

## Arkansas Game & Fish Commission

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## May 20, 2009 Edition

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## Today's Topics

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## Public meetings set for input on waterfowl regulations

LITTLE ROCK - Hunters can voice their opinions about the upcoming Arkansas waterfowl hunting regulations and seasons at one of 13 public meetings to be held around the state on Tuesday, June 2.

These meetings are part of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's hunting regulation setting process. They will be held to give hunters and other interested parties the opportunity to make comments and proposals on the 2009-2010 waterfowl hunting seasons. The meetings will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Comments may be either verbal or written. Written comments may be submitted at one of the meetings or mailed to the AGFC, attn: Waterfowl Hunting Regulations Proposals, 2 Natural Resources Dr., Little Rock, Ark. 72205. They can also be emailed to [information@agfc.state.ar.us](mailto:information@agfc.state.ar.us). The deadline for comments is July 31.



Meeting sites, locations and phone numbers are:

**Little Rock** - AGFC Office  
2 Natural Resources Dr.  
(800) 364-4263

**Hope** - AGFC Regional Office  
7004 Highway 67 East  
Perrytown  
(877) 777-5580

**Fort Smith** - Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center  
8300 Wells Lake Road  
(877) 478-1043

**Brinkley** - Brinkley Convention Center  
1501 Weatherby Dr.  
(877) 734-4581

**Jonesboro** - Forrest L. Wood Crowley's Ridge Nature Center  
600 East Lawson  
(877) 972-5438

**Stuttgart** - Phillips Community College  
2807 Highway 165 South  
(877) 367-3559

**Dumas** - First United Methodist Church  
205 Puryear St.  
(877) 367-3559

**Fayetteville** - Ozarks Electric Cooperative  
3641 W. Wedington  
(877) 967-7577

**Russellville** - AGFC Regional Office  
1266 Lock and Dam Road  
(877) 967-7577

**Hot Springs National Park** - Community College  
Auditorium  
101 College Dr.  
(877) 525-8606

**Calico Rock** - AGFC Regional Office  
Highway 56 North  
(877) 297-4331

**Camden** - AGFC Regional Office  
500 Ben Lane  
(877) 836-4612

**Paragould** - Paragould Community Center  
3404 Linwood Dr.  
(877) 972-5438



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## 2009 Arkansas boating accident numbers are up from last year

LITTLE ROCK – Arkansas boating accidents and fatalities are up from this same time last year. Currently, there have been 21 reported accidents with six fatalities. At this same time last year Arkansas had 12 accidents with four fatalities.

Earlier this month, a collision between two fishing boats on Beaver Lake in northwest Arkansas resulted in injuries and one fisherman's body that is still missing. In 2008



there were a total 86 reported accidents with 14 fatalities, 44 injuries and estimated property damage of almost \$280,000. According to Arkansas Game and Fish Commission boating safety enforcement officer Stephanie Weatherington, 11 of the 14 fatalities were due to drowning. "Only one of these was wearing a life jacket at the time of the accident," she said. "The average age of the drowning victims not wearing life jackets was just over 51 years old. Most operators involved in these accidents were middle aged (30 to 50 years) with well over 100 hours of boat operation experience," Weatherington added.

Weatherington said boaters should be extra cautious with the Memorial Day weekend just around the corner. "Most boating accidents are the result of collisions with other boats or objects in the water. As a result of these collisions, some boaters are thrown from their boat and in a lot of cases drown because they are not wearing life jackets," she explained. "Paying close attention to your surroundings and always keeping a proper lookout is a huge part in being a defensive boater that can prevent the majority of the accidents. Also wearing life jackets at all times while in a boat will certainly save lives," Weatherington added.

Arkansas Law says that any individual born on or after Jan. 1, 1986, must complete a boater education course before they may operate any powerboat or personal watercraft. However, the course is open to boaters of all ages and educates individuals on water regulations and safety.



What many boaters do not take into account is that their weekend on the water may be relaxing, but can also be tiring. The constant sun on a boater and the rocking of the boat gives boaters what Weatherington calls boater fatigue. This boater fatigue may alter a boater's responses and may hinder their ability to operate the vessel.

The AGFC makes it easy for boaters to complete the Boating Education course. Individuals may take the course at home through an informative video, online or through an instructor-led class in their area. For more information on the boating safety classes, go to <http://www.agfc.com/education-class/boating-education.aspx>.

## Planting for wildlife? Take a look at the edges

LITTLE ROCK - A common first thought when considering habitat for wildlife are food plots. Clear a patch of ground, disc it and plant things that deer, turkey and other game and non-game animals eat.

