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## News

### Arkansas Outdoors for April 23, 2008

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### Anglers urged to voice opinions at May fishing meetings

LITTLE ROCK – In a short meeting of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, commissioners last week were briefed on proposed fishing regulation changes. AGFC fisheries chief Mike Armstrong also informed the commission of the 12 public meetings scheduled across Arkansas in May to allow sportsmen a voice on the proposed fishing regulation changes for 2009.

The input meetings are part of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's regulations-setting process, Armstrong said. "Staff members will contribute suggestions, recommendations from both the public and the staff. They will be reviewed by the Commission's Regulations Committee, and then the rules for the next calendar year will be set by the Commission at its August meeting," Armstrong said.

All the public meetings will start at 7 p.m. Dates, locations and phone numbers are:

May 1  
McMullan Lecture Hall  
ASU Mountain Home Campus  
1600 S. College  
Mountain Home, AR 72653  
(877) 425-7577

Monticello Regional Office  
771 Jordan



Monticello, AR 71655  
(877) 367-3559

Camp Robinson SUA Club House  
331 Clinton Road  
Conway, AR 72032  
(877) 470-3309

May 6  
Camden Regional Office  
500 Ben Lane  
Camden, AR 71711  
(877) 836-4612

Russellville Regional Office  
1266 Lock and Dam Road  
Russellville, AR 72801  
(877) 967-7577

May 8  
Brinkley Regional Office  
1201 Hwy 49 North  
Brinkley, AR 72021  
(877) 734-4581

Greenwood City Hall  
City Office Building (Intersection of Center and Bell Streets)  
Greenwood, AR 72936  
(877) 967-7577

May 13  
Hope Regional Office  
P.O. Box 6740  
7004 Hwy 67 East  
Perry town, AR 71801  
(877) 777-5580

May 15  
Jonesboro Regional Office  
2920 McClellan Drive  
Jonesboro, AR 72401  
(877) 972-5438

May 20  
Beaver Lake Regional Office  
455 Dam Site Road  
Eureka Springs, AR 72631  
(877) 631-6005

May 22  
Andrew Hulseley State Fish Hatchery Visitor Center  
350 Fish Hatchery Road  
Hot Springs, AR 71913  
(877) 525-8606

May 29  
AGFC Main Office  
C. Maurice Lewis Jr. Natural Resources Complex  
#2 Natural Resources Drive  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
(800) 364-GAME

Fishermen may bring their ideas to the meetings or they can send written comments to the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, c/o 2009 Fishing Regulations, #2 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205. Comments can also be sent by email to: [information@agfc.state.ar.us](mailto:information@agfc.state.ar.us). "The written comments should get to us by May 26," Armstrong said.

A brief outline of the proposed fishing regulation changes include:

1. Clarification of the “live” wild-caught bait regulation on Lake Norfolk. Baitfish may be used and it may also be taken “from the watershed above Lake Norfolk.” Another addition to this code is to allow bait purchased from a licensed dealer to be used in Lake Norfolk.
2. Place a 14-inch minimum length limit for largemouth bass on the lower Ouachita River from Tate's Bluff (Ouachita County) to Felsenthal Lock and Dam (Union and Ashley Counties) and the lower Saline River from Stillion Bridge (Ashley and Bradley Counties) to the mouth of the river.
3. Place a 20-inch minimum length limit on flathead catfish for commercial fishing on the Ouachita River between Camden and the Little Missouri River.
4. Place a 20-inch minimum length limit on flathead catfish for recreational anglers on the Ouachita River between Camden and the Little Missouri River.
5. Prohibit the placement of any material, that extends above the water surface, into the substrate of AGFC-owned lakes.
6. Clarification of the downstream boundary for the Narrows Tailwater Trout Area. The downstream boundary for the Narrows Tailwater Trout Area (Little Missouri River) will be changed from the Arkansas Highway 27 bridge to the Little Missouri River bridge on Muddy Fork Road near Murfreesboro in Pike County.
7. Rescind the 15-inch minimum length limit on largemouth bass in Lake Jack Nolen.
8. Reduce the limit for harvest of largemouth bass from the statewide limit of 10 to 6 per day on Lake Jack Nolen.
9. Require snaglines to be checked daily.
10. Clarification of special regulation area boundaries on Bull Shoals and Greers Ferry Tailwaters.
11. Place a 24-inch minimum length limit of one fish per day for brown trout on the Bull Shoals and Norfolk Tailwaters.
12. Addition of the Entergy Park Pond (Hot Springs) in the Family and Community Fishing Program under the Community Fishing Regulation.
13. Clarification of language on “how to measure a fish.” To accurately measure a fish, it must be laid flat on a rule on its side.
14. Requirement for fish farmers to keep all records of sales and shipments for inspection for a minimum of three years.
15. Add shovelnose sturgeon to sportfish daily limits, with a daily limit of two.

