

Arkansas Game & Fish Commission

[Site Search](#)

Keywords

FIND

News

[HOME](#) » [News](#) » [Weekly E-Newsletter](#) » [Arkansas Outdoors Newsletter](#)



May 13, 2009 Edition

Keith Stephens (501) 223-6342, e-mail: kastephens@agfc.state.ar.us

[Sign up to receive this newsletter via e-mail each week.](#)

Today's Topics

[Season for seeking elk permits is underway](#)

[Lake Chicot drawdown begins this summer](#)

[What to do? Options for flood prone croplands](#)

[Over 255,700 fish stocked in state's waters](#)

[Little Rock nature center to close temporarily in preparation for Riverfest](#)

[AGFC to hold meeting on alligator gar regulation changes](#)

[Boating education class schedule](#)

[Hunter education class schedule](#)

[What's open for hunting](#)

[Coming up in the outdoors](#)

Season for seeking elk permits is underway

LITTLE ROCK – If you want to hunt elk in Arkansas, now's the time to sign up for the opportunity. The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's permit process for a free chance to hunt Arkansas' largest game animal is available now.

The month of May is application time for a chance to win one of the 25 permits to hunt elk in the Buffalo River country of Arkansas. The hunt dates this year are Zones 1, 2, 3, 4 and A: Sept. 21-25, Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, A and B: Dec. 7-11, Zone A: Sept. 21-25 and Dec. 7-11, Zone B: Dec. 7-11.

The applications are available on the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's website, www.agfc.com, at license dealers, AGFC offices and other outlets across the state. Applying doesn't cost anything, nor does winning one of the available permits. Two other permits are issued through fund-raising activities of the Rocky



Mountain Elk Foundation, with 85 percent of the money received returned to Arkansas for elk habitat work.

The drawing for the public land permits will be Saturday, June 27, on the Newton County Courthouse Square in Jasper, near the Buffalo River and center of Arkansas's elk country. Persons applying for permits don't have to be present, but many attend each year, joining in the festivities and activities.

There is an added attraction again this year. One permit will be issued to someone who makes application at the Elk Festival in Jasper. Sign up, stick around and you may win a permit. For this one, you have to be present. And like the other public land elk permits to be drawn, you have to be an Arkansas resident.

Applications for Arkansas's 2009 elk hunt permits can be submitted any time during the month of May. The last day for applications is June 1.

Elk zones 1, 2, 3 and 4 permits are available to Arkansas residents and Lifetime Sportsmen Permit holders only. Two permits will be reserved for a youth under 16 years of age to hunt in Zone 3. Youths under 16 (as of May 1, 2009) applying for an elk hunt will automatically be entered into this drawing. Youths not selected for the special youth permit may still be drawn for one of the other permits. There is no application fee.

Individual hunters hunting elk in elk zones 1, 2, 3 or 4 are restricted to one elk permit per year. Permittees will be notified by phone or mail and will receive an information packet that will be mailed after the drawing. Hunters will be required to attend an elk hunting orientation and training session held the day before the opening of the September and the December hunts.

For private landowners in Zones A, B and 4; applicants may be resident or nonresident hunters. Applicants must provide either a driver's license number or a Social Security number. Hunters under 16 (as of May 1, 2009) must supply a valid hunter education number in order to apply for a permit. Applications must include an elk Zone A, B or 4 landowner name, signature, address, phone number, range, township and section; and a \$35 application fee. Only one application per hunter for a private land permit will be accepted. Applicants may not apply for more than one private land zone.

Landowners will be contacted to verify an applicant's eligibility. Hunters will receive an information packet with their permit. Completed applications must be no later than July 15, 2009.

Two landowners on the Zone 4 application and three landowners on the Zone B application will be selected for an either-sex permit. Landowners selected will determine the permit assignments and must assign the permit to a hunter and notify the AGFC within five days. Failure to notify AGFC will result in the permit being reassigned to a different landowner.

Improving elk habitat in the Buffalo River country is another benefit of the permit process. Many Arkansans who apply for the permits send along voluntary donations to the elk program, and this money is used for food plots, prescribed burning and other work in the elk area. A donation to the AGFC for the elk program is not a requirement for permit application, nor does a donation improve chances of being drawn for a permit.



Lake Chicot drawdown begins this summer

LAKE VILLAGE - The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, along with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will reduce the water level on Lake Chicot beginning June 1. The lake will be lowered 5 feet from the 106 National Geodetic Vertical Datum to 101 NGVD by July 15.

