

Give the family an outdoor adventure

The Greenville News
By Scott Keeper

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OUTDOOR FAMILY ADVENTURE

When: Oct. 1, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Where: Duke World of Energy, Seneca

Cost: Free

Parking: Free shuttle from Hwy. 130

Food: Guests may bring lunch or purchase food on-site

Demonstrations: Air rifle shooting, archery, fishing, butterfly exhibit, butterfly gardening, camo games, fly casting and fly tying, fishing simulator, kayaking, wildlife artifacts (snakes and critters), retriever demonstrations, and more

Info: Call 1-800-777-1004

Want to learn how to turn a kayak, tie a fishing fly or shoot a bow and arrow?

If so, then the Upstate's 5th Annual National Hunting and Fishing Day celebration - also known as "An Outdoor Family Adventure" - would be a desirable destination next weekend.

The event is scheduled for Saturday at Duke Energy's World of Energy near Seneca, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Visitors can participate in more than 20 outdoor activities - as rigorous as "Camo Games" or as laid-back as butterfly gardening. The event is designed to celebrate with those who enjoy the outdoors and encourage others to get outside and get involved.

"It's designed to give people a taste of any and everything they can do outdoors," said Angela Viney, development director for Upstate Forever. "It's an opportunity to step outside and try different things. We want to get children, in particular, outside again and connect them with nature."

National Hunting Fishing Day became official during the Nixon administration, but the concept was born nearly a century ago when hunters encouraged the government to implement an excise tax on their gear in order to generate monies for wildlife conservation.

"Hunters were the first conservationists, and this is a celebration of that," Viney said.

"We're also attempting to grow the next generation of conservationists. I'm afraid of who's going to be concerned about green space in the future. We want young people to get outside."

OUTDOORS CALENDAR FISHING

» B&T Open Bass Tournament, Oct. 1, Lake Hartwell (Portman Shoals Marina), safe light-2 p.m. Entry \$50/boat, includes big fish pot. Contact: Tommy (864) 221-2081 or Bobby (864) 338-9305.

» Clemson University Fishing Team Open Tournament, Nov. 5, Lake Hartwell (Portman Shoals Marina), safe light-3 p.m. Entry \$100/team, including big fish pot. 75 percent payback, lunch provided at weigh-in. Contact: Hunter Smith (864) 723-0090 or Alan Horwatt (864) 706-7372.

TROUT

» Chattooga River Chapter of Trout Unlimited, monthly meeting, Oct. 4, 7:30 p.m., S.C. Dept. of Natural Resources Clemson office. Contact: Brian Petersen (864) 843-3492.



A youngster takes aim under the watchful eye of a shooting instructor at last year's National Hunting and Fishing Day celebration at Duke's World of Energy near Seneca. SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

The first event at the World of Energy five years ago attracted nearly 1,000 people. The "Family Adventure" has grown steadily since, and last year more than 2,000 people attended.

"It's good for families to come and spend a day together and bring a picnic basket and just stay all day long," Viney said.