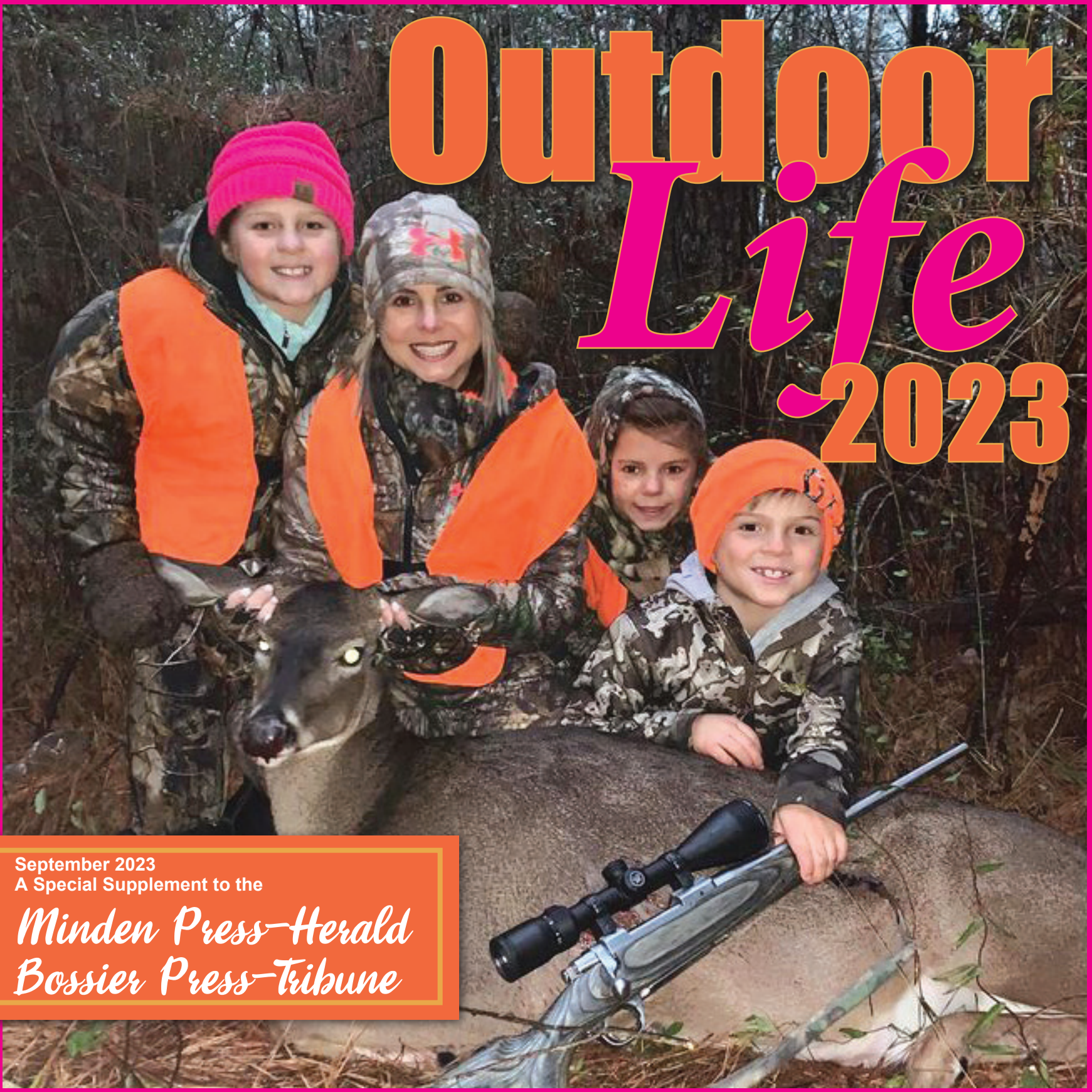


Outdoor *Life* 2023



September 2023
A Special Supplement to the

*Minden Press-Herald
Bossier Press-Tribune*

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ON THE COVER:
 Greenlee, Danielle,
 Gabby and Grey,
 the family of
 Bossier City firefighter,
 Josh Weir.

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Hunting Licenses, Permits, and Tags

Residents and nonresident hunters age 18 or older must have a Basic Hunting License to hunt, take, possess or transport any wild birds or quadrupeds (for which hunting is permitted and seasons are opened).

All youth (age 17 and younger) who are actively harvesting deer or turkey, participating in a lottery hunt, or trapping are required to have a Youth Hunting License. Youth who are spectating (not

actively hunting) are not required to have a license.

* Additional special licenses are required to hunt, take, possess, or transport deer, turkey, or migratory waterfowl.

- Hunters must have licenses (or license numbers) and a physical form of identification on their person while hunting.
- No person born on or after September 1, 1969, shall hunt unsupervised

unless that person has been issued a certificate of satisfactory completion of a Hunter Education course approved by LDWF. Please see • Mandatory Hunter Education for exceptions, requirements, and methods for taking approved hunter education courses.

- Licenses are available at special rates for seniors, military, students, and people with disabilities. Lifetime licenses are also available.

The following individuals are not re-

quired to have a hunting license:

- Residents and nonresidents under age 18 (i.e. age 17 and under) who are hunting game animals besides deer or turkey or are spectators of another person hunting
- Residents born before June 1, 1940 who have lived in Louisiana for 6 months.
- However, these individuals must have proof of age in their possession whenever hunting.

How Do I Purchase Hunting License?

