

Water Ways

The Bayou Teche Paddle Trail is a little more kayak and canoe friendly, thanks to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette's Center for Louisiana Studies.

The center steered a dock project along the paddle trail, a 130-mile route from Port Barre to near Berwick. It winds through rural towns and communities.

Created in 2012, the dock project was led by the TECHE Project. TECHE stands for Teche Environmental History Education. The project established the paddle trail to improve Bayou Teche for boaters, kayakers, canoeists and swimmers.

The bayou is on the Environmental Protection Agency's list of impaired water bodies.

It's one of the most polluted waterways in the state.

The project is a partnership between the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, the Center for Louisiana Studies, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

Service for local endeavors to keep them clean and sustainable.

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Each of the four docks will become property of their respective cities or, in the case of the dock in Charenton, the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana. The dock in the small community sits on the tribe's reservation. Each of the four docks will be managed by their respective cities.



The dock's design makes it easy for paddlers to get in and out of kayaks and canoes.

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