



Northwest Louisiana
Commerce Center
2618 York Avenue
Minden, Louisiana 71055

Seminar March 15th & 16th

Crisis response and post crisis development in the new millennium

The Potential for Emergency Aid Training at The Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant

R.S.V.P.
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Agenda - March 15th

- 7:30 - 8:00.....** Registration & continental breakfast
- 8:00 - 9:30.....** **INTRODUCTION - Eco-Industrial Park**
NWLCC Staff
EMERGENCY AID IN LOUISIANA
LSU Hurricane Center
Louisiana National Guard
- 9:30 - 10:00.....** Break
- 10:00 - 12:00.....** **THE REALITIES OF RUNNING A REFUGEE CAMP**
Andrew Jones.
Paul Brant,
Damien Campbell
- 12:00 - 1:00.....** Catered lunch
- 1:00 - 2:00.....** **PERMACULTURE** - Application as a Design Process and Philosophical approach to post crisis and development. NWLCC as a training facility.
Geoff Lawton
- 2:00 - 3:00.....** **KEYNOTE - TBA**
- 3:00 - 3:30.....** Break
- 3:30 - 5:00.....** **GROUP DISCUSSION**

Workshop Presenters

Andrew Jones is an emergency, rehabilitation and development consultant for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Macedonia. He is managing the refugee camp rehabilitation and Quick Impact Projects (QIPS) in refugee affected areas.

Paul Brant is currently working as a consultant in Kosovo. He is helping to establish a program for the Italian agency CRIC - (Centro Regionale d'Intervento per la Cooperazione).

Damien Campbell owns and operates Focus Team Building. He is consulting under short term contracts within Kosovo / Macedonia with various aid organizations, focused on building productivity, efficiency, and sustainability via locally hired staff and the beneficiary communities.

Geoff Lawton is the Director of the Permaculture Research Institute in New South Wales Australia. He designed the permaculture rehabilitation of Cegrane, the largest refugee camp in Macedonia.

Permaculture Introduction Course - Thursday, March 16th

On Thursday, March 16th NWLCC will host a permaculture introduction course, presented by Geoff Lawton. Geoff has been working with NWLCC for the past two years conducting the land-use design and encouraging sustainable land-use principles at the facility (see reverse side for details).

Valentec Systems Inc. is the facility use contractor for the Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant (LAAAP). Motivated by U.S. as well as international initiatives for applying sustainable principles in industry and business, Valentec continues plans to develop The Northwest Louisiana Commerce Center (NWLCC) an eco-industrial park at the LAAAP.

Valentec has identified a promising potential for NWLCC as an emergency aid training center. NWLCC can serve as an emergency and post crisis training center with an emphasis on ecological restoration. The extensive infrastructure and proximity to Barksdale Air Force Base provide an additional opportunity to design, manufacture, warehouse and distribute support equipment, such as tents, water treatment systems, compost toilets, biogas generators, etc.



Northwest Louisiana Commerce Center - Eco-Industrial Park

Valentec Systems, Inc. works closely with the Army's Industrial Operations Command to identify commercial reuse potential for the Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant. The aim of the Northwest Louisiana Commerce Center is to create an eco-industrial park at the site and to become an educational model for promoting and applying the principles of sustainable design in industrial development.

In addition to targeting compatible industries to use existing infrastructure at the LAAAP, Valentec aims to demonstrate profit potential through sustainable land-use techniques. Sustainable can be defined as something that produces more energy than it consumes.

In eco-industrial parks, industries are linked together to share waste streams and resource flow. An innovative new application termed industrial ecology is emerging to guide firms toward sustainable production. Industrial ecology aims to incorporate the cyclical patterns of ecosystems into designs for industrial production processes that will work in unison with natural systems.

University Workshop - Tuesday, March 14th

There will be a day-long workshop on March 14th to explore collaboration potential between Valentec Systems' Northwest Louisiana Eco-Industrial Park project and the diverse academic, extension and outreach programs at Louisiana State Universities, and LSU's Agricultural Center.

We are inviting professionals and specialists from all disciplines to attend - from agriculture, extension, forestry, engineering, natural resources to education, history and small business development. Our goal is to explore the potential for a research and demonstration center that could prove to be an international model for sustainable industry and appropriate land-use. A partnership between Louisiana State University, Valentec Systems, Inc., The US Army and the Louisiana National Guard, as well as other potential collaborators, would greatly increase the potential for success of this initiative. The establishment of a multidisciplinary field office on site would allow for appropriate development of facility use as well as enhance field and extension services by providing hands-on opportunities for research and training.

Emergency aid training Wednesday March 15th

Aid Training and education represents a ground-breaking initiative proposed for NWLCC. The site can serve as a living template for the provision of Emergency Response and Sustainable Development Education. Training at numerous levels is required to lift the general standards and effectiveness during and after crisis. A facility focused on increasing this effectiveness will draw widespread support from the donor community.

Not only can the facility be used to train staff for implementing emergency relief, but also as a facility to train instructors, who become a part of a global outreach program channeling knowledge within development areas. This approach would be a promising direction toward promoting self-sufficiency and autonomy within restart communities.

Permaculture Introduction Course - Thursday, March 16th

This course will provide an introduction to the principles and strategies of ecological design science and systems. Topics to be covered include: whole design systems for human settlement, appropriate technologies, natural waste management, ecological pest control, soil rehabilitation and erosion control, patterns in nature, site assessment, water harvesting and management and alternative economic systems. The application of Permaculture as a design process and philosophical approach to both crisis response and post crisis development initiatives will be presented.

In addition to crisis response, the information to be presented can be readily applied to any site ranging from a balcony, suburban backyard, small acreage or broadscale agricultural land. You will also learn how permaculture can be applied to villages, suburbs and cities to enhance quality of life and aid community development.