ONLINE

At LDWF Headquarters at 2000 Quail Drive in Baton Rouge and many local retailers.

**This does not apply to most military, student, disability, and lifetime licenses. See Special Licenses for details.*

Online payment options include Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express; these purchases include a small handling fee.

If you purchase your license online (via smartphone, laptop, tablet, etc.), you will not receive a license in the mail. You will receive a text with a temporary authorization number and an email with the temporary authorization number and a PDF of your licenses, which you can print and/or save to the electronic device you take hunting.

Louisiana citizens with a Louisiana driver's license or ID card can also now use the LA Wallet app to display their purchased LDWF licenses on their smartphone.

How Do I Qualify For Resident Rates?

To purchase a license at the resident rate, you must meet the bona fide residency requirements defined below and present one of the following valid forms of identification:

- > Louisiana driver's license (valid for 6 months or more)
- > Louisiana identification card (issued by the Louisiana Department of Public Safety)

If you obtain a resident license but do not comply with the bona fide residency requirements as stated below, you will be subject to criminal and/or civil sanctions.

BONA FIDE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS:

You're a bona fide resident if you've resided in the state of Louisiana continuously during the 6 months immediately prior to the date you apply for any license and if you've established Louisiana as your legal domicile. You must

demonstrate compliance with all of the following, as applicable:

- > If you're registered to vote, you're registered to vote in Louisiana
- > If you're licensed to drive a motor vehicle, you have a valid Louisiana driver's license
- > If you own a motor vehicle located within Louisiana, you have a valid Louisiana registration for that vehicle
- > If you earn an income, you have filed a Louisiana state income tax return and have complied with state income tax law and regulations.

Any person, corporation, or other legal entity that possesses a resident license from any other state or country shall not qualify for a resident license in Louisiana.

How Do I Replace a Lost License?

If you lost your license, you can purchase a duplicate for \$2 per license. If you purchased it online or through a mobile device, you can reprint it for free. No duplicates are allowed for temporary licenses.


Did You Know?

Hunting licenses are valid from the date of purchase and expire one year (365 days) from the date of purchase. If you purchase your license online, you can select an option to have your license renewed automatically every year.



Next time you renew your driver's license at the Office of Motor Vehicles, you can add a Lifetime Hunting/Fishing, Boater Education, and/or Hunter Education endorsement to your license for free. If you have one or more of these endorsements, you do not have to carry the applicable license or certification card with you as long as you have your driver's license.

In addition, Louisiana citizens with a Louisiana driver's license or ID card can now use the LA Wallet app to display their purchased LDWF licenses on their smartphone.

License and Permit Types and Fees 				
License/Permit Type	Resident, Military, Student Fee	Nonresident Fee	Nonresident Native 10-Day ³	Nonresident 5-Day
Basic Hunting (required for all hunters)	\$20	\$200	\$20	\$65
Deer (includes archery and primitive privileges and deer tags; required for all deer hunters in addition to Basic Hunting)	\$15	\$100	\$15	\$35
Waterfowl (required for all waterfowl hunters in addition to Basic Hunting)	\$12	\$50	\$12	\$35
Federal Duck Stamp (required for all waterfowl hunters 16 years of age and older, even those who are not otherwise required to purchase a license)	\$27.22			
HIP Certification (required in addition to all other applicable licenses for migratory game birds—mourning doves, ducks, geese, woodcock, rails, snipe, coots or gallinules)	Free			
Turkey (includes tags; required for all turkey hunters in addition to Basic Hunting)	\$12	\$50	\$12	\$35
Youth Hunting (under age 18; required for hunting deer and turkey, trapping, and youth lottery hunts; includes deer and turkey tags; no ID or proof of residency required for purchase)	\$5	\$5	—	—
WMA Access Annual Permit (this permit is included in the Sportsman's Paradise license, Senior Hunt/Fish License, and all lifetime licenses, not required for youth 17 and under)	\$20	\$20	—	—
WMA Access 5-Day Permit (valid for a five-consecutive day period)	\$5	\$5	—	—
WMA Camping Permit (required for each camping party of up to five adults camping together. Youth 17 and under are not required to have a camping permit. The WMA Camping Permit(s) or LDWF number(s) shall be displayed at each camping party's campsite. A campsite is defined as any tent, RV, camper, vehicle or site occupied within a campground or vessel/houseboat moored adjacent to a campground.)	\$7/night	\$7/night	—	—
Senior Hunting/Fishing ¹	\$5	—	—	—
Louisiana Sportsman's Paradise ²	\$100	\$400	\$100	\$120
Nonresident Hunting Preserve (October 1-April 30) ³	—	\$310		
Game Breeder's License for Falconry (Falconry License ; to practice falconry in Louisiana; must also have a current, valid Hunting License; Falconry Licenses will not be issued for pets or the pet trade/industry) ⁴	\$37.50 plus one-time \$50 facility inspection fee	—	—	—

¹Any resident age 60 or older must instead have a Senior Hunting/Fishing License. This license is in lieu of Basic and Saltwater Fishing Licenses; Basic, Deer, Waterfowl, and Turkey Hunting Licenses; and the WMA Access Permit. It also includes all legal gear privileges. This license is free for residents born before June 1, 1940.

²The Louisiana Sportsman's Paradise License includes Basic and Saltwater Fishing Licenses; Basic, Deer, Waterfowl, and Turkey Hunting Licenses; and the WMA Access Permit.

