Catch us on our website  
<http://jefferson.agrilife.org>

*Programs conducted by the Texas AgriLife Extension Service serves people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A & M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the County Commissioners' Court of Texas Cooperating.*