In other business, the Commission:

\*Approved the Bull Shoals and Norfolk Tailwater Trout Management Plan.

\*Approved a budget increase for the purchase of bulletproof vests for AGFC wildlife officers.

\*Approved a \$50,000 project to re-seal a two-mile section of a county road serving the Lena Landing on Lake Ouachita.

\*Received an update on the deer harvest report and Choctaw Island WMA deer research project.

## Underwater Arkansas program returns this summer

LITTLE ROCK – One of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's most popular education programs will return to the state's lakes this summer. The program is called Underwater Arkansas and is a series of guided dives where participants gain a new perspective of the state's underwater environment.

The AGFC along with Ocean Extreme Dive and Travel, SportsCo, Red Apple Inn, Eden Isle Marina and Mountain Harbor Resort have joined forces to offer divers a unique view of Arkansas.

Nine sessions will be offered with various topics covered each date. If you're a certified diver, you're practically on the boat. If not, contact Mike Taylor at Ocean Extreme Dive and Travel in North Little Rock at (501) 812-0006 or Jack Dick at SportsCo in Springdale at (479) 751-0636 to get certified at a special. Divers must be at least 12 years old.



You can rent equipment or bring your own. This year the program has expanded to other waters, according to AGFC watchable wildlife coordinator Kirsten Bartlow. “We’re now on three great diving lakes and we have a snorkel and diving program on the Buffalo River,” she explained.

If you love to dive, or have always wanted to learn, don't miss out. Make your plans to dive with the AGFC and friends this summer. "We're so fortunate to live in The Natural State, with its abundance of wildlife and variety of unique ecological areas. We're very excited about the Underwater Arkansas program because it delves into what lies beneath a lake's surface," Bartlow said.

The first dive session is scheduled for June 7 on Lake Ouachita. Fish Identification and Management with Brett Hobbs, assistant district fisheries biologist at the AGFC will be the featured speaker. The program will help divers identify native fish species and learn about management practices on lakes in Arkansas.

Dives, instructors contact information and dates are:

#### **Lake Ouachita**

Contact for Lake Ouachita:

Kirsten Bartlow

(501) 225-8544

[kpbartlow@agfc.state.ar.us](mailto:kpbartlow@agfc.state.ar.us)

- Saturday, June 7—Fish ID and Management; Brett Hobbs; AGFC Assistant District Fisheries Biologist. Identify native fish species and learn about management practices on lakes in Arkansas.
- Saturday, June 28—Spearfishing and Fish Habitat; Mark Oliver; AGFC Assistant Chief of Fisheries. Learn how to build and place fish habitat and the safety, laws and techniques of spearfishing. NOTE: There will not be any spearfishing while diving.
- Saturday, August 23—Arkansas Mussels; Bill Posey; AGFC Malacologist. Learn about the life cycle and history of mussels in Arkansas.

#### **Greers Ferry and Buffalo National River**

Contact for Greers Ferry Lake and Buffalo National River:

Eric DeVries

(501) 223-6402

[efdevries@agfc.state.ar.us](mailto:efdevries@agfc.state.ar.us)

Buffalo River

- Friday, June 13—River Ecology, Buffalo National River; Steve Filipek, AGFC Assistant Chief of Fisheries. Snorkelers welcome. Investigate river ecosystem issues such as water quality, bank management and species diversity.
- Greers Ferry Lake
- Saturday, July 12—Aquatic Reptiles and Amphibians; Stephen O'Neal, Stream Team Coordinator. Identify the reptiles and amphibians of Arkansas and their habitat requirements.
- Saturday, August 2—GPS and Lake Mapping; Carey Wilcoxson, GIS Analyst. Learn how to read underwater topography maps and use GPS to choose dive sites and go geocaching.