This drawdown is part of the Lake Chicot Management Plan, which recommends a drawdown every 5 years. The purpose of the drawdown is to mimic the natural cycle that takes place in oxbow lakes connected to rivers, according to AGFC district fisheries supervisor Diana Andrews.



“Oxbow lakes go through an annual cycle of high and low water levels, dependent upon seasonal rainfall. The water levels in the lakes gradually recede during the summer months, which constricts the fish into a smaller body of water,” Andrews said. “This allows the predator fish to feed heavily on the forage fish species. Consequently, the predator fish species are fatter and healthier during the next years spawning season,” she explained. The prey species also benefit from this scenario, Andrews added. “Many prey species can easily become overpopulated in a body of water. The heavy foraging of the predator species keeps the prey species population in balance.”

The land that is exposed during the summer months is allowed to dry out and harden. Lakes that have a constant water level develop a mushy silt layer on the bottom, Andrews says. “This causes problems for the fish when they try to make nests. Vegetation grows on the exposed banks of the lakes. This vegetation is flooded the next spring when the water levels rise. The flooded land and vegetation add nutrients to the lake and cover for you fish after hatching” she said.

The young fish also utilize the flooded vegetation as places to hide after they have hatched. Lake drawdowns produce the same effect as the summer and fall lower water levels on oxbow lakes. Andrews sees the drawdown as a way to prepare the fish for the spawn. “The fish in Lake Chicot will forage heavily this summer and fall and will be in better condition during the 2010 spawn. Excellent bass and crappie spawns are produced during the spring after a drawdown,” she said.

The gates will be closed Jan. 1, 2010 so the lake can fill back to normal pool by the spawning season. For more information on the drawdown, contact the AGFC Southeast Regional Office at (877) 367-3559 or (870) 367-3553.

What to do? Options for flood prone croplands

LITTLE ROCK - Recent rains have again flooded many thousands of Arkansas cropland acres across the Mississippi Delta. Many farmers had already planted their crops and others are experiencing significant delays in planting this year's crop.

Farm producers are looking harder at these low-lying crop fields that flood yearly and checking out new conservation incentive programs available at their Farm Service Agency county office, according the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission agricultural liaison David Long. “Now is the time for farmers to take a long, hard look at other available options to farming these frequently-flooded croplands,” Long says. “Many farmers now find themselves in the same situation they have been in the past several years – either losing a newly planted crop or experiencing major delays in planting croplands. There are a number of new and improved conservation practices available from the FSA to realize stable financial income from these risky, flood prone croplands,” Long advised.



A number of conservation practice options are available to consider on these risky, no or low profit cropland acres under the Continuous Conservation Reserve Program, Long says. “The program pays 120% of the yearly soil rental for up to 15 years, a \$100 per acre up-front Signing Incentive Payment and other incentives. FSA makes these yearly rental payments to producers in good and bad times and helps farm producers realize net income on these unprofitable crop acres.”

The best news for Arkansas farmers with flood prone cropland, according to Long, comes from two improved practices in the Continuous CRP-entitled CP23-Wetland Restoration and CP31-Bottomland Timber Establishment on Wetlands are now available on flood prone croplands. “Both of these practices are designed to create wetlands and hardwood habitat on hard-to-farm, flood prone croplands in Arkansas. In addition to helping farmers retire problem crop acres and improve farm income with yearly rental payments, these practices create premium wildlife habitat for species such as ducks and other waterfowl, deer, turkey, bear, rabbits, squirrels, and a host of non-game species,” he said.

Farm producers are taking advantage of these practices in Arkansas with 34,091 acres of flood prone crop acres enrolled to wetland and hardwood restoration. Long pointed out, “After a number of years of crop failures due to either spring or fall flooding, many farm producers see the CRP program as a very attractive alternative to reduce their farm losses. CRP provides up to 15 years of stable farm income plus offers future hunting and other outdoor recreational opportunities for family and friends or



additional income when they chose to lease their new wildlife habitat to hunters,” Long said.