³If you were born in Louisiana but are not currently a resident, you may purchase Nonresident Native Hunting Licenses, which are valid for ten consecutive days. These temporary hunting licenses are available for Basic Hunting as well as other licenses or permits required in addition to the Basic Hunting License, such as Deer, Waterfowl, or Turkey. These licenses are available at any Louisiana license vendor. You must present an original or certified original birth certificate from the Louisiana Department of Health and photo identification when you purchase these licenses.

⁴Only allows you to hunt pen-raised birds on a hunting preserve; in lieu of a Basic Hunting License. However, if you are taking or hunting mallards, you must also have a Waterfowl Hunting License..

B.A.S.S. ANNOUNCES 2024 ELITE SCHEDULE WITH NINE EVENTS IN SIX STATES

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — For the first time since 2018, the Bassmaster Elite Series won't be kicking off its season in Florida, opting instead to open its 2024 slate at the big-bass factory of Toledo Bend Reservoir on the Louisiana/Texas border Feb. 22-25.

B.A.S.S. officials made that announcement recently, along with the entirety of a nine-tournament schedule that will span six states and visit fisheries that have ranked among the best in the United States, both recently and historically.

CEO Chase Anderson said that, with the 2023 season in the books, B.A.S.S. is anxious to tackle what is certain to be an action-packed 2024 lineup.

"Anyone who follows and celebrates the sport of bass fishing will recognize the lakes on this schedule as some of the best fisheries anywhere, and we could not be more excited to get it started with the top anglers in the world competing on bass fishing's biggest stage."

The opener on Toledo Bend will take place out of Many, La., and will mark the 19th time B.A.S.S. has held a major event on the fishery that ranked sixth overall on Bassmaster Magazine's annual 100 Best Bass Lakes list. The gigantic fishery, which covers 185,000 acres across two states, has topped the list of 100 Best Bass Lakes twice in the past (2015, 2016).

B.A.S.S. last visited Toledo Bend this past April for a St. Croix Bassmaster Open that was won by Texas pro Ben Milliken with a three-day total of 77 pounds, 14 ounces — a mark that would have put him well on pace for a 100-pound performance and a century belt in a four-day competition.

From Toledo Bend, the Elites will travel just west to another of the nation's big-bass capitals, Lake Fork, which placed third in the Central Division of Bassmaster Magazine's 2023 100 Best Bass Lakes list. The

Elites will fish out of a newly built facility in Yantis, Texas, Feb. 29-March 3, with the same catch-weigh-release format that has produced Century Club performances the last four times B.A.S.S. has visited the 27,264-acre impoundment. Brandon Cobb (2019), Patrick Walters (2020) and Lee Livesay (2021, 2022) all topped the 100-pound mark with their victories there.

"The Sabine River Authority is excited to host the upcoming Bassmaster Elite Series at SRA's new Caney Point Recreation Area on Lake Fork Reservoir," said David Montagne, SRA general manager. "This new facility was developed to attract major tournaments and bring enhanced recreational opportunities to Lake Fork enthusiasts."

After a pause in the schedule for the Academy Sports + Outdoors Bassmaster Classic presented by Toyota in Tulsa, Okla., on Grand Lake O' the Cherokees March 22-24, the 2024 Elite slate will make its annual trip to the Sunshine State — a little later than usual — with tournaments on the Harris Chain of Lakes (April 11-14, Leesburg, Fla.) and the St. Johns River (April 18-21, Palatka, Fla.).

B.A.S.S. has made 42 combined visits to those fisheries for major tournaments, but the timing of these events should make different strategies and techniques viable beyond the tried-and-true sight-fishing methods that have ruled earlier events in years past. Tennessee pro Buddy Gross won with 77-11 the last time B.A.S.S. visited the Harris Chain for an Elite event, and Virginia's John Crews won with the last Elite on the St. Johns with 75-4 — both in 2022.

The Elites will leave Florida and travel north to South Carolina for a return visit to Lake Murray — a fishery that provided one of the more entertaining events on the 2023 schedule, with Florida pro Drew Benton catching 87 pounds for the victory. The sprawling 50,000-acre lake placed fourth overall on Bassmaster Magazine's

list of 100 Best Bass Lakes after producing 49 limits of 20 pounds or more. The 2024 Lake Murray event will be held May 9-12 near Columbia, S.C.

From there, it'll be on to Alabama for a pair of events on two vastly different fisheries.

A trip to Wheeler Lake in Decatur, Ala., June 13-16, will see anglers vying for mixed bags of largemouth and smallmouth on the 67,070-acre Tennessee River fishery that has hosted 13 major B.A.S.S. events. Most recently, Wisconsin pro Adam Rasmussen won a Bassmaster Open on Wheeler in May with a three-day total of 54-15.

The event will be held out of Ingalls Harbor, a first-class facility that covers 27 acres.

"Ingalls Harbor has been described as the 'perfect location' by tournament organizers, and we tend to agree. The opportunity to host will strengthen our continued partnership with B.A.S.S. in helping to spotlight the amazing capabilities the facility offers. Hosting the top anglers from across the country will be a big benefit to Decatur-Morgan County, and we can't wait to welcome them in 2024."

After targeting largemouth and smallmouth on Wheeler, the Elites will head to Lewis Smith Lake in Cullman, Ala., June 27-30, for an event where big spotted bass are likely to play a key role. Smith has always been known for numbers of spots, but the size of its bass has increased greatly in recent years due to the presence of blueback herring as their main food source.

B.A.S.S. has visited Smith 11 times for major events, with Virginia pro Jacob Powroznik most recently winning an Open there in 2021 with 37-9. However, this will be the first time the Elite Series has visited the deep, clear fishery that covers 21,200 acres.