#### **Beaver Lake**

Contact for Beaver Lake:

Steve Dunlap

(479) 750-3322

[sedunlap@agfc.state.ar.us](mailto:sedunlap@agfc.state.ar.us)

- Saturday, June 21—Lake Ecology and Ecosystems; Ron Moore, AGFC District Fisheries Supervisor. Learn how lakes change over time and how fish and vegetation are affected.
- Saturday, July 19—Arkansas Mussels; Bill Posey, AGFC Malacologist. Learn about the life cycle and history of mussels in Arkansas.
- Saturday, August 23—Fish Identification; Stephen Brown, AGFC Assistant District Fisheries Biologist. Identify native fish species and learn about their history and habitat requirements.

For more information on the program, just go to <http://www.agfc.com/education-class/programs/underwater-arkansas.aspx> or call Bartlow at (501) 225 8544 or email [kpbartlow@agfc.state.ar.us](mailto:kpbartlow@agfc.state.ar.us). Dive dates fill up fast and each excursion is limited to 10 divers, so don't be left out.

## **Mayflower firing range maintenance continues**

MAYFLOWER – Due to recent rains, shooters who enjoy the Dr. James E. Moore Jr. Camp Robinson Firing Range in Mayflower may have to wait a few weeks longer before they're able to return to the range.

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“With all of the rain we’ve been experiencing over the past weeks, our construction schedule has been pushed back,” explained AGFC Hunter Education Coordinator Joe Huggins. “I expect the skeet and trap range to be complete around the first of May. We have decided to close the pistol range down on May 5 for renovations to that part of the facility,” Huggins said. “We will keep the rifle range open along with skeet and trap while this work is being done,” he added.

“Once the pistol range is complete we will move to the rifle range and re-open the pistol range. We feel like that it will take about three weeks on pistol and two weeks on rifle, but it’s all subject to the weather,” Huggins said.

The construction project includes rebuilding the skeet houses and rebuilding the skeet and trap field and sidewalks to make the handicap-accessible, Huggins explained. “We are also replacing the skeet machines with new ones. On the pistol range we extended the shooting pad back to make more room for shooters. We’re also replacing the roof over the shooting pad along with making some needed repairs to the baffling system. On the rifle range, we plan to replace the roof over the shooting pad,” he said.

Huggins said the entire project should be complete by the end of May, weather permitting. Once construction is complete, all ranges will be open during regular business hours, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. Shooters can call ahead for range conditions at (501) 470-9904. For more information on the firing range, go to <http://www.agfc.com/education-class/agfc-firing-ranges/camp-robinson.aspx>.

## Floods bring prime breeding grounds for mosquitoes

LITTLE ROCK – Floodwaters in The Natural State are finally receding and with that comes Arkansas’s notorious mosquito and bug population explosion. If you’re especially sensitive to insect bites, here’s how you can minimize the problem this year:

- Cover your skin as completely as possible. Wear shoes, long sleeves and long pants with the cuffs tucked into the socks. Males need to be particularly careful in covering up, since they are favored targets of mosquitoes.
- Wear khaki or neutral colors. Mosquitoes are attracted to dark colors, especially blue, so avoid this color.
- Avoid using scented soaps, lotions, shampoos and colognes. Heavily scented toiletries are attractive to bees and other bugs.
- Use repellent. Like sunscreen helps block rays, bug repellent helps block bugs. DEET or citronella-based repellents both work.
- Be prepared. Even if the bugs aren’t out when you leave on an outing, they might be when you get there. Carry repellents in your car, tackle box, backpack, beach bag or hunting vest. Even the best repellents won’t help you if you leave them at home.
- Avoid spots popular with bugs. Mosquitoes like cool, moist places. Avoid stagnant pools of water when possible. Flies tend to hover around animals and sweets; gnats, horseflies and deerflies are attracted to moving objects; yellowjackets are drawn to meats, soft drinks and other foods and generally nest in the ground.
- Be aware of the time of day when most insects are active. Gnats are more plentiful in the morning; mosquitoes like dawn and dusk; deerflies are more pesky in the midday hours.
- Children are more vulnerable to bug bites because of their smaller size. They are closer to the ground and to flowers and plants that harbor insects, and are thus easier targets. Make sure they are protected with the proper clothing, and with insect repellents appropriate for children.
- Check for bites upon returning indoors, especially tick bites. If you find an imbedded tick, remove it by grasping the head with a pair of tweezers and pulling straight up. To reduce risk of infection, clean the bite with hydrogen peroxide.



