



No License Needed to Fish in North Carolina on July 4th

July 4 is "Free Fishing Day" in North Carolina where everyone — residents and non-residents alike — can fish in any public body of water, including coastal waters, from 12 a.m. to 11:59 p.m., without having to purchase a fishing license or additional trout privilege license. All other [fishing regulations](#) apply, such as length and daily possession limits, as well as bait and tackle restrictions. [MORE](#)



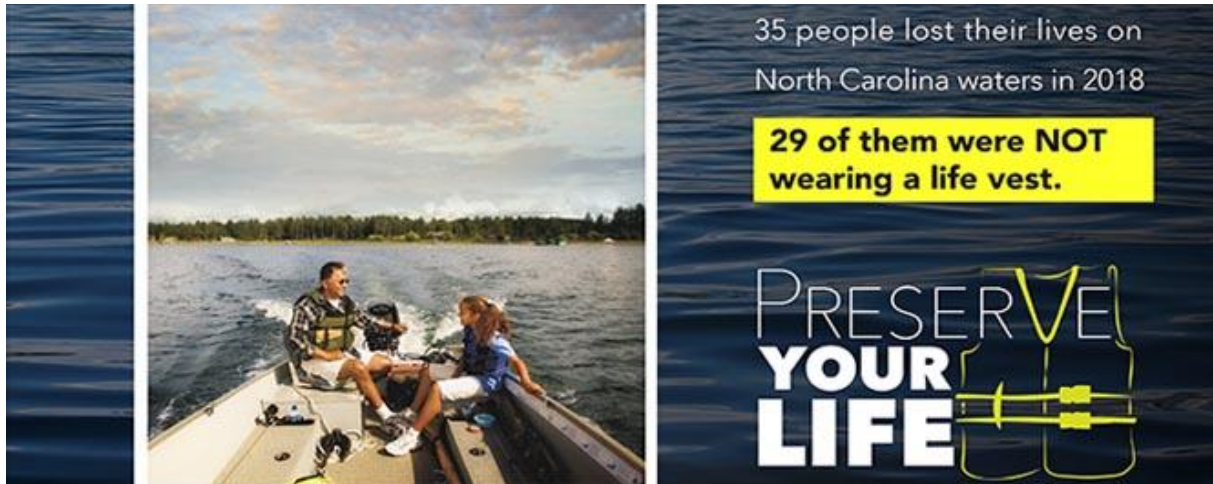


NCWRC

Operation Dry Water Brings Heightened Law Enforcement on N.C. Waters

From July 5 through July 7, Wildlife Commission officers will focus on boating law compliance on the waterways and participate in "[Operation Dry Water](#)," a national campaign that aims to reduce the amount of alcohol and drug-related accidents on the water by increasing awareness of the dangers of boating while under the influence. In North Carolina, a driver or boat operator with a blood-alcohol concentration that meets or exceeds .08 is subject to arrest.





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

In 2018, 35 people lost their lives while on waters in North Carolina and 29 of them were not wearing a life jacket. Don't be a statistic. Wear your life jacket. 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](#)



Save Time; Purchase or Renew Your Fishing License Online

Before casting your line this summer, be sure to go [online and purchase your fishing license](#). It's quick, easy and will have you out on the water in no time. For a list of available licenses, visit the [Wildlife Commission's Licensing page](#).





NCWRC

Fox Sightings Rise as Kit-Rearing Season Peaks

Seeing more foxes during the day? If so, it's probably because kit-rearing season is peaking. Young foxes, like this grey fox kit, are maturing and spending much more time outside of the den. If you have a den near your house, you can leave it alone and wait for the kits to leave (usually late-to-mid-summer) or read about non-lethal ways to keep foxes from making a home near your home. [MORE](#)





Thomas Harve

Wild Turkey Harvest for 2019 Season Second Highest Ever Recorded

Results from the Wildlife Commission's wild turkey harvest summary show this year's harvest was the second highest ever recorded, with hunters across the state reporting 18,730 birds harvested, including 1,478 birds taken during the youth-only hunting season. This season's harvest was only slightly below the record harvest of 18,919 birds, which was set in 2017. The total harvest statewide this year was 3.5 percent higher than the average harvest during the previous three years. [MORE](#)





Falyn Owe

Help Us Spread the Word: Leave Fawns in the Wild

As fawning season peaks, the Wildlife Commission continues to receive reports of well-intentioned people "rescuing" white-tailed deer fawns. The vast majority of the time the fawn has not been abandoned or orphaned, and the doe is nearby. Not only is it biologically irresponsible, removing a fawn from the wild is also illegal. Only certified wildlife rehabilitators have permits to keep white-tailed deer in captivity. [Read more on why it's important to leave fawns and other young wildlife alone.](#)





Annika Andersson

Watch Where You Step on the Beach! Shorebird Nesting Season Continues

Headed to the beach anytime soon? If so, be careful where you step! Shorebird nesting season is still going on. Eggs and chicks are well-camouflaged and easy to miss so don't get too close to nesting areas and keep your pets on a leash when you're around sensitive nesting habitat. If you're not sure what nesting habitat looks like, the Wildlife Commission has posted [these black-and-white signs](#) around important beach-nesting areas. Learn other ways you can "share the shore" and help protect North Carolina's beach-nesting bird populations.

[MORE](#)





WILDLIFE IN NORTH CAROLINA MAGAZINE IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE 2019 PHOTO COMPETITION.

*Enter Online, **CLICK HERE***

Wildlife Photo Competition Open until Sept. 1

The Wildlife Commission is accepting entries to the 15th annual *Wildlife in North Carolina* Photo Competition until 5 p.m. on Sept. 1. The contest is open to amateur and professional photographers of all ages and features 10 wildlife categories. Entrants ages 18 years and older must be subscribers to the magazine. [MORE](#)



Other News and Events

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

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

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



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