"Visit Cullman, the City of Cullman and Cullman County are excited to be hosting the first Bassmaster Elite on Lewis Smith Lake," said Hugh A. Stump III, tourism director for the Cullman County Tourism Bureau. "A partnership with B.A.S.S. gives us a chance to showcase our wonderful fishery, Smith Lake Park and our Cullman community."

With the Progressive Insurance Bassmaster Angler of the Year and Dakota Lithium Bassmaster Rookie of the Year races coming down the home stretch, the Elites will once again finish their season in New York with events on Lake Champlain in Plattsburgh, N.Y., Aug. 8-11, and the St. Lawrence River in Waddington, N.Y., Aug. 15-18.

Champlain, which is known for good populations of largemouth and smallmouth, showed out on the smallmouth front this year as Japanese rookie Kyoya Fujita won with a four-day limit of brown fish that weighed 86-12 in August. The 2024 tournament will mark the 16th major B.A.S.S. event on this scenic 271,000-acre fishery that separates New York and Vermont.

For complete coverage of the Elite Series, visit [Bassmaster.com](https://www.bassmaster.com).

2024 BASSMASTER ELITE SERIES SCHEDULE

Feb. 22-25, Many, La., Toledo Bend Reservoir
Feb. 29-March 3, Yantis, Texas, Lake Fork
March 22-24, Bassmaster Classic, Tulsa, Okla., Grand Lake O' the Cherokees
April 11-14, Leesburg, Fla., Harris Chain of Lakes
April 18-21, Palatka, Fla., St. Johns River
May 9-12, Columbia, S.C., Lake Murray
June 13-16, Decatur, Ala., Wheeler Lake
June 27-30, Cullman, Ala., Smith Lake
Aug. 8-11, Plattsburgh, N.Y., Lake Champlain
Aug. 15-18, Waddington, N.Y., St. Lawrence River



RECREATIONAL LICENSE FEES

New fees started JUNE 2022

- Licenses valid for 365 days from purchase

	Resident, Military & Student	Non-Resident	Non-Resident Native 10-Day	Non-Resident 5-Day
FISHING				
Hook & Line / Roadside Crabbing	\$5.00		\$5.00	
Basic Fishing (includes all freshwater gear; required for all fishermen)	\$17.00	\$68.00	\$17.00	\$30.00
Saltwater Fishing (includes all saltwater gear; crab traps, shrimp trawl and oyster tong; required for all saltwater fishermen in addition to Basic Fishing)	\$15.00	\$60.00	\$15.00	\$30.00
Charter 3-Day Saltwater (includes NR Charter Skiff 3-Day)	\$20.00			
Charter 3-Day Freshwater	\$10.00			

NOTE: Persons 17 and under are not required to purchase a fishing license.

	Resident, Military & Student	Non-Resident	Non-Resident Native 10-Day	Non-Resident 5-Day
HUNTING				
Basic Hunting (required for all hunters; additional licenses are required to hunt deer, waterfowl and turkey)	\$20.00	\$200.00	\$20.00	\$65.00
Deer (includes archery and primitive; includes tags; required for all deer hunters in addition to Basic Hunting)	\$15.00	\$100.00	\$15.00	\$35.00
Waterfowl (required for all waterfowl hunters in addition to Basic Hunting)	\$12.00	\$50.00	\$12.00	\$35.00
Turkey (includes tags; required for all turkey hunters in addition to Basic Hunting)	\$12.00	\$50.00	\$12.00	\$35.00
Youth Hunting (ages 17 and under; required for hunting deer, turkey, trapping and WMA youth lottery hunts; includes tags)			\$5.00	
Federal Electronic Duck Stamp	\$27.72			
Harvest Information Program (HIP)	FREE			
Hunting Preserve (Oct. 1 - April 30)		\$15.00		

NOTE: Youth (ages 17 and younger) who are actively harvesting deer or turkey, participating in a lottery hunt or trapping are required to have the Youth Hunting license. Youths who are spectating (not actively hunting) are not required to have a license.

	Resident, Military & Student	Non-Resident	Non-Resident Native 10-Day	Non-Resident 5-Day
RECREATION ON LDWF ADMINISTERED LANDS				
WMA Access Annual Permit (this permit is included in the Sportsman's Paradise License, Senior Hunt/Fish License and all lifetime licenses; not required for youths 17 and under)	\$20.00			
WMA Access 5-Day Permit (valid for a five-consecutive-day period)	\$5.00			
WMA Camping Permit (required for each camping party of up to five adults camping together. Youths 17 and under are not required to have a camping permit.)	\$7.00/day			

NOTE: Either a WMA Access Annual or 5-day Permit is required for all users of LDWF administered lands, including wildlife management areas, refuges and wetlands conservation areas. Persons 17 and under are not required to purchase WMA permits.