Don’t scratch. Impetigo, a common skin disease among children that can spread throughout the whole family, usually begins when a child scratches a bug bite or other small break in the skin. Use a topical cream or spray such as those containing lidocaine or benzocaine to reduce itching.

## New planting option available that is not impacted by recent flooding

LITTLE ROCK - Producers that were counting on traditional commodities for a financial return have found themselves casting a worried eye to the sky after relentless storms have caused Arkansas' rivers to overflow and flood farm fields. Fortunately, producers and landowners can still take advantage of two new programs that they can cash in on this year, despite the recent floods.

The growing demand for carbon offsets and biomass supplies have created a further need for forest restoration designed specifically for Eastern Arkansas, creating a window of opportunity for rain drenched producers and landowners. Specialists estimate that more than one million acres in the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley meet the soil quality specifications needed for the restoration effort.

The two programs are a new Conservation Reserve Program being offered by the Arkansas Farm Service Agency, entitled SAFE, and a private program called GreenTrees. If a producer's eligible croplands meet both programs' criteria, the combined enrollment incentives alone will provide the producer 604 freely established trees per acres and a large net income in the first year. Additional income opportunities continue to be available throughout the life of the GreenTrees program and the CRP contract.



SAFE stands for State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement and offers producers the opportunity to enroll whole fields in new CRP practices, such as planting trees. SAFE offers a 40 percent cost-share Practice Incentive Payment (PIP), for a total establishment cost-share of 90 percent, plus a \$100 per acre Signing Incentive Payment. These incentive payments are in addition to the producer's annual soil rental payments.



The GreenTrees forest restoration program combines fast-growth cottonwood trees with an identical number of slower growing mixed hardwoods, which are flood tolerant. This inter-planting is an Arkansas FSA-approved tree planting option for all CRP-hardwood practices, including SAFE. \$350 per acre is paid directly to the producer within the successful planting and establishment period of the new trees.

This payment can provide free cash flow in the first year and covers tree-planting costs. Additional potential incomes include recreation income created by quality wildlife habitat developed from the fast-growth forest, existing timber and future biomass markets for timber income, and future carbon income as the trees mature. These cash and income opportunities are

all in addition to and independent of CRP-SAFE incentives and annual soil rental rate income.

The combined financial incentives and income opportunities from both programs offer tremendous financial opportunities while being far less dependent on weather extremes, fluctuating commodity market prices, and rising fuel and production costs.

For more information about GreenTrees enrollment, contact Andy Johnson, Landowner Relations for Arkansas at (870) 403-3885 or Page Gravely, Senior Director for GreenTrees at (866) 623-8733, extension 8950. For information about CRP SAFE enrollment, producers can contact their county FSA or NRCS office or call David Long, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, at (877) 972-5438.

## Boating education class schedule

Click here for boating education information: <http://www.agfc.com/education-class/boating-education.aspx>

## Hunter education class schedule

Click here for hunter education information: <http://www.agfc.com/education-class/hunter-education.aspx>

## What's open for hunting

Current and approaching seasons in Arkansas:

Deer:

Archery – All zones: Oct. 1, 2008 to Feb. 28, 2009.

Modern Gun - Zones 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 11: Nov. 8-30.

Zone 4: Nov. 8-9.

Zone 5: Nov. 8-9 and Nov. 15-16.

Zone 4A, 5A, 13, 14 and 15: Nov. 8-Dec. 7.

Zones 4B and 5B: Nov. 8-16.

