

# Hatcheries Celebrate National Fishing and Boating Week June 6-14, 2009

The experience of fishing involves more than just catching a fish. Fishing provides an important connection to the outdoors and helps build a lasting appreciation for natural resources. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service works to enhance recreational fishing opportunities and provide the public with enjoyable places to observe and learn more about our Nation's aquatic resources.

National Fishing & Boating Week, held the first full week of June each year, is a time when National Fish Hatcheries and Fisheries Resource Offices across the region participate in dozens of events that offer families the opportunity to experience and learn more about their local fisheries. National Hunting and Fishing Day, held the last Saturday in September, is also a time set aside for fishing and learning fun. Many states offer free-fishing days during these times so that it is even easier for people to participate.

## There's an Event Near You

Thousands of participants have the opportunity to experience the thrill of landing a fish, touring a hatchery, and gaining valuable information and skills for helping to conserve fisheries.

## Arkansas

**Mountain Home—Norfolk National Fish Hatchery: Kids Fishing Derby at Quarry Park. June 13<sup>th</sup>, 8:00a.m.** A free event for kids ages 15 and under, free fishing, casting contest, free food. Partners include Friends of the Hatchery, Corps of Engineers, North Arkansas Fly Fishers, Rod and Reel Club, and Baxter County Sheriffs Office. Sponsored by local businesses. Pre-register at <http://www.norforkhatcheryfriends.org/>.

## Florida

**Panama City—USFWS partners with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission: Kids Fishing Clinic. Saturday, June 6, 2009.** This is the 13th year of this event which attracts 100s of kids annually. Held at the Panama City Marina.

## Georgia

**Suches—Chattahoochee Forest National Fish Hatchery: Senior Fishing Rodeo. June 5, 2009, 9a.m. to noon.** Free fishing rodeo held for seniors 55 and over. Registration begins at 9AM with more than 3,000 beautiful rainbow trout being stocked for the event. Trout Unlimited #692 will provide free lunch to everyone. Participants must bring their own fishing gear and bait. Door prizes will be given away at noon. <http://www.fws.gov/southeast/chattahoocheeforest>

**Suches—Chattahoochee Forest National Fish Hatchery: Family Fishing Festival. June 6, 2009, 9a.m. to noon.** Open to youth ages 16 and under - fun-

filled day of fishing and spending time outdoors. The hatchery will stock more than 3,000 beautiful rainbow trout for the event. Other organizations will have presentations to teach youth about the environment, hunting, fly fishing, etc.

Participants can complete a scavenger hunt to earn a free t-shirt. Trout Unlimited #692 provides a free lunch. Participants must bring their own fishing gear and bait. <http://www.fws.gov/southeast/chattahoocheeforest>.

**Warm Springs—Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery: Kids Fish for Fun! June 6, 2009, 8a.m. – noon.** No charge; ages 3 to 12 years; kids can catch and keep up to 5 catfish, prizes, raffle items, first 300 children t-shirts, pre-registration recommended; [www.fws.gov/warmsprings](http://www.fws.gov/warmsprings) (for an event application). List of sponsors at [www.warmspringsfishfriends.org](http://www.warmspringsfishfriends.org).

**Warm Springs—Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery: Camp Roosevelt Jr Ranger Camp. July 7,8 & 9 (Session I) OR July 21, 22 & 23 (Session II), 9a.m. to 2:30p.m.** For kids ages 8 to 12, \$40 per three-day camp session. Day 1 (Tuesday) at Roosevelt's Little White House, Day 2 (Wednesday) at Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery, and Day 3 (Thursday) at F.D. Roosevelt's State Park. Visit [www.gastateparks.org](http://www.gastateparks.org) (download registration and more information) or [www.fws.gov/warmsprings](http://www.fws.gov/warmsprings).

**Warm Springs—Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery: Open House. September 26, 2009 (Saturday), 10a.m. – 2p.m.** Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery will open its doors to highlight and showcase the work done on station and by the Fish & Wildlife Service. Hatchery staff will be on hand to conduct guided tours of the public aquarium, boardwalk, and display pool areas. Staff will be giving demonstrations on seining ponds and running heavy equipment. There will be several hands-on activities for kids... a casting competition, "name that mussel" game, and an endangered species coloring contest. There will be prizes for all the games and a door prize raffle. Warm Springs NFH's Friends Group will also be available to answer questions and to sign up new members. So please join us to learn more about hatchery operations and resource issues that the staff works with everyday. <http://www.fws.gov/warmsprings/index.html>.