	Resident, Military & Student	Non-Resident	Non-Resident Native 10-Day	Non-Resident 5-Day
COMBINATION LICENSES (all privileges above EXCEPT Lottery Hunts and WMA Camping Permit)				
Sportsman's Paradise	\$100.00	\$400.00	\$100.00	\$120.00
Senior Hunt/Fish (born before June 1, 1940)	FREE			
Senior Hunt/Fish (born between June 1, 1940 and May 31, 1962)	\$5.00			
Senior Hunt/Fish (65+ on or after June 1, 2027; not available until June 1, 2027)	\$20.00			
Resident or Native-Born Retired Military	\$20.00			
Disabled (blind, paraplegic, amputee, artificial limb(s), permanent brace(s), KIA surviving spouse)	\$4.00			
Disabled Veteran (issued at no cost to the consumer; paid by LWFF)	\$4.00			
Lifetime Hunting/Fishing Combo License (from birth to age 64; includes deer and turkey tags)	\$500.00	\$4,000.00		
Senior Lifetime Hunting/Fishing Combo License (65 and older; includes deer and turkey tags)	\$100.00	\$4,000.00		



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DAILY EVENTS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

- FAIR PARADE DOWNTOWN MINDEN AT 5:00 P.M.
- FAIR GATES OPEN AT 5:00 P.M.
- LIVESTOCK WEIGH-IN AT 5:00 P.M.
- POULTRY AND RABBIT SHOW AT 6:00 P.M.
- LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AT 6:00 P.M. (Echota Records)

\$1 GATE FEE and \$1 RIDES TUESDAY ONLY!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

- FAIR GATES OPEN AT 5:00 P.M. "ARMBAND NITE"
- 4-H SWINE SHOWMANSHIP AT 6:00 P.M. THEN SWINE WEIGHT CLASSES (LIVESTOCK ARENA)

GATE ENTRANCE FEE: \$2 Rest of Week

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

- SENIOR CITIZEN DAY 9:00 A.M. UNTIL 1:30 P.M. (CIVIC CENTER)
- FAIR GATES OPEN AT 5:00 P.M. "ARMBAND NITE"
- 4-H GOAT, LAMB, BEEF SHOWMANSHIP AT 6:00 P.M.
- 4-H DAIRY, AND DOUG SALE SHOWMANSHIP AT 7:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

- BUYER'S LUNCHEON AT 11:30 A.M.
- LIVESTOCK AUCTION AT 1:00 P.M. (4-H SHOW BARN)
- FAIR GATES OPEN AT 5:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

- FAIR GATES OPEN AT 12:00 P.M.
- LIVE ENTERTAINMENT (Echota Records)
- KIDS DAY! 1:00 TO 5:00 P.M.
- PIZZA EATING CONTEST AT 2:00 P.M. SPONSORED BY JOHNNY'S PIZZA

(Dates are subject to cancellation)



WEBSTER PARISH FAIR PARADE



DATE: Tuesday, October 3, 2023

START TIME: 5:00 P.M.

LINE UP: 3:30 P.M.

NAME OF GROUP:

NAME OF SPONSOR (IF ANY):

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE:

APPROX. NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN GROUP:

DESIGNATE:

DRILL TEAM FLOAT BAND

MARCHING GROUP AUTO OR TRUCK

SEND ENTRIES BY SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

MAIL TO: Sherrie McMurray
107 Methodist Camp Rd.
MINDEN, LA 71055

INFORMATION: Sherrie McMurray
PHONE: 318-294-6346
FAX: 377-4769

NOTE

THE PARADE'S PACE WILL BE SLOW ENOUGH FOR YOUR GROUP TO PERFORM ROUTINES. THEREFORE, WHEN THE PARADE IS STARTED THERE WILL BE NO STOPPING OF ANY GROUP. A CLOSE INTERVAL MUST BE MAINTAINED AT ALL TIMES. IF ANY GROUP CANNOT COMPLY WITH THIS REQUEST YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY FUTURE FAIR PARADES. IF PLANNING ON HAVING THROWS YOU MUST HAVE WALKERS ON EACH SIDE OF FLOAT FOR CROWD CONTROL. IF PARADE IS STOPPED, THEN YOU MUST STOP GIVING OUT THROWS UNTIL FLOAT IS MOVING. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

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North Louisiana Fishing You Can Bank On

In north Louisiana, there is great fishing in some of the most scenic places you can imagine. And often, these spots are available without a boat. Several popular state parks have public fishing piers for catching game fish like bream, crappie, catfish and bass. The experience is different from fishing the hotspots out in the lake, but there are plenty of fish to be caught. And a family outing on the pier is one sure to make memories.

Here are five north Louisiana bank fishing spots you should try:

- The pier at the **Lake Bistineau State Park**, near Minden, is in a protected cove on the meandering 15,000-acre lake, one of the oldest in the state dating back to 1935. Its moss-laden cypress trees provide great cover and a scenic backdrop for bass, bream and red-ear sunfish, catfish, yellow bass.

- **Jimmie Davis State Park** on Caney Lake near Chatham doesn't offer one fishing pier—their waterfront cabins come with their own. The area offers bank fishing in the richest big bass waters in the state. It isn't likely you'll

catch a 10 pounder off the bank, but in the spring you never know.

- **Lake Claiborne State Park** at Homer sports three fishing piers on the 6,400-acre lake. Bass, bream, yellow bass and white perch are common catches here. This park also has some of the most splendid nature areas when the fish aren't biting.

- You'll find five of the longest freshwater fishing piers in the state at **Lake D'Arbonne State Park** between Farmerville and Bernice. They are

long enough for plenty of fishermen to have lots of options for fishing. Bream and white perch fishing are good here in the spring along with catfishing.

- **Poverty Point Reservoir State Park** at Delhi has a fishing pier in one of the newest lakes in the state. This spot has the reputation as one of the best white perch lakes. Bream and bass can also be caught here. And if the pier isn't enough, you can fish from your own deck if you rent one of the over-the-water cabins on the 2,700-acre lake.