Zones 9 and 12: Nov. 8-Dec. 14.

Zone 16, 16A and 17: Nov. 8-Dec. 25.

Muzzleloader - Zones 1, 2, 3, 4A, 5A, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15: Oct. 18-26 and Dec. 13-15.

Zones 9, 12, 16, 16A and 17: Oct. 18-26 and Dec. 29-31.

Zones 4, 4B, 5 and 5B: Closed.

The statewide Christmas holiday modern gun deer hunt will be Dec. 26 to 28 with the special youth modern gun deer hunt in all zones (excludes certain WMAs where a modern gun or muzzleloader permit is required to hunt) scheduled for Nov. 1 to 2.

Spotted Skunk, Weasel Hunting:

Closed.

Snow Goose Conservation Order:

Feb. 4-April 27

Spring Turkey:

Zones 1, 2, 3, 4B, 5, 5B, 6, 7, 7A, 8, 9, and 10 - April 12-May 2

Zones 1A, 4, 4A, 5A and 9A - April 12-25

Zone 17 - April 5-27, 2008

Spring Turkey Youth Hunt:

Zones 1, 1A, 2, 3, 4, 4A, 4B, 5, 5A, 5B, 6, 7, 7A, 8, 9, 9A and 10 - April 5-6

Zone 17 - March 29-30

Fall Turkey:

Archery:All Zones: Oct. 1, 2008-Feb. 28, 2009.

Firearms: Zones 3, 5B, 6, and 17: Oct. 11-17.

Zones 1, 1A, 2, 4, 4A, 4B, 5, 5A, 7, 7A, 8, 9, 9A and 10: Closed.

Bear:

Archery: Zone 1: Oct. 1-Nov. 30  
Zone 2: Sept. 15-Nov. 30  
Zones 3, 4, 5, 5A, 6 and 7: Closed

Muzzleloader: Zones 1 and 2: Oct 18-26  
Zones 3, 4, 5, 5A, 6 and 7: Closed

Modern Gun: Zones 1 and 2: Nov 3-30  
Zone 5: Dec 6-14  
Zone 5A: Nov 29-Dec 14  
Zones 3, 4, 6 and 7: closed

Special Youth Modern Gun Bear Hunt: Zones 1 and 2 (does not include WMAs requiring a deer permit to harvest a bear): Nov. 1-2

Zones 3, 4, 5, 5A, 6 and 7: Closed

Furbearers (2008 Season):

Raccoon night hunting July 1-Aug. 31.  
Badger, spotted skunk and weasel hunting is closed.

Furbearers (2009 Season):

Trapping (other than coyote, beaver, muskrat, nutria): sunrise, Nov. 15-sunset, Feb. 22.  
Coyote trapping: sunrise, Aug. 1-sunset, March 31.  
Beaver, muskrat, nutria trapping: sunrise, Nov. 15-sunset, March 31.  
Gray fox, mink, opossum, red fox, striped skunk hunting: sunrise, Sept. 1-sunset, Feb 28.  
Raccoon day or night hunting: sunrise, Sept 1-sunset, March 31.  
Raccoon night hunting: sunset, July 1-sunrise, Aug. 31.  
Bobcat hunting: sunrise, Oct. 1-sunset, Feb. 28 and from the first day of spring turkey season through June 14.  
Coyote hunting: sunrise, July 1-sunset, Feb. 28 and from the first day of spring turkey season through June 14.  
River otter hunting: sunrise, Nov. 15-sunset, Feb. 28.  
Muskrat, nutria, beaver hunting: sunrise, Sept. 1-sunset, March 31.  
Badger, spotted skunk and weasel hunting: Closed.

Elk:

Zones 1, 2, 3, 4 and A: Sept. 22-26.  
Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, A and B: Dec. 8-12.

Quail

Statewide: Nov. 1-Feb. 8.

Rabbit

Statewide: Sept. 1-Feb. 28.

Squirrel

Statewide: Sept. 6-Feb. 28 and May 16-June 14.

Crow

Statewide: Sept. 6-Feb. 23.

Projected opening dates for the 2009-2010 deer hunting season.

