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THE  
Defender Picks

## VENDREDI

July 11th

Friday Nights at NOMA  
NOMA, 5p.m.

Cooking demonstration and cellist  
Kevin McFarland

Floating Skyscrapers

The Old Firehouse, 7p.m.  
OUTTakes Film Festival presents  
a gay film from Poland

A Midsummer Night's  
Dream

Tulane Lupin Theater,  
7:30p.m.  
New Orleans Shakespeare Festival  
at Tulane presents

Dying City

Shadowbox Theatre, 8p.m.  
Christopher Shinn's play examines  
the Iraq war's social effect (\$20)

A Chorus Line

Tulane Dixon Hall, 8p.m.  
Tulane Summer Lyric Theatre  
presents

The Human Buffet

Midcity Theatre, 8p.m.  
Three grown women and online  
dating (\$20)

The Artist

Latter Library, 8-10p.m.  
Alliance Française presents an  
outdoor film screening (free)

Valencia: the Movie/s  
The Old Firehouse, 9:15p.m.  
OUTTakes Film Festival presents  
a film based on Michelle Tea's  
memoir

Foundation Free Fridays

Tipitina's, 10p.m.  
This week: Ft. Earbunk, Cardinal  
Sons

Quintron & Miss Pussycat,

F.R., Planchettes, Bill  
Mountain  
Siberia, 10p.m.  
Swamp Tech (\$10)

## SAMEDI

July 12th

Running of the Bulls

Sugar Mill, 8a.m.  
Get your red and white ready

Artist Workshop: Bruce  
Schultz

Ogden Museum, 10a.m.  
Learn 19th c. photographic  
processes (\$25)

Bastille Day Fête

Spanish Plaza, 3-8p.m.  
Music by Norbert Slama, Sunpie  
& the Louisiana Sunspots, and  
Feuillet

Valentine Road

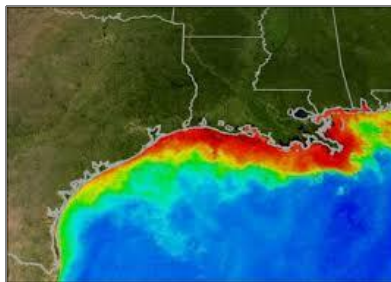
The Old Firehouse, 4:30p.m.  
OUTTakes Film Festival presents

NOLA

# DEAD ZONE 2014 PREDICTED TO EQUAL SIZE OF CONNECTICUT

Posted Wednesday, June 25th, 2014 by Stephen Babcock

The Gulf of Mexico Dead Zone will be about the size of Connecticut, but that's normal, researchers announced this week. The massive, oxygen-deprived area that forms every summer in the Gulf of Mexico off Louisiana's coast is expected to measure between 4,600 and 5,700 square miles, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association.



Dead Zone (via NOAA)

That's about average when compared with Dead Zones measured since the late 1990s, but as always, it's expected to have a big impact on the marine ecosystem, commercial interests and others, NOAA says.

The Dead Zone is caused by pollution from fertilizer and wastewater that empties down the Mississippi River into the Gulf during every spring runoff season. Known in scientific terms as a hypoxic area, the pollution deprives the water of oxygen that's necessary for life to survive, causing marine species to suffocate and die.

This year, experts estimate a total of 101,000 metric tons of nitrate flowed down the Mississippi River.

Researchers, including a team from LSU, model the Dead Zone in June. Teams then measure the oxygen levels in the Gulf, then release the official size of the Dead Zone.

In response to the staggering pollution numbers, a Dead Zone task force was formed more than a decade ago. Made up of federal and state agencies, the group completed two action plans and set a goal of reducing the Dead Zone size to 2,000 square miles by 2015. In a statement, Gulf Restoration Network Senior Policy Director Matt Rota called this year's projected size, "sad."

"In order to start inching towards the Task Force's goal, we can't keep doing the same things and expect different results," he said. "Each of the Mississippi River states must prioritize the reduction of nitrogen and phosphorus pollution that flows off of agricultural fields and urban areas, as well as out of sewage treatment plants and industrial complexes."

