



Delayed Harvest Trout Waters Open to Harvest on June 3

The Wildlife Commission will open 34 trout streams and two lakes classified as Delayed Harvest (DH) to trout harvest on June 3 through Sept. 30. On June 3, from 6 to 11:59 a.m., DH waters are open only to anglers 15 and younger. At noon, waters open to all anglers, who can keep up to 7 trout per day, with no bait restrictions and no minimum size limits. [More](#)



Wildlife Commission Holding Public Forums on Draft Alligator Management Plan

The Wildlife Commission and the N.C. Alligator Task Force are holding six public forums in June to present a draft of the N.C. Alligator Management Plan and receive public input on the plan. Those who cannot attend a public forum can comment online. [Online comment form, dates and locations.](#)



N.C. Trout Anglers Contribute Significantly to Economy

A recent survey of trout anglers showed that trout fishing opportunities provided by the Wildlife Commission have substantial economic effects on North Carolina's economy — totaling an estimated \$383 million. [Learn more about economic impact of the Wildlife Commission's trout management program.](#)



Free Kids' Fishing Events Schedule for late-May, Early June

Take a kid fishing at any Wildlife Commission-sponsored fishing event from May 20 through June 20 and he or she may reel in something more than just fish. They may reel in one of 150 prizes — including a lifetime hunting/fishing license, donated by Neuse Sport Shop in Kinston, or a lifetime freshwater fishing license, donated by Trout Unlimited. [Learn more](#)



Share the Shore with Beach-Nesting Waterbirds this Summer

Beach-bound visitors are advised to “share the shore” with waterbirds this summer by giving them and their nesting areas a wide berth. Beach-

goers should avoid walking or driving in areas where birds nest and raise chicks, such as the upper portion of the beach around inlets and remote and/or undeveloped beaches. [More tips on how to protect nesting shorebirds](#)

Wildlife Commission Advises "Keep Wildlife Wild"

The public can help keep wildlife wild by not making them "pets," touching them, removing them from the wild or feeding them. Feeding wildlife is probably the number 1 reason why interactions between wildlife and humans can turn negative. [Learn more about giving animals natural sources of food and shelter — providing a habitat not a handout.](#)



A \$200 Bounty on Hellbenders? Say It Ain't So! (It's Not)

A rumor circulating around western North Carolina about a \$200 bounty on hellbenders is absolutely untrue. In fact, Eastern hellbenders are listed as a species of special concern in NC. Harming, harassing, collecting or killing one is a Class 1 misdemeanor. [Learn more about these harmless, giant aquatic salamanders.](#)



Two Stanly County Schools Win Big at Youth Hunter Education Skills Tournament

Gray Stone Day School Garnett team and North Stanly Middle School took top honors at the 2017 Youth Hunter Education Skills Tournament on April 29 in Richmond County. The tournament, facilitated by the Wildlife Commission, provides opportunities for youth to demonstrate their outdoor skills and hunter safety techniques. [More information, including tournament results](#)



Be Bat Friendly during Pup-Raising Season

The beginning of May through the end of July marks the timeframe when female bats are raising their young — called pups. Homeowners should avoid closing up holes or installing eviction devices during this time, as young bats, like other mammals, depend on their mother for survival during the first few weeks of life. [Learn more about bats and ways to help bat populations.](#)



Deadly White-Nose Syndrome Spreads in North Carolina

White-nose syndrome, a fungal disease that has killed millions of bats in the eastern United States since it was first detected in 2006, continues its deadly spread in North Carolina. Wildlife Commission biologists found the first case of WNS in Stokes County, which marks the farthest east record of WNS in North Carolina and the first record of visible WNS in the

Piedmont. [Learn more about WNS and results from bat surveys conducted this winter.](#)



See a Snake? Don't Panic!

If you see a snake, don't panic. Leave it alone and walk away. Most snakebites occur when a person picks one up, steps on one accidentally or tries to kill one. Snakes, even venomous ones, are reluctant to bite, instead using their energy or venom to acquire food. Snakes are an important part of the ecosystem, eating mice, rats and other rodents, and serving as an important food source for animals like foxes, raccoons, eagles and hawks. [Learn more about these amazing animals.](#)



NORTH CAROLINA'S
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CRITTERS**

Residents of 10 Counties Needed for Deer Camera Trap Survey Project

Residents of Alamance, Burke, Cleveland, Craven, Dare, Haywood, Hyde, Moore, Pender and Surry counties are needed for Fall Fawn Frenzy, a camera trap survey project focused on deer that begins this fall. The survey, part of the [Candid Critters project](#), will use camera traps to capture and count does and fawns to determine if deer populations in N.C. are growing, declining or staying the same. Learn more at [Fall Fawn Frenzy](#).



Wild Turkeys: The Long Road to Recovery

Wild turkeys were historically plentiful in our state, but unregulated hunting and large-scale deforestation caused their population to plummet in the early 1900s. Read [Wild Turkeys in North Carolina: The Long Road to Recovery](#) and learn how the Wildlife Commission's restoration efforts led to the recovery of the wild turkey, making it one of North Carolina's greatest wildlife success stories.



Other News and Events

[Free Kids' Fishing Event at Neuseway Park in Kinston on June 3](#)

[Free Shooting Sports Workshop for Women in Durham on June 10](#)

[Wildlife Commission Offers Free Fishing Programs in Fayetteville in June](#)

[Wildlife Commission Offers Free Programs in Brevard in June](#)

[Wildlife Commission Reopens Tar Heel Boating Access Area on Cape Fear River](#)

[Volunteers Needed on June 6-9 and July 24-28 to Help with Aquatic Habitat Enhancement at Lake Gaston](#)

[Wildlife Commission Reopens Hancock Creek Boating Access Area in Havelock](#)



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