It works. Food plots have proven successful in Arkansas for decades now.

Along with a desire to work and improve conditions, all an interested person needs is the land, the place owned, leased, rented or accessible with just a handshake, to do this planting.

Also possibilities or companions to food plots are edges, according to the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

The edges of fields used for agricultural crops are potentially attractive for habitat management and improvement for more than one reason.



The edges of farm fields are often areas of below-ideal production. If the field adjoins a creek or other water, the edges can be wet. The edges are where farm machinery turns around and where planters may miss sowing solidly.

The edges also adjoin woods and other borders. Woods are where deer and other wildlife hang out, so the edges of fields growing soybeans are where the animals feed first.

The potential for edges, then, is that planting a strip with wildlife food may be attractive to the wildlife and to the farmer who has a wildlife depredation problem. The theory is to provide attractive food close to the sheltering woods, and deer may leave the soybeans alone – or at least not hit them as hard.

Suggestions for edge planting are varied, with clover often near the top of recommendations from wildlife biologists. Many varieties of clover are available, including some pricey "wildlife gourmet" mixes that are overly touted as sure routes to bigger-racked bucks. Seed of common white clover and red clover is much less expensive.



Negotiations included use of federal payments for Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) to go toward the purchase price. Owner of the adjoining land, Mrs. Ruby Cargill, put a fourth of the money she was getting back into the pot.

Blackwell Bottoms, as it was called at the time, went into public ownership. It was the first large North American Waterfowl Conservation Act (NAWCA) project in Arkansas.

A more fitting name was created, linking a prominent Morrilton attorney and former AGFC commissioner with the major creek that flowed through the area. A lake on the northern portion of the WMA was named for Mrs. Cargill's late husband, W.J. Cargill, a prominent area resident and sportsman.

From the outset, Ed Gordon/Point Remove, 8,694 acres, has been a multi-purpose facility in the broadest sense. But ducks are near the top of its list. Ducks were already using Goose Pond and other lowlands, and with some encouragement, more ducks could be enticed.

Ducks Unlimited contributed a highly specialized machine called a Malsam Terracer. Drawn by tractor, it built low levees in a fraction of the time that conventional earth-moving equipment could do. Ed Gordon Point Remove's duck habitat multiplied.

On the higher ground of the WMA, some quail lived, and field trial enthusiasts pitched in with the AGFC to improve conditions to the point competitions and birddog training are frequent. A clubhouse was built for use by field trial participants and by anyone else when it's not reserved. Family reunions and wedding receptions are just a couple of the uses for the building not far from the Hattiesville community.

It's officially the Wylie Cox Field Trial Area, with another well-regarded area sportsman honored. Not just dogs seeking quail use it. Beagles going after rabbits are frequently in competition on the area too.

AGFC biologist Randall Bullington said, "When there is water on Ed Gordon Point Remove, the ducks are there." About 1,200 acres of the WMA can be flooded. When that happens travel on the lowlands of the WMA is mostly by boat on borrow ditches.

Deer are also good on Ed Gordon Point Remove. Its popularity means firearm hunting for deer is by permit. Archery deer hunting is open, and the WMA is well regarded by Arkansas bowhunters.

Area sportsmen have learned that doves are abundant on Ed Gordon/Point Remove. A particularly productive dove field is near the WMA headquarters, but the shifty birds don't necessarily use the same areas constantly. They move around, Bullington said.

Management activities involve several strategies for the wetlands, including working timber along the creeks. In the uplands, fields are disced in strips, planted with grain and burned when needed to encourage wild food plants to flourish. Bush-hogging is also done to keep lanes open for horse riders in the field trial area. Plantings for doves include brown-top millet. Winter wheat helps attract deer and turkeys.

Ed Gordon Point Remove is reached from the south by the Blackwell Exit off Interstate 40. On the north, Arkansas Highway 213 at Hattiesville gives access to the field trial area, the other parts of the WMA and to Lake Cargile.

## Bird nest box program records backyard successes

LITTLE ROCK – How is your backyard bird nesting box doing? Any baby birds yet? How does this compare with last year and with others of the same species?

Anyone with one or more nest boxes can help scientists learn more about bird families and how they might be affected by climate change. Just register the nest box (or boxes) with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's NestWatch program at [www.RegisterYourNestbox.org](http://www.RegisterYourNestbox.org).

It doesn't cost anything but yields valuable information needed to better understand breeding birds and how their natural rhythms may be changing. If you don't have a nest box, now is the time to set one up. Many species that build nests in cavities have become accustomed to using wooden boxes set up by bird watchers to help the birds more easily find a home.



