



Wildlife Commission Opens Hatchery Supported Trout Waters April 7

The Wildlife Commission will open Hatchery Supported Trout Waters in 25 western counties at 7 a.m. on April 7. The season will run through Feb. 28, 2019. While fishing Hatchery Supported Trout Waters, anglers can harvest a maximum of seven trout per day, with no minimum size limits or bait restrictions. [MORE](#)

2018 Wild Turkey Hunting Season Runs April 14-May 12; Youth-Only Season Runs April 7-13

The wild turkey season opens April 14 and continues through May 12, preceded by a youth-only week from April 7-13. The daily limit is one turkey and the possession and season limit is two turkeys per hunter, only one of which may be taken during youth season. Hunting is only allowed for those younger than 18 years of age during the youth season, but hunters age 16 and 17 must be properly licensed. [More regulations and safety tips](#)

Wildlife Commission Seeks Public Comment Online for Migratory Bird Seasons through April 8

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission is seeking public comment on upcoming migratory game bird hunting seasons, as well as advising hunters of several important changes to the 2018-19 seasons. Comments can be submitted online through April 8. Wildlife Commissioners will select the season dates at their April 26 business meeting in Raleigh, based on public comments received. [MORE](#)

Wildlife Commission Seeking Angler Opinions on Fish Attractors and Aquatic Vegetation

The Wildlife Commission, along with the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society, is asking anglers who fish in North Carolina reservoirs to complete an online survey about their opinions on fish attractors and aquatic vegetation. Survey results will help fisheries staff improve aquatic habitat enhancement programs in the state's reservoirs. [Take the survey.](#)



See A Hellbender? We Want to Know!

Biologists with the Wildlife Commission are asking the public, in particular anglers, to report any sightings of hellbenders ("water dogs") to the

agency. Hellbenders are giant, aquatic salamanders found in fast-moving, clean mountain streams in western North Carolina. They are listed as a species of special concern because of declining populations. Anyone who finds a hellbender is asked to leave it alone but to note the location (physical location or GPS coordinates) and take a photo, if possible and email that information to [Lori Williams](#), a Wildlife Commission biologist. [MORE](#)



2017 Turkey Hunting Season Set Record at 18,919 Birds Harvested

During the 2017 wild turkey hunting season, hunters harvested a record-setting 18,919 birds — a 5 percent increase from 2016. The previous record high was 18,409 birds reported in 2013. Youth hunters harvested 1,183 turkeys during the week-long youth-only season. [MORE HIGHLIGHTS](#)



Deer Harvest for 2017-18 Season Increased 8 Percent from Previous Season

Results from the Wildlife Commission's annual deer harvest summary indicate hunters across the state reported harvesting 161,854 deer during the 2017-18 hunting season – an 8 percent increase over the 2016-17 season. Deer harvest increased in districts 2 through 9, ranging from 3.4 percent in District 3 to 13.3 percent in District 4; however, District 1 showed a 3.9 percent decline in harvest. [MORE](#)



Wildlife Commission Seeks Five Members for Nongame Wildlife Advisory Committee

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission is seeking nominations through April 30 for five seats on its Nongame Wildlife Advisory Committee — a board of North Carolina citizens that provides advice to the Commission on nongame wildlife conservation issues across the state. Nominations are being accepted for expert and at-large seats on the Nongame Wildlife Advisory Committee. [Available seats and relevant experience](#).



Help Conserve Wildlife by Donating on Line 30 of State Income Tax Form

You have until April 17 to help ensure the health and future of wildlife and their habitats by making a donation on line 30 of your N.C. State income tax form to the Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Fund. The Commission uses fund money to conduct research, conservation and monitoring work that benefits animals not hunted or fished. [MORE](#)

Barbless Hooks Required April 1– June 30 in Upper Roanoke River

From April 1 through June 30, anglers fishing in the upper Roanoke River are required to use a single barbless hook or a lure with a single barbless hook. The upper Roanoke River is defined as the main river channel and all tributaries, upstream from the U.S. Highway 258 Bridge near Scotland Neck to Roanoke Rapids Lake Dam. [Coastal Rivers Fisheries Reports for the Roanoke, Neuse,](#)

[Cape Fear and Tar are posted on the Commission's website every Friday through mid-May.](#)



Family Fishing Fiesta Coming to Jordan Lake on April 21

The Wildlife Commission and N.C. State Parks are hosting a free Family Fishing Fiesta on April 21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Jordan Lake State Park in Chatham County. Participants can enjoy free fishing from the bank, plus over a dozen hands-on activities and demonstrations. [MORE](#)



Other News and Events

[2018 North Carolina Duck Stamp Features Pair of Canvasbacks](#)

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

[Wildlife Commission Offers Free Workshops in Brevard](#)

[Wildlife Commission Offers Free Wildlife Programs in Corolla](#)



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