Another Continuous CRP practice being highly utilized by farm producers is the practice entitled CP22-Riparian Forest Buffers. Long says that over 59,000 acres are currently enrolled in this practice. “Most farmers enrolled because their acreage frequently floods and producers were losing money trying to farm these acres. This practice is applicable to rivers, streams, creeks, and first order drainage ditches that are lacking protective tree cover along the side of the water body,” he said. “The buffer width can go up to 180 feet without any additional documentation. However, in most cases, producers opt for wider widths, which can be enrolled when overland out-of-bank flow occurs as we are seeing now from the recent flooding. Put simply, if you find those trashy water-lines after the water goes down where sediment and/or debris is deposited on a crop field, FSA can take in cropland up to these high-water marks,” Long added. “Producers who qualify for CP22 receive some pretty substantial incentives and supplemental income equal to the CP23 and CP31 practices. I encourage producers to discuss their situation with FSA to decide which practice works best for them.”

Farm producers should contact either their county Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Long at (877) 972-5438, or any AGFC private lands biologist located at the offices listed below for additional information: Brinkley (877) 734-4581, Calico Rock (877) 297-4331, Camden (877) 836-4612, Ft Smith (877) 478-1043, Hot Springs (877) 525-8606, Jonesboro (877) 972-5438, Mayflower (877) 470-3650, Monticello (877) 367-3559, Hope (877) 777-5580 or Russellville (877) 967-7577.

Over 255,700 fish stocked in state's waters

LITTLE ROCK – Arkansas Game and Fish Commission crews stocked over 255,700 fish in Arkansas lakes and rivers during April, according to Mike Armstrong, chief of fisheries. The total stocking of fish weighed in excess of 143,500 pounds.

April stockings:

Alexander Youth Service Center Pond, Saline County, 400 catchable channel catfish
Amon's Lake, Baxter County, 190 catchable rainbow trout
Lake Atalanta, Benton County, 1,700 catchable rainbow trout
Beaver Tailwater, Carroll County, 15,250 catchable rainbow trout
Lake Bennett, Faulkner County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Bramble Park Lake, Miller County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Bull Shoals Lake, Marion and Baxter Counties, 30,000 catchable rainbow trout
Busby Park Lake, Lonoke County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Cabot Community Pond, Lonoke County, 700 catchable channel catfish
Cane Creek Lake, Lincoln County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Lake Catherine, Garland County, 1,675 catchable rainbow trout
Cherrywood Lake, Pulaski County, 250 catchable channel catfish
Lake Corning, Clay County, 14 adult largemouth bass
Lake Cortez, Garland County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Cotter Big Spring, Baxter County, 500 catchable rainbow trout
Craighead Forest Kids Pond, Craighead County, 200 catchable channel catfish
Crystal Hill Pond, Pulaski County, 350 catchable channel catfish
Lake DeGray, Clark County, 300 catchable channel catfish
DeSoto Park Pond, Garland County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Diamondhead Pond, Garland County, 250 catchable channel catfish
Ebbing Lake, Sebastian County, 250 catchable channel catfish
Entergy Park Lake, Garland County, 200 catchable channel catfish
Family Park Lake, Garland County, 200 catchable channel catfish
Future Fuel Lake, Independence County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Glenwood Community Fishing Pond, Pike County, 200 catchable channel catfish
Gurdon Lake, Clark County, 400 catchable channel catfish
Lake Hamilton, Garland County, 2,990 catchable rainbow trout
Judsonia City Park Lake, White County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Little Missouri River, Montgomery County, 1,685 catchable rainbow trout
Little Red River, Cleburne County, 24,535 catchable rainbow trout
Lake Lou Emma, Crawford County, 250 catchable channel catfish
Marion City Park Lake, Crittenden County, 150 catchable channel catfish
McGehee City Park Lake, Desha County, 250 catchable channel catfish
Mike and Janet Huckabee Kids Pond, Hempstead County, 200 catchable channel catfish



Mirror Lake, Stone County, 2,450 catchable rainbow trout
Murphy Park Lake, Washington County, 300 catchable rainbow trout
Narrows Dam Tailwater, Pike County, 630 catchable brown trout
Narrows Dam Tailwater, Pike County, 640 yearling brown trout
Narrows Dam Tailwater, Pike County, 3,120 catchable rainbow trout
Norfork River, Baxter County, 4,965 catchable rainbow trout
Lake Ouachita, Montgomery County, 14,250 yearling striped bass
Ouachita River, Hot Spring County, 1,115 catchable rainbow trout
Paradise Lake, Pulaski County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Pebble Lake, Saline County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Piney Creek, Monroe County, 6,000 yearling channel catfish
Lake Poinsett, Poinsett County, 500 catchable channel catfish
SAU Army Pond, Columbia County, 500 catchable channel catfish
Salem City Lake, Fulton County, 200 catchable rainbow trout
Spirit Lake, Faulkner County, 900 catchable channel catfish
Spring River, Fulton County, 19,503 catchable rainbow trout
Lake Springdale, Washington County, 300 catchable rainbow trout
Lake Sylvia, Perry County, 2,000 catchable channel catfish
Lake Takima, Logan County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Tri County Lake, Dallas County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Truman City Pond, Poinsett County, 250 catchable channel catfish
Victory Lake, Clay County, 14 adult largemouth bass
Wells Lake, Sebastian County, 1,300 catchable channel catfish
White River, Baxter, Izard, Stone and Marion Counties, 107,954 catchable rainbow trout
Lake Wilhelmina, Polk County, 600 catchable channel catfish
Williams Lake, Clay County, 12 adult largemouth bass

