



DOVE SEASON INFORMATION

Hunters Purchase Your License Online

Dove season opens on Sept. 2 and hunters can purchase their license [online](#) for immediate use in the field. Hunters can also purchase or renew their license by visiting a [local wildlife service agent](#); or calling the Commission at 1-888-248-6834, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

First Segment of Dove Season Opens Sept. 2; Wildlife Commission Offers Hunting Safety Tips

The 2019-20 season for mourning and white-winged dove is separated into three segments: Sept. 2–Oct. 5 and Nov. 16–Nov. 30 and Dec. 9–Jan. 31. The daily bag limit is 15. All hunters must follow applicable licensing requirements and [hunting regulations](#). Shooting hours are from 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset for the entire season, including opening day. Hunting of migratory game birds by any method is not allowed on Sundays. [Stay safe by following these tips](#).

Hunters Should Follow State and Federal Migratory Game Bird Laws

The Wildlife Commission reminds hunters that it is a violation of state and federal law to take migratory game birds with the use or aid of salt, grain, fruit or any other bait. To avoid a baiting controversy, hunters should inspect areas to be hunted for signs of baiting. Hunters also need to be aware that an area is considered baited for 10 days following the removal of all bait. The Wildlife Commission encourages hunters to ask landowners about agricultural processes for fields or if areas to be hunted have been baited. [MORE](#)

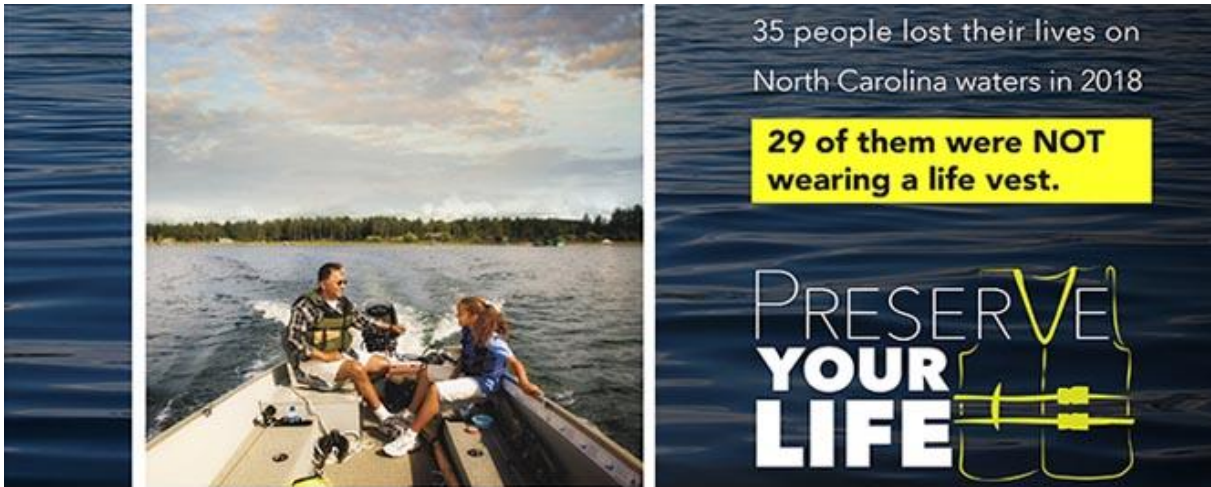


NCWR

"On the Road, On the Water, Don't Drink and Drive" Safety Campaign Culminates Labor Day Weekend

Wildlife Commission and its partners will make a final push for this year's "On the Road, On the Water, Don't Drink and Drive" campaign over Labor Day weekend. The annual multi-agency initiative works to ensure that North Carolinians can travel safely on the road and on the water during summer holidays. Law enforcement officers aim to help discourage impaired operation

of vehicles and vessels throughout the holiday weekend. In North Carolina, a driver or boat operator with a blood-alcohol concentration that meets or exceeds .08 is subject to arrest. [Learn more and stay safe.](#)



