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Annual Duck Banding Event to be Held at Otter Slough

JULY 31ST 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Annual Duck Banding Event to be Held at Otter Slough

Dexter, Missouri - The Missouri Department of Conservation and the Dexter Greenhead Chapter of Ducks Unlimited will host their Annual Duck Banding Event at Otter Slough Conservation Area on Saturday, August 5, 2017 at 7:00 a.m.

The event will begin with Missouri Department of Conservation staff demonstrating electrofishing equipment on Cypress Lake.

Fisheries Biologist Mike Reed will run a electrofishing boat along the shoreline and you will have a front row seat to the fish population of Cypress Lake. Mike will also show how biologists tag fish for research projects. While everyone is watching the show, Ducks Unlimited volunteers and MDC staff will be operating various capture equipment around Otter Slough hoping to catch mourning doves and ducks.

Following the fish show, will be an opportunity for all youth to assist wildlife biologists band and release any birds captured on the area that day. For a grand finale, we will travel out to a rocket net site on Otter Slough and see first hand how the nets are deployed to capture wildlife. Ducks Unlimited volunteers will also be on hand to demonstrate retriever handling techniques and hand out some free stuff for the kids.

The event will begin at 7:00 a.m. sharp in the large parking lot next to Cypress Lake and the equipment yard at Otter Slough Conservation Area. Most of the activities will occur in

shaded areas and will conclude at approximately 10:00 a.m.

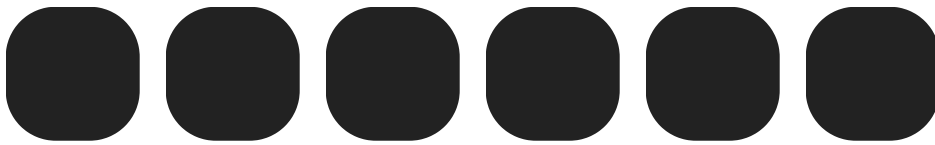
No registration is required and the event is free to all ages.

There will be giveaways from Ducks Unlimited and each kid will get their own duck band to show that they attended this event

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2017 Bernie Mules Fall Baseball Schedule Released

JULY 28TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

2017 Bernie Mules Fall Baseball Schedule Released

Bernie, Missouri - The 2017 Bernie Mules Fall High School Baseball Schedule has been released. The Mules are on the road the first two games of the season then host the

infamous Bernie Wood Bat RR against Bloomfield and Holcomb on Saturday, August 26th.

2017 Bernie High School Baseball Fall Schedule

Wed Aug. 23rd Advance (Away) 4:30 pm

Thur Aug. 24th Senath (Away) 4:30 pm

Fri Aug 25th Gideon/Risco (HOME) 4:30 p.m.

Sat Aug 26th Bernie Wood Bat RR w/Bloomfield and Holcomb

10 am Bernie vs Holcomb, Noon Bloomfield vs Holcomb, 2 pm Bernie vs Bloomfield

Mon August 28th Twin River (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Tue Aug 29th Advance (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Wed Aug 30th Bell City (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Thurs Aug 31st Risco (HOME) 4:30 p.m.

Fri Sept 1st Holcomb (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Tue Sept 5th Campbell (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Wed Sept 6th Oran (HOME) 4:30 p.m.

Fri Sept 8th Campbell (HOME) 4:30 p.m.

Sat Sept 9th Oran (Varsity and JV) (HOME) 1 p.m.

Mon Sept 11th Puxico (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Tue Sept 12th Neelyville (HOME) 4:30 p.m.

Thu Sept 14th Puxico (HOME) 4:30 p.m.

Fri Sept 15th Naylor (HOME) 4:30 p.m.

Sat Sept 16th Oran (Away) 1 p.m.

Mon Sept 18th Leopold (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Tue Sept 19th South Pemiscot (Away) 4:30 p.m.

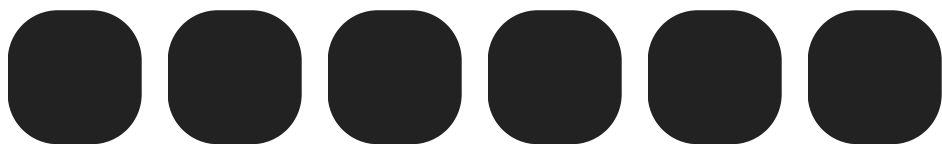
Thu Sept 21st Bloomfield (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Sat/Mon/Tue Sept 23rd, 25th and 26th Fall Tournament at Bernie (TBD)

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Discover Nature with MDC at MO State Fair August 10th - 20th

JULY 28TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Discover Nature with MDC at MO State Fair August 10th - 20th

Discover nature with MDC at State Fair Aug. 10-20

See live fish and other native wildlife, get info, and explore Kids' Discovery Room.

SEDALIA, Mo. -- Discover nature with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) at the Missouri State Fair in Sedalia Aug. 10-20.

Visit MDC's Conservation Building from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. to see live fish and other native animals such as snakes, turtles, and amphibians. Learn about and see displays of native plants that help butterflies and other important pollinators. Ask conservation questions of MDC staff, get educational materials, and have fun.

Don't miss MDC's air-conditioned Conservation Kids' Discovery Room between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. for hands-on fun discovering nature through crafts and other activities.