Little Rock nature center to close temporarily in preparation for Riverfest

LITTLE ROCK – The Witt Stephens Jr. Central Arkansas Nature Center will be closed for two days in preparation for the Riverfest celebration in Little Rock. The nature center will close on Thursday, May 21 and Friday, May 22 then reopen for the festival on May 23-24.

Due to its location within the perimeter of Riverfest, the public will be required to have a Riverfest button to enter the area along the Arkansas River. Special hours during the festival will allow the public to visit the nature center from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

The 16,232 square foot nature center is located on 3.4 acres in Little Rock, overlooks the Arkansas River and is within the Julius Breckling Riverfront Park. The site is a part of the River Market District, and is adjacent to the Museum of Discovery, Clinton Foundation Store and the Clinton Presidential Library.



The center focuses on the wide variety of outdoor recreational opportunities that our state's fish and wildlife resources provide. Exhibits highlight the role of fish and wildlife management and many of the projects conducted throughout the history of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. The location along the Arkansas River allows many watchable wildlife activities within an urban area. Basking turtles in the river, butterflies and migrating pelicans are common sights. A portion of the Arkansas River Trail crosses the site, offering more options for exploration. The grounds of the center include beds of native plants found throughout the state, while the main building includes an exhibit hall, aquariums, gift shop, theater and special educational programs.

All Arkansas Game and Fish Commission nature centers are free of charge thanks to funding from the **1/8-Cent Conservation Sales Tax**. For more information on the nature center, go to <http://www.centralarkansasnaturecenter.com/>.

AGFC to hold meeting on alligator gar regulation changes

LITTLE ROCK – Due to reductions in populations of alligator gar in Arkansas, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission will hold a meeting to discuss several regulation change options for the species. The meeting will be held May 29 at the AGFC main office in Little Rock. The meeting will get underway at 7 p.m.

AGFC fisheries biologists are seeking public input on several regulation options which they have developed with the assistance of state bowfishers. The proposed changes are based on the declining numbers of alligator gar and late development of spawning adults. The regulation options are designed to ensure the species survival within Arkansas and to restore this unique trophy fishery.

For more information on the meeting, contact Eric Brinkman at (877) 836-4621 extension 453.



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:

Spotted Skunk, Weasel Hunting:

Closed

Furbearers

Raccoon night hunting: sunset, July 1-sunrise, Aug. 31.

Bobcat hunting: from the first day of spring turkey season through June 8.

Coyote hunting: from the first day of spring turkey season through June 14.

Badger, spotted skunk and weasel hunting: Closed.

Spring Squirrel Season

Statewide: May 16-June 14.

Deer

Archery

Statewide: Oct. 1-Feb. 28

Muzzleloader

Zones 1, 1A, 2, 3, 4A, 5A, 6, 6A, 7, 8, 8A, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15: Oct. 17-25 and Dec. 19-21

Zones 9, 12, 16, 16A and 17: Oct. 17-25 and Dec. 29-31

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

Modern Gun

Zones 1, 1A, 2, 3, 6, 6A, 7, 8, 8A, 10 and 11: Nov. 14-Dec. 6

Zone 4: Nov. 14-15

Zone 5: Nov. 14-159 and Nov. 21-22

Zones 4A, 5A, 13, 14 and 15: Nov. 14-Dec. 13

Zones 4B and 5B: Nov. 14-22

Zones 9 and 12: Nov. 14-Dec. 20

Zones 16, 16A and 17: Nov. 14-Dec. 25

Christmas Holiday Modern Gun Deer Hunt is Dec. 26-28 statewide.

The Special Youth Modern Gun Deer Hunt is Nov. 7-8 and Jan. 2-3 statewide excluding certain WMAs where a modern gun or muzzleloader permit is required to hunt.

