



Parish of Ascension

OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT

TOMMY MARTINEZ
Parish President

Boat Dock Upgraded By Parish Crews

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ST. AMANT – The boat dock at Laurel Ridge Landing, located off of Stringer Bridge Road, received a structural upgrade by parish crews this month following a combined effort of planning and procurement of materials by several departments.

“The Laurel Ridge Boat Launch is heavily used by the public,” Parish Councilman Randy Clouatre said. “The parish foresaw the need for improvements to be made at that site and this is definitely a quality of life project where all members of the community can enjoy it.”

Clouatre said the East Ascension Drainage Department and Director Bill Roux worked closely with the Ascension Parish Department of Public Works’ Road and Bridge Department and the Recreation Department on the project. The landing is located on Black Bayou at Laurel Ridge Road, approximately 100 yards from Stringer Bridge Road.

Clouatre thanked long-time St. Amant resident James Lambert for leasing his property at no charge for the Laurel Ridge Landing.

Department of Public Works manager Benny Bourgeois said crews constructed a two-level, 45-foot by 8-foot dock using treated pine timbers. He said the lumber was provided by the Drainage Department.

“Being an avid outdoorsman himself, President Tommy Martinez has always supported activities like hunting and fishing,” Bourgeois said. “This is a project that will benefit all of our parish residents who enjoy the great outdoors.”

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Bourgeois said the dock was constructed with two levels because the water level of Black Bayou fluctuates with larger amounts of rainfall. He said local fishermen had also voiced concerns about difficulties in getting in or out of boats with a high dock to step up on, so the lower level dock was also constructed. Crews also installed handrails on the elevated portion of the dock for added safety, he said.

“We also left the pilings up high enough out of the water for boaters to tie off to,” Bourgeois said.

He said public works employees also backfilled the parking lot to increase parking spaces, and added parking lot log barriers at the dock to prevent vehicles from backing into the canal or damaging the pier.

Bourgeois said there is no charge to use the Laurel Ridge Landing to access Black Bayou.

“This is a free service and we hope the new construction will help residents enjoy access to the Ascension Parish waters, and the excellent fishing that we enjoy here.”

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Department of Public Works employees are shown standing on a new, upgraded dock facility at Laurel Ridge Landing boat launch. Show in front is DPW manager Benny Bourgeois. Shown on upper level, from left are: Colby Milano, Keith Delhommer, Micah Sanchez, Randy James, and Corey Babin,

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