Archery Oct. 1, 2009  
Muzzleloader Oct. 17, 2009  
Modern Gun Nov. 14, 2009

## Coming up in the Outdoors

April 24 – Poinsett County Chapter of Ducks Unlimited, ladies wine tasting party, Sidelines Bar and Grill in Trumann. For more information call Kimberly Stewart at (870) 483-1774 or email at [duckdaddystew@yahoo.com](mailto:duckdaddystew@yahoo.com).

April 26 - Norfolk Lake Open Walleye Tournament, Henderson Access in Mountain Home has been cancelled. For more information call (417) 860-9129 or (417) 753-5141 or visit [www.mid-southwalleyes.com](http://www.mid-southwalleyes.com).

April 26 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Youth Turkey Hunt."

April 29-30 – Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Youth Expo at Lake Sylvia in Perry County, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information or to sign up a fifth-grade class, contact Eric DeVries at (501) 223-6402 or [efdevries@agfc.state.ar.us](mailto:efdevries@agfc.state.ar.us) or Mandy Boyles at 501-821-6884.

May 2 – Scout Night at the Travelers game at Dickey-Stephens Park in Little Rock. AGFC fish tank and Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs truck will be on display at the game. The first 500 kids will get a free keychain light. For more information, contact the Traveler's office at (501) 664-1555 or email at [travs@travs.com](mailto:travs@travs.com).

May 3 - Johnson County Razorduck Chapter of Ducks Unlimited, sponsor meeting, Johnson County Fairgrounds in Clarksville. For more information call Cheryl Feikema at (479) 754-3924 or email at [cherdene@suddenlink.net](mailto:cherdene@suddenlink.net).

Mat 4 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 10 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Topwater Tactics for Bass."

May 8-9 - Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Youth Expo at the Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center in Fort Smith, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information or to sign up a class, contact Kelly Mulvihill at (479) 452-3993 or [kjmulvihill@agfc.state.ar.us](mailto:kjmulvihill@agfc.state.ar.us).

May 9-10 – Whistestop Catfish Tournament at Lake Millwood. For more information contact the Little River Chamber of Commerce.

May 10 - Arkansas Catfishing Association Tournament at the Arkansas River in North Little Rock at the Alltel Arena access. For ACA members: rod and reel, catch and release, and alive and well. For an ACA application form, constitution and bylaws, local conditions and information along with the rules and regulations, contact ACA president James Freeman of Pocahontas at (870) 810-3294 or by email at [big\\_vato98@yahoo.com](mailto:big_vato98@yahoo.com), or Lee Fields of Russellville at (479) 331-0399 or by email at [leefields@centurytel.net](mailto:leefields@centurytel.net).

May 10 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Black Bears of Arkansas."

May 10 – Hookem' n Kookem' Katfish Cookoff contest, Ashdown, 8 a.m. For more information contact the Little River Chamber of Commerce.

May 13 – North Little Rock Chapter of Ducks Unlimited meeting, Hooter's in North Little Rock. For more information call Pat Mahan at (501) 743-6154 or email at [pmahan000@centurytel.net](mailto:pmahan000@centurytel.net).

May 16 – Ouachita River Day. Students from Malvern High School will be participating in National River Cleanup Week will be picking up trash and stabilizing the river bank.

May 17 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Fish Management."

May 22 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting, 2 Natural Resources Dr., Little Rock, 9 a.m.

May 24 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Boating Safety."

May 31 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 8:30 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Fishing Free for All."

June 7 – Marion Chapter of Ducks Unlimited, Motorcycle Poker Run, Barton Ag Center. For more information call David Jett at (901) 848-9720 or email at [jfastlog@comcast.net](mailto:jfastlog@comcast.net).

June 7 - Arkansas Catfishing Association Tournament at Lake Norfolk at the Gamaliel Access. For ACA members: rod and reel, catch and release, and alive and well. Launching behind the Highway 101 Grocery and Bait and sponsored in part by the Lake Norfolk Chamber of Commerce. For an ACA application form, constitution and bylaws, local conditions and information along with the rules and regulations, contact ACA president James Freeman of

Pocahontas at (870) 810-3294 or by email at [big\\_vato98@yahoo.com](mailto:big_vato98@yahoo.com), or Lee Fields of Russellville at (479) 331-0399 or by email at [leefields@centurytel.net](mailto:leefields@centurytel.net).