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. 17-25

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

Modern Gun

Zones 1 and 2: Nov. 9-30

Zone 5: Dec. 5-13

Zone 5A: Nov. 28-Dec. 13

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. 7-8

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

Fall Turkey Season

Archery

Statewide: Oct. 1-Feb. 28

Firearms

Zones 3, 5B, 6 and 17: Oct. 26-Nov. 1

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

Elk

Zones 1, 2, 3, 4 and A: Sept. 21-25

Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, A and B: Dec. 7-11

Zone A: Sept. 21-25 and Dec. 7-11

Zone B: Dec. 7-11

Quail

Statewide: Nov. 1-Feb. 7

Rabbit

Statewide: Sept. 1-Feb. 28

Fall Squirrel Season

Statewide: Sept. 5-Feb. 28

Spring 2010 Squirrel Season

May 15-June 13

Crow

Statewide: Sept. 5-Feb. 20

Furbearers (2009-2010)

Gray fox, mink, red fox and striped skunk hunting: sunrise, Sept. 1-sunset, Feb. 28

Opossum Hunting: sunrise, Sept. 1- sunset Feb. 28

Bobcat hunting: sunrise, Oct. 1-sunset, Feb. 28 and from the first day of spring turkey season through the last day of spring squirrel season.

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. 4-sunset, Feb. 28

Raccoon night hunting: sunset, July 1-sunrise, Aug. 31

Raccoon day or night hunting: sunrise, Sept. 1-sunset, March 31

Muskrat, nutria, beaver hunting: sunrise, Sept. 1-sunset, March 31

Badger, spotted skunk and weasel hunting: Closed

Furbearer trapping (other than beaver, coyote, muskrat, nutria): sunrise, Nov. 14-sunset, Feb. 21

Coyote trapping: sunrise, Aug. 1-sunset, March 31

Beaver, muskrat, nutria trapping: sunrise, Nov. 14-sunset, March 31

The 2010 deer season opening dates:

Deer (archery): Friday, Oct. 1, 2010

Deer (muzzleloader): Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010

Deer (modern gun): Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010

2009 Waterfowl Public Meetings:

Tuesday, June 2, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

2010 Spring Turkey Public Meetings:

Tuesday, Aug. 25, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

2010-2011 General Public Meetings:

Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2010, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

For further hunting changes regarding bag limits, deer zone boundaries, game checking and other information go to www.agfc.com.

Coming up in the outdoors

May 16 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Catchin' Crappie."

May 16 - Central Arkansas Quail Unlimited Sportsmen's Banquet, Sherwood Forest, 1111 Maryland Ave. in Sherwood. Doors open at 6 p.m. For ticket information call Tommy Borchert at (501) 223-3725.

May 16 – Arkansas Catfishing Association tournament at Beaver Lake, Lowell, Arkansas. For ACA members: rod and reel, catch and release, and alive and well. Open tournament to the general public. For an ACA application form, constitution and bylaws, local conditions and information along with the rules and regulations view our website at http://arkcats.org/Home_Page.php or Melissa Davis of Siloam Springs at (479) 957-5424 or by email at cozydranch@yahoo.com, or Paul Schweyer of Barling, paulschweyer@sbcglobal.net at (479) 452-1652 or (479) 719-0474.

May 18 – Outdoor Legacy Dave Duncan Memorial Golf Tournament, County Club of Arkansas in Maumelle. The four-man scramble gets underway at 11 a.m. For more information call Steve "Wildman" Wilson at (501) 821-8887 or Charlie Wilson at (501) 779-1976.

May 19 - ESPN Outdoors columnist Keith Sutton, of Alexander, will be the featured speaker for a special crappie-fishing seminar sponsored by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. His talk, "Learn New Tricks for Catching Big Slabs," will begin at 7 p.m., at the Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center, 8300 Wells Lake Road in Barling. "Crappie are the most popular panfish in Arkansas," said Sutton. "But many anglers find them hard to catch outside the spring spawning season. This seminar, for both beginning and experienced fishermen, will provide simple tips anyone can use to catch more crappie year-round." Sutton, a native Arkansan, has been an avid crappie fisherman for more than four decades. His first-hand knowledge of the sport, and tips he's learned from pro crappie anglers nationwide, form the basis for his book, "The Crappie Book: Basics and Beyond." Autographed copies will be available before and after the seminar. All Game and Fish Commission nature center programs are presented free of charge thanks to funding from the **1/8-Cent Conservation Sales Tax**. For more information, call the nature center at (479) 452-3993.

