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Volunteers needed for Rutherford Beach restoration this weekend

Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana will be planting native grasses, installing sand fencing

The Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana, the state's first nonprofit dedicated to coastal restoration, needs volunteers this weekend for a beach restoration project at Rutherford Beach in Cameron Parish. The organization will be planting more than 10,000 plugs of native beach grasses to help grow and stabilize beach dunes, minimize erosion and create wildlife habitat. Volunteers will also be installing sand fencing that will also help limit erosion.

"We are so excited to continue our work in southwest Louisiana through this planting and sand fence installation at Rutherford Beach," said Gardner Goodall, the Native Plants Project coordinator at the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana. "The sand fencing will facilitate much needed dune creation after Hurricanes Laura and Zeta. We hope people will consider joining us for a fun and productive day rebuilding coastal Louisiana."

On Friday, volunteers primarily will install 2,500 feet of sand fencing to enhance 6 acres of dune habitat in the Calcasieu-Sabine Basin. The planting will be positioned in front of breakwaters to protect Louisiana 82/27 – a critical hurricane evacuation route – from erosion. On Saturday, volunteers will plant bitter panicum by hand.

The work will begin at 9 a.m. both days. Groups are encouraged to volunteer. Participants will have their temperature checked at registration as a coronavirus precaution. All equipment will be provided by CRCL, as will premade lunches and drinks. Close-toed shoes are required.

Sponsors of the Rutherford Beach restoration project are Restore America's Estuaries, Bully Industrial, Cheniere Energy, l'Auberge Casino Restore Lake Charles and TC Energy Foundation.

To register or find more information, visit the CRCL [volunteer events page](#).

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[The Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana](#) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to drive bold, science-based action to rebuild coastal Louisiana through outreach, restoration and advocacy. Incorporated in 1988, CRCL represents a unique mix of businesses, local governments, industries, scientific communities, national and local conservation groups, hunters, anglers and a broad spectrum of concerned citizens who all share a common vision and commitment to the sustainability of coastal Louisiana.