Visit Bodcau Wildlife Management Area

LOCATION

9961 Hwy 80
Minden LA 71055

Bodcau WMA gets its name from Bodcau Bayou, the major bayou that bisects it from its northernmost point at the Arkansas-Louisiana state line to its southernmost tip nearly 30 miles to the south. The area is long and narrow with an average width of 1-1/2 miles. Ivan Lake is on Bodcau WMA, and there is also a manmade dam and seasonal flood reservoir which were built to control downstream flooding. Bodcau WMA contains a

wide range of wildlife habitat ranging from cypress swamps to upland pine and hardwood forests interspersed with grasslands and open fields. There are numerous seasonally flooded sloughs, beaver ponds, and large areas of flatland, bottomland, hardwood forests. The main bottomland tree species include bald cypress and water, overcup, willow, and cow oaks. Shortleaf and loblolly pine; white, red, and cherrybark oaks; sweetgum; and elm trees dominate upland forests. Understory species in the bottomland area include poison ivy, honeysuckle, rattan, buttonbush, and swamp priv-

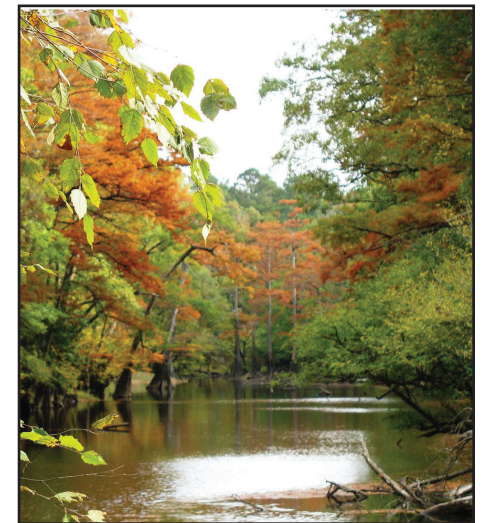
et. Upland understory species include blackberry, honeysuckle, poison ivy, beautyberry, and sawbriar. Activities: hunting & trapping, shooting range, fishing & boating, birding & Wildlife viewing, and camping.

ACTIVITIES:

Backpacking
Bicycling
Birding
Natural Wildlife Viewing
Swamp Walks

Contact

Phone: 318-371-3050



Outdoors in Minden, Louisiana

With year-round hunting, fishing, golf and countless other opportunities for outdoor recreation, it is easy to see why Louisiana's nickname is "Sportsman's Paradise." Sure, that's a lot to live up to. But with thousands of hiking and biking trails, beautiful State Parks, and one of the largest game preserves in the United States, Louisiana is the ultimate playground for all outdoorsmen. Our vast expanse

of coastal wetlands and countless birding trails make our state a habitat for many rare and endangered species and a natural paradise for bird watchers as well. Come step into the wild outdoors of Louisiana. With its distinctive red-bricked Main Street lined with shops, banks and churches, old-time charm pervades downtown Minden. History buffs will find plenty to explore in Minden's historic dis-

tricts with their antebellum and Victorian-era homes--- or at Minden Cemetery, which includes soldiers' graves from Civil War battles fought nearby. Just outside Minden, the Germantown Colony and Museum offers a glimpse of what life was like in an early 19th century settlement created by followers of the German-based Utopian Movement. Minden is also a gateway to outdoor recreation galore at desti-

nations like Dorcheat Bayou and Lake Bistineau, teeming with largemouth bass and the Caney Lakes Recreation Area with its numerous trails, campsites and lakes. The Webster Parish Fair comes to Minden in October with rides, games and a parade through downtown, while the Moess Art Center and City Farm combines art and agriculture and hosts annual events like the Spring Arts Festival.

WELCOME to Red River South Marina & Resort

Welcome to the heart of the Sportsman's Paradise on the Red River in Northwest Louisiana. This is Red River South Marina & Resort, just minutes from downtown Shreveport, LA. Whether you are looking for place to host a local one-day fishing tournament, four-day national event, or just wanting a weekend getaway, we can help.

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EXPLORE the Red River National Wildlife Refuge

LOCATION

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(318) 742-1219

Explore the great outdoors at a local nature conservation area protected by the National Wildlife Refuge. The center features over five miles of trails, fishing, wildlife viewing, and environmental education. Discover more about the wildlife that calls the refuge home by enjoying the exhibits at the Visitor Center! Hunting is permitted in designated areas on some units of the refuge, and Fishing is permitted during certain times of the year at the refuge. Just a short walk down the Lake Bluff Trail (Green Trail) at the Headquarters Unit is the Nature Discovery Play Area, a small nature-themed playground that includes a tree house, faux fishing boat, balance beams, hollow logs, among other things.

ACTIVITIES

- Bicycling
- Birding
- Natural Wildlife Viewing
- Swamp Walks
- Parks & Trails
- Hiking/Nature Trail
- National Wildlife Refuge



4 Unique Products That Make Camping Fun

Perhaps no experience connects people with nature in quite the same way as camping. Various activities, including hiking, fishing and kayaking, afford people a chance to experience the great outdoors. But there's just something about spending all day in nature and then sleeping under the stars that sets camping apart from other outdoor activities.



Modern campers use many of the same products that have been popular for decades if not longer to make their camping experiences enjoyable. Tents, compasses and cooking equipment are all as necessary today as they were years ago. But various unique products are now available to add a new twist to camping excursions without taking away the old school charm of spending a few days and nights in nature.

