

Alabama Department of
Conservation & Natural Resources
PRESS RELEASE

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Hoover Man Wins Annual Governor's One-Shot Turkey Hunt

Wayne Middleton of Hoover is the winner of the 2008 Alabama Governor's One-Shot Turkey Hunt. Middleton, who works for Johnson Controls, harvested two turkeys during the event with the winning bird weighing in just shy of 24 pounds. In addition to Middleton's two birds, 23 other hunters each harvested one bird.

Governor Bob Riley hosted the celebrity hunt, which is an annual industrial recruiting event that also raises funds for hunting and conservation initiatives and helps spotlight Alabama's abundant wildlife resources and outdoor recreational opportunities. Sponsored by the Alabama Conservation and Natural Resources Foundation, the hunt is an exciting event filled with food, fun fellowship and friendly competition on some of Alabama's most premier hunting lands.



The Alabama Governor's One-Shot Turkey Hunt also contributes to the future of wildlife management. Included in the three-day festivities were silent and live auctions that raise money for scholarships to benefit Auburn University students majoring in wildlife management. During the event, Dean Richard Brinker accepted \$50,000 in scholarship money on behalf of the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences at Auburn University. To date, this event has contributed more than \$350,000 to the Lynn Boykin Youth Wildlife Scholarship Fund.

Conservation Commissioner Barnett Lawley, Foundation Chairman, announced the success of the event. "This event allows us to showcase Alabama's tremendous natural resources as well as economic development potential," he said. Hunting is big business in Alabama. Estimates are that the Governor's One-Shot Turkey Hunt generates nearly \$1 million to the local economy of Montgomery and surrounding counties. "We also want to convey our thanks to the auction participants, both donors and winning bidders, for their generous support of this event year after year," Lawley said.

The Alabama Conservation and Natural Resources Foundation promotes wise stewardship, management and enjoyment of Alabama's natural resources through programs such as Hunters Helping the Hungry, Youth Dove Hunts, Becoming an Outdoors-Woman Workshops and funds scholarships at the Auburn University School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences.

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