



## Public Hearings on Proposed Regulations Will Start on Jan. 8, 2019

The Wildlife Commission will conduct nine public hearings in January across the state to gather public comment on proposed changes to regulations related to enforcement, wildlife management, inland fisheries and game lands for the 2019-2020 seasons. The comment period will be open until Friday, Feb. 1, 2019. Public hearing dates and locations, as well as details on all proposed regulations and the comment form, can be found [online](#).



## Surplus Trout Stocking Underway in Central and Western Impoundments

The Wildlife Commission is expanding seasonal angling opportunities by stocking surplus trout in select impoundments across central and western North Carolina this winter. From Nov. 27 until Dec. 20, Inland Fisheries Division staff will stock

25 impoundments in 18 western and Piedmont counties with brown, rainbow and brook trout. [Stocking dates and locations](#).

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## **Tennessee Reports Preliminary Detection of Chronic Wasting Disease**

With the preliminary detection of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in white-tailed deer in western Tennessee, the Wildlife Commission reminds deer hunters of a new rule that prohibits the importation of whole deer carcasses and restricts the importation of specific carcass parts from anywhere outside of North Carolina. [MORE](#)

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## **Hunter How-to: Learn How to Prepare Your Out-of-State Deer Harvest for Importation into NC**

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a fatal disease that is affecting deer populations across the U.S. To help decrease the spread of CWD, the Wildlife Commission has placed a prohibition on the importation of whole deer carcasses and has restricted importation of some carcass parts. The Commission recently posted a video "[Preparing a Harvested Deer for Importation to NC](#)," on its [YouTube Channel](#), which features a demonstration by Taxidermist D. Price of Outback Taxidermy on how to properly prepare a deer carcass for importation across state lines.

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## **Nominations Sought for Wildlife Conservation Award**

The Wildlife Commission is now accepting nominations through Jan. 31, 2019 for the 2019 [Thomas L. Quay Wildlife Diversity Award](#). The agency

presents this award annually to people who provide leadership in the conservation of nongame species, animals that have no open hunting, fishing or trapping season. Nominators must submit a completed nomination form and a detailed essay of the nominee's contributions to nongame wildlife conservation in the state. [MORE](#)



### **Wildlife Commission Finds Sportfish in Hurricane-Affected Rivers**

Nearly three months after Hurricane Florence caused substantial fish kills in many coastal rivers in North Carolina, fisheries biologists with the Wildlife Commission have found largemouth bass, sunfish and crappie in all rivers surveyed to date, albeit in reduced numbers. [MORE](#)



### **Temporary Hunting Restriction Placed on Portion of Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land**

Due to safety concerns, the Wildlife Commission has changed the designation of a portion of the Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land from a Restricted Firearms Zone to a Temporary Restricted Zone. Around 72 acres of the Bladen County game land, adjacent to Sweet Home Church Road and Sweet Home Trail, will be closed to hunting activity until further notice. The Commission will re-evaluate the designation after hunting seasons conclude. [Map of affected area.](#)





## **Waterfowl Hunters: Practice Boating Safety**

Through its Home from the Hunt™ campaign, the Wildlife Commission is reminding waterfowl hunters to take basic safety precautions while hunting from a vessel. A few precautions include wearing clothing made of wool or other synthetic materials instead of cotton, and wearing a personal floatation device at all times. [MORE SAFETY TIPS](#)

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## **Nature Break Series Now Available on Our YouTube Channel**

Now available on the Wildlife Commission's [YouTube channel](#), a series called [Nature Breaks](#), which are education shorts presented by Commission biologists. Current videos in the series cover topics such as catfish, striped bass, fish genetics, and post-Hurricane fish recovery.

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## **New to Hunting? Our "Getting Started Outdoors" Program is for You**

As part of its Getting Started Outdoors Program, the Wildlife Commission will offer additional workshops in 2019, starting with turkey hunting in February. For more information (and to be placed on a waiting list for future workshops), please visit the agency's "[New to Hunting](#)" [web page](#).



## Other News and Events

[Hydrilla Discovered in the Deep River in Moore, Chatham and Lee Counties](#)

[Pechmann Center in Fayetteville Free Fishing Workshops and Clinics in January](#)



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