"It's time to lose the winter blues and focus on spring renewal," said project leader Tina Phillips of Cornell. "NestWatch is easy and fun for adults and children. It helps all of us reconnect with nature which is good for our own health and well-being. NestWatch is a great activity to do on your own, in a classroom, or as a home school project. And it helps the birds too."

Studies have shown that some birds are laying their eggs sooner than in the past -- as much as nine days earlier in the case of Tree Swallows--and that could spell trouble if the eggs hatch before a steady supply of insects is available for feeding the young. NestWatch participants visit nests once or twice per week and report what they see during each visit, such as which kinds of birds are using their nest boxes, when the first eggs are laid, and the total number of eggs and young. The project collects this information for all species of nesting birds in North America.

"Citizen scientists really make a big difference," Phillips said. "You can turn a nest box hobby or a passion for bird watching into reliable data that, when combined with other observations from across the continent, increases our understanding of the impacts of environmental change and human land-use on breeding birds. These data allow us to detect trends on large scales, which are very powerful for diagnosing potential threats to breeding birds. Armed with that knowledge, we can take the steps needed to help them survive in this changing world."

Materials and instructions are available on the NestWatch web site, including directions on how to monitor nest boxes without disturbing the birds. Anyone interested in putting up nest boxes for the first time will find information on how to provide the best and safest boxes for bluebirds, swallows, chickadees, and other cavity-nesting birds online. NestWatch participants also monitor the nests of backyard birds that don't use nest boxes, such as phoebes, robins, and goldfinches.

The popular NestCams are back in action—anyone can get a live peek into nests and nest boxes across the country. Live cameras are focused on Eastern Bluebirds, Barred Owls, Wood Ducks, Barn Owls and more. Go to <http://watch.birds.cornell.edu/nestcams/home/index>.

NestWatch is a free nest monitoring project developed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology in collaboration with the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, and funded by the National Science Foundation.

## Acres of Wildlife Program wildlife conservation awards presented

LITTLE ROCK - The Arkansas Wildlife Federation recognizes the importance of habitat improvement and development on private lands in Arkansas. The AWF, in cooperation with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, each year honors those participants in the Acres for Wildlife Program who have achieved outstanding service through the program.

On April 7, Gov. Mike Beebe presented this year's awards to the winners during a ceremony at the State Capitol. For their efforts in promoting the AFW program and wildlife habitat on private lands in Arkansas, Beebe recognized three individuals for outstanding service. A landowner (cooperator), a wildlife biologist and a wildlife officer were recognized for their efforts in preserving wildlife habitat in Arkansas.



### Steve Modelevsky, AFW Cooperator of the Year -

Steve Modelevsky's winning entry is his farm on 355 acres in Cross Co. He has improved nearly every acre of the farm, managing for deer, quail, turkey, small game, waterfowl and fish. Besides the 25 acres or so of extremely productive food plots and four ponds, Steve has improved over 85 acres of habitat through Farm Service Agency's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) practices including CP22: Riparian Buffers, CP23A: Wetland restoration, and CP33: Native Grass Quail Buffers. Two years ago most of the forestland on the property was subject to a selective cut for wildlife as well. The approximately 10 miles of roads that have been constructed also serve as wildlife openings, and are seeded with oats. These roads also serve as firebreaks for the prescribed burning program that is conducted on appropriate compartments annually.

According to Rex Roberg, wildlife specialist with the Cooperative Extension Service, "Over the past several years, Steve has worked tirelessly to establish and manage on his entire farm to create wildlife habitat for deer, turkey, and quail, not to mention small game and non-game species, and was selected for his work and passion to restore wildlife to his property landscape."

David Long, statewide AFW coordinator for the AGFC noted, "Along with being involved in the AFW program, Steve has used the Continuous CRP program to create new habitat to include wetlands, riparian forest, and native grass habitat on his land and feels the combination of these programs with technical wildlife assistance from David Covington, our private lands

