

*Kentucky Afield Outdoors***Dove season promising despite the weather**

Few Kentuckians can remember a weirder summer, weather wise. Early mornings in mid-August so cool you could almost see your breath. Grass as lush and green as it is in late April lasting all summer long.

Flooding conditions in July coupled with just a few days of actual Kentucky summer heat. This weather puzzles humans, but the doves don't mind. They are plentiful statewide and will provide plenty of opportunity for the opening of dove season on Sept. 1.

"I think it is going to be a good season, despite all the wet weather," said Rocky Pritchert, migratory bird coordinator for the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. "Doves are abundant this year. I am seeing a lot of them."

The first segment of dove season closes Oct. 24. The season opens again Nov. 28 and closes Dec. 6. The third segment of dove season opens Dec. 28, 2013 and closes Jan. 3, 2014. The daily bag limit remains 15 doves.

"Our public dove hunting fields on our wildlife management areas are overall in good shape," Pritchert said. "Some of our fields came in a little late and we had to switch our grains from sunflowers to millet. Millet has a shorter growing period than sunflowers. There is a lot of variance across Kentucky this year."

The first two weeks of dove season see the highest participation from hunters, but not necessarily the best hunting.

"Traditionally, dove season was the first thing to come in," Pritchert said. "Hunters will hunt hard for

the first couple of weeks; then other seasons come in such as deer or early wood duck."

Dove hunters who want the fields for themselves should continue to hunt after the initial rush, especially this year. Those who can gain permission to hunt silage fields just after their harvest may see more doves than on opening day.

"The silage is going to be late," Pritchert said. "It is not browning at all from what I've seen. I saw some browning silage in west Kentucky, but overall it is still green and healthy."

When farmers cut those silage fields to fill their silos, they leave waste grains on the fields. Doves flock to them.

Dove hunting is a social tradition in Kentucky. That aspect makes it a perfect venue to introduce a child, family member or friend to hunting.

"Dove hunting offers great opportunity for social hunting with friends and family and that aspect makes it great for new hunters," said Jamie Cook, mentor hunting coordinator for Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. "It is always good for new hunters to go with more people."

The nature of dove hunting also makes it great for kids. "Kids don't have to sit still all of the time like in a tree stand for deer hunting," Cook said. "There is a lot of action and kids can get up and move around. It is hard for a youngster to sit around and remain quiet for long periods of time."

Cook also recommended a single shot 20-gauge shotgun for a kid learning dove hunting. "The single shot teaches more about hitting that first bird than just quick, repetitive shooting," he said. "It instills shot discipline and a single shot is much more affordable."

Dove hunters must have a valid Kentucky hunting li



Delani Reynolds (left) won 3rd place and Kylie Martin took 1st place in the female 12-under division in the recent Run, Bike or Hike. Not pictured is Hannah Davis, 2nd place finisher.

**Top Water Plant...**

Berea Water Plant has earned the Water Plant of the Year Award. This award is presented annually by the American Water and Wastewater Assn., Ky/Tenn. medium size category plant. In the above photo are, from left: Jim Rickels, Class IV operator, with 31 years experience, of Mt. Vernon; Steve Jones, Class IV operator, also with 31 years experience, of Berea and Brad Anglin, class IV operator, 3 years experience, of Garrard Co.

Annual Hunger Awareness March is September 11th

The second annual Hunger Awareness March will be held on September, 11th at 10 a.m. on Main Street in Mt. Vernon.

The march is held annually to combat world hunger and it runs in collaboration with Hunger Action month in September. Registration fee for the march is one non-perishable food item that will be donated to Christian Appalachian Project's Grateful Bread Food Pantry in Mt. Vernon.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. on the day of the event. Participants can pre-register by contacting Sherri Barnett at 606-256-3035 ext. 3 or Carolyn Lindsey at 606-256-5921 ext. 4. Participants can also pre-register by contacting Barnett via email at sbarnett@chrisapp.org or Lindsey via email at clindsey@chrisapp.org.

The first 150 participants to register will receive a free t-shirt. Door prizes will also be given out after the march.

The event is sponsored by Christian Appalachian Project's Grateful Bread Food Pantry and it is co-sponsored by the City of Mt. Vernon and Rockcastle Regional Hospital.

Climax Vol. Fire Dept. holding ATV Benefit Ride

The Climax Volunteer Fire Dept. will sponsor an ATV Benefit Ride on Saturday, Sept. 7th.

The ride will start at the 4 miles marker - Climax Road (Ky. Hwy. 1912), Ken and Carolyn Holt's home at 10 a.m. and will return at approximately 2 p.m. Lunch will be provided after the ride.

If you don't ride an ATV, come and enjoy the food and good fellowship. A silent auction and update on the fire department will be given after the ride.

For more information, contact Brian Wynn 859-358-0955, Dennis Clark 606-256-3257, Darren

Stone 859-314-1465 or Ken Holt 606-256-4475.

5K/2 Mile Walk is Sept. 14th

Rockcastle Boys' Basketball will be sponsoring a 5K and 2 mile walk Septmber 14th at Brodhead Elementary starting at 8 a.m.

Costs is \$15 if pre-registered by September 4th and \$20 day of race.

For more information or form e-mail Sherry at scspragens@gmail.com. Forms may also be picked up at Roses One Stop in Brodhead or Wendy's in Mt. Vernon.

*An encouraging word:***All Beneficial Work Is Important**

By Howard Coop



Earlier this year, I was admitted to the hospital. Hospital experiences never are pleasant, but from one perspective, that experience began in an interesting way. When I was taken to the room, it was not ready. So, I was told to wait for a few moments while final preparations were made.

At once, things began to happen. While I waited, a physician came to the room, and, after asking a few questions, he made an examination. A little later, a nurse came to the room. After introducing herself, she performed her task professionally and well. When she left, another lady came and said, "I'm the tech. I've come to take your vitals," and she proceeded to take my temperature, blood pressure, and pulse rate. It wasn't long until someone came from the lab, took a blood sample, and took it to the lab for analysis. While all of that was being done, a lady with a mop and everything necessary worked hard to clean and sanitize the room. After I had been

in bed for a while, the door opened, and a young lady brought my evening meal.

Later, while resting upon that hospital bed, I thought: Since I arrived, a number of persons have been performing various tasks, and each of them have performed a necessary task. Who among them performed the most important task?

As I pondered that question, I remembered a statement many centuries old: "The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body." Then, I realized that one body of workers, each performing a different task, were working as a team for a common good, and I was the beneficiary.

Throughout this land, we will observe Labor Day on the first Monday in September. The day is more than a holiday with a day away from work to mark the unofficial end of summer. It's a day to recognize that all beneficial work is important.

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Wishing everyone a healthy and safe back-to-school season!



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