

CELEBRATE NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY IN LOUISIANA ON SATURDAY, SEPT. 26

Louisiana's National Hunting and Fishing Day is set for Saturday, Sept. 26 with events scheduled in Baton Rouge, Minden, Monroe and Woodworth. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will again host the events with support from local sponsors and community volunteers and admission to all activities is free.

Hunting and fishing will be the focus, but outdoor recreation is the general theme. It's a great opportunity also to introduce a friend or family member to activities designed to get them out of the house and into our great outdoors.

National Hunting and Fishing Day site information:

Baton Rouge: Waddill Outdoor Education Center, 4142 Flannery Road. Activities are scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and include: archery, canoeing, duck and goose calling, fishing, and sports shooting. Demonstrations will be presented on bowhunting, fly casting, fly tying and falconry. Exhibits will be staffed by members of the Amite River Traditional Archery Club, Ducks Unlimited, Operation Game Thief, the National Wild Turkey Federation, the Quality Deer Management Association and many more. Free food and soft drinks will be available. For more information, call 225-765-2925.

Minden: Bodcau Wildlife Management Area (WMA) off Bodcau Dam Road in Bossier Parish north of Shreveport. Activities are scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will include: Archery range instruction, skeet shooting, a casting tournament, mountain bike trail rides, craft displays and information tables staffed by Ducks Unlimited, Delta Waterfowl, Bayou State Bowhunters, and the US Army Corps of Engineers, plus free food, drinks and door prizes. For more information, call 318-371-5210.

Monroe: LDWF's District 2 Headquarters, 368 Centurytel Dr. Activities are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and admission is free. Activities include bait casting, archery, BB gun and shotgun target shooting, duck calling and fishing.

Exhibitors include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife, La. Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries, Dept. of Natural Resources, the Ouachita Parish Sheriffs Office (DARE), the La. National Guard, the Alligator Hunter & Trappers Association, and many more. For more information, call 318-343-1241.

Woodworth: Woodworth Education Center, 661 Robinson Road, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Activities include: a Civil War re-enactment, Falconry demonstrations, Alligator skinning and drawing for the meat., SWAT Team Demonstration, Cannon net demonstrations, target shooting with shotguns, .22 rifles, Muzzel loaders, air rifles, as well as Archery target shooting, a live snake display, TEE-PEE and Indian Dancing, flint knapping, free photos taken on the Air Boat, rock wall climbing, retriever dog demos, hay rides, free food and drinks -- and door prizes.

Also, a morning session with children's fishing activities is scheduled from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. at Beechwood Fish Hatchery, 41 Fowler Road, Forest Hill. Participants should bring their own bait and fishing gear. Ages 15 and under can fish for bream, bass and catfish. For more information, call 318-484-2276.