June 7 - The Independence County Chapter of Ducks Unlimited is hosting their Waterfowl Hunter Party at the BUBBA Hut in Batesville. For more information please contact: Shannon Huff at (870) 612-3757 or by email at [black\\_mallard@hotmail.com](mailto:black_mallard@hotmail.com).

June 10 – Deadline for application for AGFC conservation scholarships. Considering a career in conservation? Many fields of study can lead to a career in conservation. Education in law enforcement, fisheries management, wildlife management, public relations, environmental education and interpretation and many other fields is always a benefit to the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. The Conservation Scholarship Program uses funds from the sale of conservation license plates to let students reach their potential and create tomorrow's conservation professionals. Minimum Requirements: Applicants must be Arkansas high school seniors or Arkansas college undergraduates pursuing a career in the field of natural resources conservation with a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (4.0 scale) the first year. A 3.0 GPA will be required thereafter, beginning with 2009 fall semester renewals. Applicants must not have received a full scholarship or grant from another source. Only resident students paying in-state tuition may apply. Selections are based purely on merit, without discrimination to race, sex, religion, age, color or national origin. Minorities are strongly encouraged to apply. Completed applications must be postmarked by June 10, 2008, for the fall semester. Successful applicants will be notified by July 15, 2008. Application forms and instructions may be downloaded at <http://www.agfc.com/education-class/programs/conservation-scholarship-program.aspx>.

June 19 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center in Fort Smith beginning at 10 a.m.

June 21 - The Paragould Chapter of Ducks Unlimited is hosting their Waterfowl Hunter Party at the National Guard Armory. For more information please contact: Bryan Murray at (870) 335-6049 or by email at [bejmurray@grmco.net](mailto:bejmurray@grmco.net).

July 26 - Arkansas Catfishing Association (ACA) Tournament at Bull

Shoals (night) for ACA members: Rod and Reel, Catch and Release, and Alive

And Well. For an ACA application form, constitution and bylaws, local conditions and information along with the rules and regulations, contact ACA president James Freeman of Pocahontas at (870) 810-3294 or by email at [big\\_vato98@yahoo.com](mailto:big_vato98@yahoo.com), or Lee Fields of Russellville at (479) 331-0399 or by email at [leefields@centurytel.net](mailto:leefields@centurytel.net).

June 28 - The Benton County Chapter of Ducks Unlimited is hosting their 11th annual David Bain Memorial Ducks Unlimited Golf Tournament, 1 p.m. shotgun start at the Kingswood Golf Course in Bella Vista. For more information please contact: Blayne Estes at (479) 721-3394 or by email at [baestes@cox.net](mailto:baestes@cox.net) or Jay Johnston at (479) 531-7632 or by email at [jkjohnston42@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jkjohnston42@sbcglobal.net).

Aug. 23-24 - Arkansas Catfishing Association ACA Charity tournament at Lake Millwood and Lake Earling in southwest Arkansas. For an ACA application form, constitution and bylaws, local conditions and information along with the rules and regulations, contact ACA president James Freeman of Pocahontas at (870) 810-3294 or by email at [big\\_vato98@yahoo.com](mailto:big_vato98@yahoo.com), or Lee Fields of Russellville at (479) 331-0399 or by email at [leefields@centurytel.net](mailto:leefields@centurytel.net).

Sept. 20 - Delta Wings Chapter of Delta Waterfowl will hold it's third annual banquet on at Southland Park Gaming and Racing in West Memphis. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. Contact Gary Harlow at [gjharlow@aol.com](mailto:gjharlow@aol.com) for more information.

Sept. 20 - Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Youth Expo at the Forrest L. Wood Crowley's Ridge Nature Center in Jonesboro. For more information or to sign up a class call Shaun Merrell at 870-933-6787 or email at [scmerrell@agfc.state.ar.us](mailto:scmerrell@agfc.state.ar.us).

For the latest in Arkansas Game and Fish Commission information go to [www.agfc.com](http://www.agfc.com) or call the Wildlife Information Hotline, (800)440-1477.

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