Enjoy these free conservation-related programs at MDC's outdoor pavilion:

WATCH RAPTORS: See a live eagle and other birds of prey up close at the Raptors of Missouri presentation Aug. 10 and Aug. 19 at 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 4 p.m.

LEARN TO CLEAN AND COOK FISH: Learn how to prepare a fresh catch at the Fish Cooking and Cleaning demonstration Aug. 11 and Aug. 12 at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

BE BEAR AWARE: Learn about black bears in Missouri and how to Be Bear Aware Aug. 13 and Aug. 20 at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

OPERATION GAME THIEF: Visit with conservation agents and see the MDC OGT travelling display trailer all day Aug. 14, 15, and 16.

FIELD TO FORK: Learn how to clean and cook harvested game at the Field to Fork demonstration Aug. 17 at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

HISTORIC SAWMILL: See a working model sawmill in operation at Forest Products: The Circular Sawmill Aug. 18 at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Don't miss the special program on **ALIEN INVADERS** Aug. 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. next door to the MDC outdoor pavilion at the Missouri Department of Transportation gardens. It will include displays and activities on invasive plants and animals, how they harm native species and habitats, and what people can do to help eliminate th

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MDC and MBRC Host 19th Annual Take a Kid Fishing Clinic

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MDC and MBRC Host 19th Annual Take a Kid Fishing Clinic

MDC, MBRC host 19th annual Take a Kid Fishing Clinic

Conservation agents will lead archery activities and offer boat rides while families fish together.

KENNETT, Mo. – The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and Missouri Bootheel Regional Consortium (MBRC) Inc. will host the 19th annual Take a Kid Fishing Clinic at Jerry P. Combs Lake, Saturday, Aug. 5, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This is the largest annual fishing event in the Bootheel.

“This event typically pulls in 500 or more people and we’re glad it’s popular,” said Conservation Agent Eric Heuring.

The purpose of the event, which is part of MBRC’s Fathers First Initiative, is to engage fathers and children in outdoor activities together. In addition to fishing, MDC will lead archery activities and offer boat rides on the lake, The Missouri National Guard will be present, free lunch and breakfast refreshments will be provided by MBRC, and a limited number of t-shirts will be available on a first come, first served basis.

Cynthia Dean, CEO of MBRC, said the Fatherhood First program was initiated in 1998 in order to assist fathers in maintaining positive relationships with their children and families. She said the fishing clinic helps support local interventions and services to assist fathers in overcoming barriers to responsible fatherhood.

“MBRC is committed to continuing this important community event to emphasize the importance of male involvement in the lives of their children and families,” Dean said.

Adults and children are encouraged to bring their own fishing poles and equipment. A limited number of loaner fishing poles will be available, with identification required for use of loaner poles. All children must be accompanied at all times by an adult.

“Fishing and other outdoor activities provide a perfect opportunity for families to bond as they learn about and enjoy the outdoors,” Heuring said. “MDC is proud to be a part of this event because of the strong tie to maintaining that tradition of families enjoying nature together.”

Heuring has coordinated MDC’s portion of the event for well over a decade. He said watching children experience nature, sometimes for the first time, never gets old.

“The highlight of this event is always witnessing the children have a great time catching fish, getting a bull’s-eye and going on the boat rides. For many, this is a first time experience with these activities,” he said.

Heuring said for MDC, this event is part of a mission to help people discover nature. He said the hope is that after experiencing these outdoor activities for the first time at an event, parents and children will incorporate things like fishing, archery and general outdoor time into their regular routines.

“Fishing, like anything else, is only improved when enjoyed with your family,” Heuring added.

To learn more about the MBRC Fishing Clinic, go online to mbrcinc.org/2017-fishing. For more information on places to fish in Missouri, go online to mdc.mo.gov/fish. For information on MDC nature programs occurring throughout Missouri, go to mdc.mo.gov/events.

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Registration Open for DPR Youth Sports

JULY 27TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Registration Open for DPR Youth Sports

Dexter, Missouri - Registration forms for fall sports at the Dexter Parks & Rec are now available.

Youth Soccer has two age groups. Division 1 accommodates children in kindergarten and first grade for the 2017-2018 school year and Division 2 is for children in second and third grades this upcoming school year. Deadline is August 17, 2017. Shorts, shoes, and shinguards are required. Uniforms will be provided by Dexter Park and Rec.

Youth Volleyball also has two age groups. Division 1 includes children in 4th and 5th grade and Division 2 are for children in sixth and seventh grades. Deadline is also August 17, 2017.

The Little League Tackle Football program is for youth in fourth, fifth, and sixth grades. Deadline is August 17. Practices are usually Tuesdays and Thursdays. Games are on

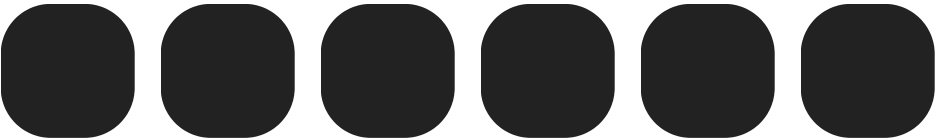
Saturday mornings.

Contact the Parks and Rec office at (573) 624-8244 for more information. **Registration forms are available by clicking [HERE](#).**

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