1. Foldable kayak: A foldable kayak is tailor-made for campers who love to go kayaking but don't necessarily want to lug their kayaks around. Compact and easily packed, foldable kayaks are typically light-

weight and some can even be checked on a plane. That's ideal for campers who are flying to an exotic camping destination but don't want to pay to rent a kayak.

2. Inflatable hammock: Comfort and camping don't always go hand in hand. But inflatable hammocks allows campers to tote along a touch of backyard relaxation on their next camping trip. Inflatable ham-

mocks are typically resistant to rips and tears and can be easily inflated. Some may remain inflated for as long as eight hours, which is more than enough time to catch an afternoon nap at the campsite.

3. Tree tent: Veteran campers know that finding flat ground on which to set up a tent is vital to a comfortable night's rest. Such campers also know that flat ground isn't always so easy to find. Tree tents take flat ground out of the equation, making them an ideal accessory for campers who want to set up their campsites along the banks of rivers during canoeing and kayaking trips.

4. Portable pressurized shower: A portable pressurized shower can make it easy for campers to quickly wash dirt and sand off their bodies and keep their camping dishes clean. Portable pressurized showers can be refilled at nearby water sources, and are typically lightweight and easily inflated, making them a non-intrusive accessory to add to your camping supplies list.

How to Prepare for a Child's First Hunting Trip

Millions of individuals across the globe are avid hunters. The passion many of those people have for hunting began on their first childhood hunting trip, and countless hunters fondly recall this milestone moment in their lives.

If there's a first time for everything, parents know that kids' initial forays into any activity comes with ups and downs. Hunting is no exception to that trend, but parents can consider these measures as they prepare their youngsters to go hunting for the first time.

- Emphasize the importance of safety. Safety is of the utmost importance on any hunting trip. Kids should be aware of all safety protocols pertaining to their guns and the hunting grounds. Hunter's education courses can teach kids about hunting safety, but parents can quiz youngsters in the days leading up to the trip to reinforce safety protocols.

- Explain how hunting trips typically unfold. Giving kids an idea of how a hunting trip may unfold is another good idea. Explain the timing of the trip and why it's



beginning when it is. Kids without such knowledge may be less enthusiastic about early morning hunting excursions if they don't understand why they need to get out of bed early on a day off. But they might be more excited if they recognize they're more likely to see wildlife and enjoy a successful trip if they're willing to sacrifice sleeping in.

- Bring some extra activities for kids to do. Screens are a no-no, as they could deter wildlife. But hunting requires patience, which is not exactly a virtue many youngsters possess. So bring some books along or

encourage kids to keep a diary of their first trip, describing it in detail so they have something to look back on as they get older.

- Purchase comfortable hunting attire. Kids will likely be wearing new attire on their first trip, so parents should have them try the clothing on prior to the trip. When shopping for hunting clothing, make sure it meets all safety standards and is functional for hunters, but don't overlook comfort. Hunting involves a lot of waiting, and the trip will be more enjoyable for everyone if kids are comfortable throughout the slow periods.

- Recognize the day could be emotional. A child's first hunting trip can be an emotional roller coaster, as kids may feel excited, bored, nervous, sad, and even guilty at any point during the day. Parents must allow kids to express any of these emotions during the day and emphasize that it's alright to express their emotions.

A child's first hunting trip is a milestone moment. Parents can take steps leading up to the trip to ensure their children are ready for what's to come.

How to Field Dress Wild Game Properly and Safely

Fishing and hunting are popular outdoor activities. Many outdoor enthusiasts engage in angling or hunting so they can have trophies to put up on their walls. Others rely on hunting and fishing for supplemental food sources. Game animals will have to be cleaned and processed properly whether they're headed to the dinner table or to the taxidermist.

Pathogen contamination is one of the biggest risks when field dressing an animal. As with any animal, game can contain harmful bacteria, such as salmonella and strains of *E. coli*. Other animals, such as wild hogs, can infect people with a flu-like illness called brucellosis, which can be caught through contact with blood, fluid or tissue of an infected hog. Deer, elk and moose also may have chronic wasting disease, or CWD. Although there is no evidence that links CWD to human illness, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises caution. Proper field dressing techniques and

game transport can help reduce the risk of pathogenic contamination. Here are some tips for getting started, courtesy of Penn State and the CDC.

- Wear safety gear. When handling any game animals, protect yourself with rubber gloves. This will prevent the blood and fluids from the game animal from getting on your skin. Eye protection is also advised when handling carcasses.

- Work quickly. The elapsed time from when the animal is downed until it is processed can affect the safety and the quality of the meat if it will be consumed, according to Martin Bucknavage, food safety extension associate in the Penn State Department of Food Science. Field dress as soon as possible to ensure rapid loss of the animal's body heat, to prevent surface bacteria from growing and to preserve the quality of the meat. Eviscerate the animal to help the carcass dissipate heat and remove

the internal organs, where spoilage tends to occur more quickly.

- Watch out for internal organs. Avoid cutting into internal organs, especially the intestines, where the largest amount of bad bacteria tend to reside.