## Kentucky

**Jamestown—Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery: 23rd Annual Catch a Rainbow Kids Fishing Derby, Saturday, June 6th, 2009, 9:00am - 3:00pm CST.** What began as a small event in 1986 has now blossomed into one of the largest events of it's kind in the entire country, and as in past years, volunteers and staff are excitedly gearing up for the annual Catch a Rainbow Kids Fishing Derby. Designed as a fun-filled way to get kids outdoors and connected to fishing, the derby is a great family event, and through generous community support, every participant is also treated to great prizes, food, fun and much, much more! If you would like to make a donation or volunteer to help with the derby please give us a call. The event begins at 9:00am CST with the following schedule per age group with registration beginning at 8:00am CST. Ages 1 through 4 will fish at the Kiddie Pool area while all other age groups will fish at the hatchery creek. Ages 1 – 4: 9am – 12noon CST, Ages 5 – 6: 9:00am – 10:00am CST, Ages 7 – 8: 10:15am – 11:15am CST, Ages 9 – 10: 11:30am – 12:30pm CST, Ages 11 – 12: 12:45pm – 1:45pm CST, Ages 13 – 15: 2:00pm –

3:00pm CST. Fishing assistance is available, and all participants need to bring their own tackle. [www.catcharainbow.org](http://www.catcharainbow.org)

**Jamestown—Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery: Snakes of Kentucky, Thursday, July 23rd, 2009, 7:00pm CST.** How much do you know about snakes? Do they frighten or fascinate you? Yes, whether your information is vast or you wish to learn more, here is a great program for you! Join Biologist Jeff Hohman with East Kentucky Power Cooperative (EKPC) as he leads an exploration into the various nonpoisonous snakes found in Kentucky. Participants will enjoy a presentation followed by a chance to get up close and personal with some live examples, so don't miss out on this chance to learn more about how snakes, the role they play in the natural world around us and more! The event is free and open to the public.

**Jamestown—Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery: Intro to Fly Tying, Saturday, July 25th, 2009, 9:00am - noon CST.** Have you ever wanted to learn the basics of fly tying? Are you a beginner with no previous experience? If so, here is an event for you! Join members from the Louisville, KY chapter of Trout Unlimited for a great morning of introductory fly tying! You'll enjoy a fun-filled morning of learning all the basics of fly tying from some great instructors. Registration is limited to the first 15 who register. The event is free and open to the public. To register, please contact Amanda Patrick, Environmental Education/Outreach Specialist, at 270-343-3797 or via email: [Amanda\\_Patrick@fws.gov](mailto:Amanda_Patrick@fws.gov)

## Louisiana

**Natchitoches—Natchitoches National Fish Hatchery: National Fishing and Boating Week Annual Open House and Derby. June 6, 2009, 8:00am-11:30am.** Fishing derby, boating safety workshop, casting contest, hands-on activities for kids of all ages, kiddie train ride, inflatable jumper, bait shop, live animal displays. FISHING DERBY INFORMATION – ages 2-15; under 12 must be accompanied by an adult; cane pole fishing supplies can be purchased on site – or bring your own! Four prizes per age group! \*\*\*\*DERBY IS FROM 8AM-10AM\*\*\*\*FLIP, PITCH, AND CAST CONTEST – ages 7-14; prizes, Hosted by Provençal Bass Club.\*\*\*CASTING CONTEST FROM 9AM-11AM\*\*\* Sponsors: F.I.S.H. - Friends in Support of the Hatchery; Cane River Waterway Commission; Provençal Bass Club. For more information: 352-5324

## Mississippi

**Tupelo—Private John Allen National Fish Hatchery: Annual Fishing Day. June 6, 2009, 8:00a.m. – 10:00a.m.** Children, ages 12 and under, will fish for free with a 3 fish (catfish) limit and take home what they catch. Participants will be required to bring everything they need for the day (poles, bait (no live minnows), coolers, lawn chairs, etc) and door prizes, donated by Wal-Mart, will be given away. [www.fws.gov/pvtjohnallen](http://www.fws.gov/pvtjohnallen)

## South Carolina

**Orangeburg—Orangeburg National Fish Hatchery: Kids Fishing Day, June 6 - 8:00a.m. - 1:00p.m.** Free fishing event for kids ages 6-18.  
[www.fws.gov/orangeburg](http://www.fws.gov/orangeburg).

**Orangeburg—Orangeburg National Fish Hatchery: Senior Fishing Day and Special Needs Fishing Day, June 13 - 8:00a.m. – noon.** Free fishing event for senior citizens and those of any age with special needs.  
[www.fws.gov/orangeburg](http://www.fws.gov/orangeburg).

**Wadmalaw Island—Bears Bluff National Fish Hatchery: Kid's Fishing Day, Saturday June 13, 2009, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm.** In promotion of National Fishing Week, the Bears Bluff National Fish Hatchery is providing a day of free fishing for area children ages 12 and under. Children will be allowed to keep all the fish they catch and prizes will be awarded. Fishing rod(s), tackle, and fish bait (live worms, crickets, or minnows should be best). Additionally, you may find a cooler, ice, and bug spray useful to have on hand. For more information contact the Bears Bluff National Fish Hatchery at 843-559-2315.

## Tennessee

**Celina—Dale Hollow National Fish Hatchery: Twelfth Annual "Kids' Fishing Rodeo." June 6, 2009, 8:00a.m. – noon.** Free, open to youths under the age of 15. Sponsored by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, and citizens of Clay County. Registration required to be eligible for prizes given away through random drawings. Free bait and drinks provided. Free face painting. Creek stocked with 2,000 nine inch rainbow trout and several large display trout. Adjacent Obey River also stocked with trout. June 6 is Tennessee's "Free Fishing Day" . . . no license required on this day. Website: <http://www.fws.gov/DALEHOLLOW/> and [http://www.state.tn.us/twra/fish/events/09\\_22.html](http://www.state.tn.us/twra/fish/events/09_22.html)