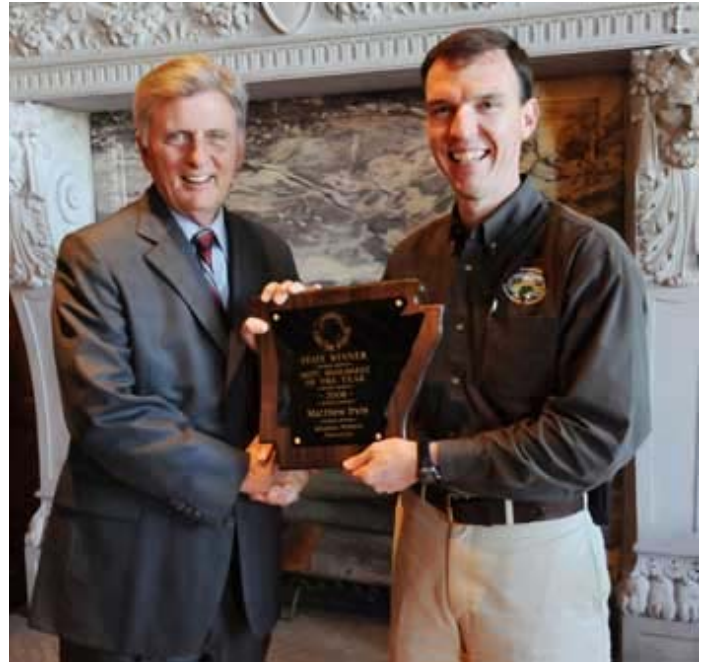
biologist out of the Brinkley regional office is making his dream a reality. Wildlife populations are definitely on the rebound.”

#### **Matthew Irvin, AFW Biologist of the Year -**

Irvin has been a private lands biologist for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission since 2004. He is based out of the AGFC west central regional office in Russellville and has worked with the AFW program in 14 different counties. He has coordinated the pick-up and distribution of Korean lespedeza and food plot packets, conducted wildlife habitat evaluations for landowners, given presentations, written wildlife management plans, and judged the annual landowner contest.

The AFW program is a great way for me to introduce landowners to the basic concepts of wildlife management, Irvin says. “This program is also the gateway for me to offer technical assistance and the many other programs that benefit the landowner and wildlife,” he added. Since working with the program beginning in 2004, he has assisted 129 landowners and impacted 35,630 acres in his region. He led this private lands effort, coordinating with many additional personnel in the regional to accomplish these impacts.

Long had these words to share regarding Irvin's selection, “Matthew goes the extra mile to assist landowners and deliver the program in his part of the state and is passionate about helping landowners create and manage their lands for wildlife.”



#### **Sergeant Kirk Harris, AFW Wildlife Officer of the Year -**

Harris has worked for the Commission for 11 years and is assigned to Crittenden County. He has been actively involved in the AFW program for about eight of the 11 years. This year, he enrolled 56 cooperators with a total of 85,970 acres in six different counties. His average over the last five years has been 58 cooperators covering 70,200 acres.

If there is any county in need of habitat improvement, Crittenden would be at the top of the list, Harris said. “Private landowners hold the key to better habitat resulting in increased wildlife populations,” he said.

Long complemented Harris by saying, “Kirk promotes the program to small landowners of one acre all the way up to large farmers and hunting clubs to include birdwatchers, wildlife lovers and devoted hunters. He strives to promote the program with all sportsmen and landowners he comes in contact with while making the rounds in the county and enforcing AGFC regulations. This year he conducted one presentation on the Acres for Wildlife program and enrolled several new cooperators. He has done an outstanding job of maintaining ongoing contacts with his cooperators year after year.”

All of this year's awardees were presented a nice walnut plaque in the shape of the state of Arkansas for their work in preserving wildlife in Arkansas by Gov. Beebe.



“Those recognized by the Governor and the Arkansas Wildlife Federation are great examples of the commitment landowners and our personnel have to ensuring the future of wildlife on private lands across the state, and brings attention to the importance of these private lands to the future of wildlife populations in Arkansas. During the 2007-2008-enrollment year, 3,359 landowners were enrolled in the program, covering 1,240,157 acres,” Long explained.

The AFW program provides limited wildlife food plot packets benefiting primarily bobwhite quail, but also species such as wild turkey, deer, cottontail rabbits and numerous songbirds and other non-game wildlife. In addition, and maybe the most important benefit of the program, landowners may request technical wildlife assistance from an AGFC biologist to provide them professional recommendations on proper establishment and management to create and maintain premium habitat on

their lands.

Landowners may contact any AGFC Private Lands Biologist, Wildlife Officer and County Cooperative Extension Agent or go on line at <http://www.agfc.com/wildlife-conservation/afw.aspx> to obtain additional information and print an AFW application for enrollment.

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### 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>

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### 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. 14-15 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](http://www.agfc.com).

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**Coming up in the outdoors**

**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](http://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 Pochahontas. 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](http://arkcats.org/Home_Page.php) or Melissa Davis of Siloam Springs at (479) 957-5424 or by email at [cozydranch@yahoo.com](mailto:cozydranch@yahoo.com), or Paul Schweyer of Barling, [paulschweyer@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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](http://www.agfc.com) or call the Wildlife Information Hotline, (800)440-1477.**

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