



Free Fishing Day is July 4

July 4 is “free fishing day” in North Carolina where everyone — residents and non-residents alike — can fish in any public body of water from 12:01 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](#)



Boating Safety Enforcement Campaigns Continue from June 30 through July 9

From June 30 through July 9, the Wildlife Commission and partners will increase safety enforcement on the waterways, conduct sobriety checkpoints and spread public awareness of the perils of drinking while boating or driving. In North Carolina, a driver or boat operator with a

blood-alcohol concentration that meets or exceeds .08 can be arrested. [Learn more about the Wildlife Commission's boating safety campaigns.](#)

Could You Handle One of the Wildest Jobs in North Carolina?

Are you interested in becoming a [Wildlife Enforcement Officer](#)? The Commission [is accepting applications](#) for 20 openings until July 7. All candidates are required to pass an extensive background, psychological and physical screening prior to entering a vigorous 28-week accredited academy. Field trainees must be willing to relocate anywhere in the state for training or permanent assignment.



Wildlife Photo Competition Open until Sept. 1, 2017

The Wildlife Commission is accepting entries to its 13th annual *Wildlife in North Carolina* Photo Competition until 5 p.m., Sept. 1, 2017. The contest is open to amateur and professional photographers of all ages, except for employees of the Wildlife Commission, the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences, and their immediate families (children, siblings and spouses). Entrants must be either **current magazine subscribers** or younger than 18. [More information](#)



Wildlife Commission Biologist Receives USFWS' Recovery Champion Award

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recognized Wildlife Commission biologist Rachael Hoch with its Recovery Champion award, recognizing her significant contribution to the recovery of federally threatened or endangered animals. For the past five years, Hoch has coordinated the state's Conservation Aquaculture Center at the Marion Fish Hatchery, where she oversees the propagation and rearing of some of the rarest fish and mussels in the state. [More](#)



200 Fish Attractors Added to Mountain Island Lake

Anglers should see improved fishing opportunities at Mountain Island Lake after fisheries staff with the Wildlife Commission deployed 200 fish attractors into the 3,300-acre lake this spring. Staff placed 100 fish attractors in the upper part of the lake and 100 attractors in the lower part of the lake to dramatically increase fish cover in a small area. [More](#)



Don't Forget to Purchase a Fishing License this Summer

Going fishing in North Carolina this summer? Don't forget to purchase or renew your Inland Fishing and/or your Coastal Recreational Fishing License. [For more information or to purchase a license.](#)



Free Coyote Conflict Management Workshops Offered this Summer

The Wildlife Commission, along with N.C. State Cooperative Extension and USDA Wildlife Services, invites the public to attend a free coyote conflict management workshop. Learn about coyote biology and behavior, tools for preventing and reducing coyote conflicts, and more. Workshops are being held across the state in July and August. [Dates and registration information](#) (info will be updated throughout the summer as new workshops are added).



Feral Hog Workshop to be Held Aug. 3 in Bertie County

Join the Wildlife Commission, Bertie County Cooperative Extension, and USDA Wildlife Services for a feral swine trapping workshop for farmers and landowners on Thursday, Aug. 3, from 8 to 11 a.m. in Windsor, N.C. The event is free, but pre-registration is required by phone at 252-794-5317. [More information](#)



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](#).



Other News and Events

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

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

[16 Wildlife Officers Graduate from Basic Wildlife Law Enforcement Training](#)

[New Boating Access Area in Hertford Now Open](#)



[Buy a License](#) • [Go Hunting](#) • [Go Fishing](#) • [Go Boating](#) • [Get Outside](#) • [Learn More](#)
[Subscribe to *Wildlife in North Carolina* magazine](#)