May 21 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m.

May 23 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Raccoon Hunting."

May 26 - Learn New Tricks for Catching Catfish at the Witt Stephens Jr. Central Arkansas Nature Center in Little Rock beginning at 6:30 p.m. Whether you are after trophy cats or fiddlers, Keith "Catfish" Sutton can give you tips on ways to improve your catch. A noted author of several fishing books and articles, Sutton has pursued catfish for almost 40 years. His expertise is illustrated in three books: Fishing for Catfish, Catfishing: Beyond the Basics, and Pro Tactics: Catfish. These and other titles will be available for purchase at the seminar. To register, call the nature center office at (501) 907-0636. All Game and Fish Commission nature center programs are presented free of charge thanks to funding from the **1/8-Cent Conservation Sales Tax**.

May 30 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Arkansas Stream Teams."

June 5-7 - The 6th annual Arkansas Casting for Recovery Retreat will be held at Gaston's on the White River. This is a two-and-a-half day retreat is provided free of cost to 14 breast cancer survivors in Arkansas who are randomly selected after an application process. The women selected for this retreat will be given the opportunity to learn how to fly fish from well known female fly fishing instructors. Fly-fishing has been known to provide a gentle form of upper extremity mobilization and exercise while allowing for a healing connection to the natural world and relieving everyday stressors. The retreat also offers medical and psychosocial support and allows the participants to focus on wellness while providing an avenue for social support. To apply for this retreat, fill out an application form from www.castingforrecovery.org or call (888) 553-3500. The deadline is March 27. For more information, call the state coordinator Kerri Russell at (479) 640-8319.

June 6 - Benton County Longbeards Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation Heritage Banquet at the Northwest Arkansas Quails Unlimited Building, Highway 72 West in Bentonville. Doors open at 4 p.m. There will be archery, the Daisy BB gun trailer and other opportunities for young people and others a like. For more information call James Barger at (479) 531-2359 or Bobby King (479) 295-1911 or Chris Hinkle at (479) 790-3260.

June 7 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "North Pulaski County Catfishin'."

June 13 - The Friends of the Norfolk National Fish Hatchery will again sponsor the annual Kids Fishing Derby at Quarry Park below Norfolk Dam on Saturday, June 13. This is the AGFC free fishing day and AGFC staff will be in attendance on the day of the derby to help out. We will have a prize for every child who fishes. The derby is open to all kids between the ages of 3 and 15. Lunch will be provided.

June 13 - National Wild Turkey Federation Wild Turkey Woodlands Landowner Workshop at the Thomas and Rhonda Baker farm north of Pocahontas. This event is jointly sponsored by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, NWTF, the Arkansas Forestry Commission and the National Resources Conservation Commission. There is no charge and lunch will be provided. To register for the workshop, contact Dennis Daniel, NWTF regional biologist at (936) 208-9698. Deadline is June 10.

June 13 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Catchin' Largemouth Bass."

June 20 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Father's Day Special."

June 25 - AGFC Commission monthly meeting in Lake Village. Topics include the early migratory bird season proposals.

June 27 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Ridin' and Reelin'."

June 30 - Arkansas Catfishing Association tournament at Blue Mountain Lake (children under 16 are encouraged to attend). For ACA members: rod and reel, catch and release, and alive and well. Open tournament to the general public. For an ACA application form, constitution and bylaws, local conditions and information along with the rules and regulations view our website at http://arkcats.org/Home_Page.php or Melissa Davis of Siloam Springs at (479) 957-5424 or by email at cozydranch@yahoo.com, or Paul Schweyer of Barling, paulschweyer@sbcglobal.net at (479) 452-1652 or (479) 719-0474.

July 4 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Chairman Freddie Black Looks Back on 7 Years."

July 11 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Float Tube Fishin'."

July 18 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Trout Fishin' on the White River."

July 25 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Smallmouth Fishin' with Duane Hada."

Aug. 8 - Scimitar Shrine Director's Staff Bass Tournament, Arkansas River behind Alltel Arena, 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. Entry fee is \$150 per boat with 75% payback. For more information call Chris at (501) 749-3025 or Tom at (501) 834-6005.

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

© 2009, Arkansas Game & Fish Commission. All Rights Reserved.

2 Natural Resources Drive - Little Rock, AR 72205 - (800) 364-4263 - (501) 223-6300 - www.agfc.com
Aristotle Web Design Services