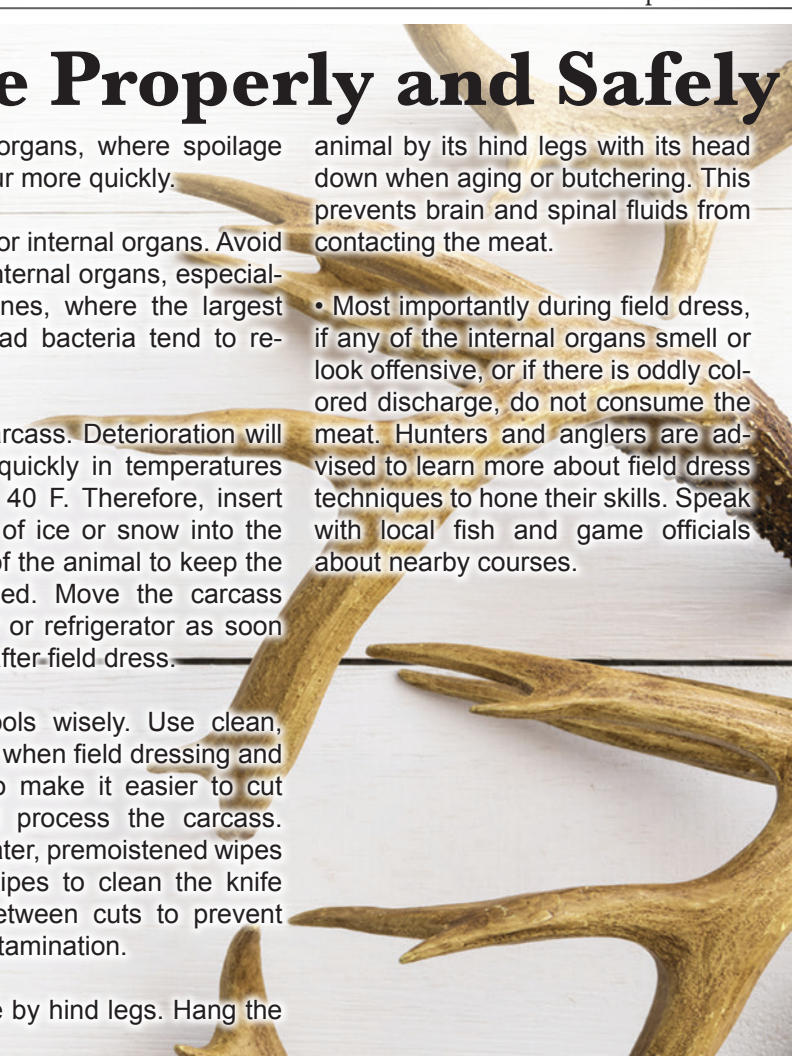
- Chill the carcass. Deterioration will occur more quickly in temperatures greater than 40 F. Therefore, insert plastic bags of ice or snow into the body cavity of the animal to keep the carcass chilled. Move the carcass into a cooler or refrigerator as soon as possible after field dress.

- Choose tools wisely. Use clean, sharp knives when field dressing and butchering to make it easier to cut through and process the carcass. Use clean water, premoistened wipes or alcohol wipes to clean the knife frequently between cuts to prevent bacterial contamination.

- Hang game by hind legs. Hang the

animal by its hind legs with its head down when aging or butchering. This prevents brain and spinal fluids from contacting the meat.

- Most importantly during field dress, if any of the internal organs smell or look offensive, or if there is oddly colored discharge, do not consume the meat. Hunters and anglers are advised to learn more about field dress techniques to hone their skills. Speak with local fish and game officials about nearby courses.



Stay Safe This Hunting Season

Hunting is a thrilling hobby for millions of people across the globe. In fact, non-hunters may be wide-eyed to learn just how popular the sport is. A recent report from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service found that 11.5 million Americans participated in hunting in 2016. Many hunters spend a lifetime hunting without ever suffering an accident or injury. However, hunting can be a dangerous sport, which only highlights the need for hunters to emphasize safety at all times.

FIREARMS

It's essential that hunters exercise caution with their firearms at all times. Firearms should always be considered loaded, even when they're not. This approach should apply while hunting

and while at home. Maintaining such a mindset can help hunters avoid dangerous, potentially deadly mishaps should they mistakenly believe a firearm is not loaded when it is. When hunting, only point the firearm when you plan to shoot, making sure to keep your finger off the trigger until you're ready to shoot. Only shoot when a target is clearly identifiable and you're certain about what is beyond the target.

WEATHER AND GEAR

The right attire can protect hunters from Mother Nature and their fellow sportsmen. Weather can be unpredictable during hunting season. Hunters should always check the forecast before leaving home, making sure to dress for the

weather. Even if the forecast calls for agreeable weather, hunters could be at the mercy of Mother Nature should the weather unexpectedly change. As a result, it behooves hunters to prepare for cold, wet weather, which could put them at risk of hypothermia if they are not dressed properly. A water-repelling outer layer can protect hunters in wet conditions, and it's also ideal to dress in layers.

To lower your risk of injuries suffered at the hands of other hunters, avoid colors and patterns that blend into natural surroundings. Such colors can include earth tones, blacks and browns. Animal patterns may confuse fellow hunters into thinking you're an animal, so avoid these as well.

STAYING IN TOUCH

Hunters, especially those who plan to go it alone, should always let others know of their plans before going on a hunting excursion. Sharing plans can help rescue teams find you should you suffer an injury on your trip and prove incapable of returning to your campsite or vehicle without assistance. Let others know when you plan to return and indicate your plans to call or text them when you arrive back at your vehicle. This way they can promptly alert the appropriate authorities should you not contact them on time.

Millions of people across the globe enjoy the sport of hunting. Hunting trips are even more enjoyable when hunters prioritize safety.



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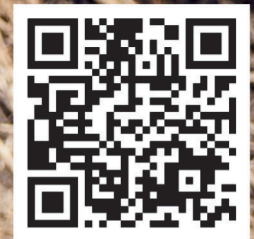
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