Preserve Your Life: Wear a Life Jacket When on the Water

Following 35 boating fatalities in 2018, the Wildlife Commission urges boaters to practice safe habits while on the water this upcoming Labor Day weekend. The seconds it takes to put on a life preserver may be the difference between life and death. And it's the law. Anyone younger than 13 must wear an appropriate life jacket when on a recreational vessel that is underway. [Learn more](#)



Thomas Harve

Free, Family-Friendly Outdoor Events Scheduled for Sept. 28

The Wildlife Commission is celebrating National Hunting and Fishing Day on Sept. 28 at family-friendly events throughout the state. Most events are free. Activities vary from event to event but include air rifle range, archery, fishing, outdoor cooking, identifying insects, lure making, beekeeping, dog retrieving demonstrations and much more! [MORE](#)





Mike Carraway

Learn How to Coexist with Bears at Wildlife Commission's Mountain State Fair Exhibit

Visitors to the Wildlife Commission's Mountain State Fair exhibit can get tips on how to live responsibly around black bears and learn more about [BearWise](#). The Mountain State Fair, which runs from Sept. 6-15, is located in Fletcher, just west of Asheville. The exhibit will be in the Davis Center exhibition building on the grounds of Western North Carolina Agricultural Center, located at 1301 Fanning Bridge Road. Exhibit hours will be 3-10 p.m., Mon.-Thurs.; 9 a.m.-10 p.m., Fri.-Sun., except Sept. 15, when the exhibit will close at 9 p.m.



2020 Wildlife Calendar



2020 Wildlife Calendars Now Available. Get Yours Before They're Gone!

The 2020 Wildlife Calendar is now on sale. The calendar, which makes an excellent holiday gift, features outstanding wildlife art with profiles of each artist, fishing days with moon phase information, and more. Only \$9 each — get yours before they're gone! [Visit the Wildlife Commission's N.C. Wild Store.](#)





Annika Andersson

Species Spotlight: Record Number of Wood Stork Colonies in North Carolina for 2019

A record number of active wood stork colonies were detected in North Carolina in 2019. During the annual breeding season survey, the Wildlife Commission found wood storks nesting at five locations in southeastern North Carolina, including two new colonies. North Carolina is the northern most extent of the species' breeding range, which has historically consisted of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. This year, biologists counted 354 nests during the ground based portion of the survey. Due to the challenging habitat these birds nest in, obtaining a complete ground count can be difficult. Photographs of the colonies were also taken from a fixed-wing aircraft and a unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), and will be used to provide additional estimates of the population in a report later this year. The UAV survey began in 2018 and is partnership between the Wildlife Commission and the Coastal and Estuarine Studies Lab at UNC-Wilmington.

Want to Learn More about Nongame Wildlife in North Carolina?

In addition to the wood stork surveys conducted by Wildlife Commission biologists, many other nongame species are benefiting from the work biologists are doing on behalf on

nongame and endangered wildlife species across the state - from freshwater mussels in the mountains to sea turtles along the coast. Learn more by reading the [Wildlife Diversity Program's Quarterly Reports here](#).



Outdoor Heritage Patch Program

The NC Outdoor Heritage Advisory Council recently launched their inaugural Outdoor Heritage Patch Program. When you complete one of the featured tasks such as hunting, fishing, bird watching or hiking, you qualify to receive one of the limited-edition patches. Youth 16 and under will receive their patch(es) for free, youth over 16 and adults can donate \$5 to the NC Outdoor Heritage Trust Fund to receive a patch. For more information visit our website, NCOldOutdoorHeritage.org/Patches

Other News and Events

[Wildlife Artists Sought for 2020 Duck Stamp Competition](#)

[Wilkesboro and North Wilkesboro Join Mountain Heritage Trout Waters Program](#)

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

[Pechmann Center in Fayetteville Offers Five Free Outdoor Recreation Workshops in September](#)

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



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