

*Alabama Department of*  
Conservation & Natural Resources  
**PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**August 16, 2007**

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## **Registration for Youth Dove Hunts Begins August 30**

If you're looking for a perfect activity to introduce youngsters to the tradition of bird hunting and spend quality time with family members and friends while at the same time teaching them hunting safety, then Alabama Youth Dove Hunts are for you.

For the seventh consecutive year, the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is sponsoring Youth Dove Hunts statewide. To date, over 10,000 young hunters have participated in this annual event. Of those, 2,695 were new to the sport of hunting.

In cooperation with landowners, local volunteers, businesses, and organizations, these dove hunts are scheduled at 33 sites in 31 counties throughout the state. Young hunters must be less than 16 years old and accompanied by an adult at least 25 years old or their parent, who holds a valid state hunting license and a Harvest Information Program (HIP) stamp. All hunters are encouraged to wear eye protection and earplugs.

"Without the support of the Alabama Conservation and Natural Resources Foundation, state and local sponsors, and local landowners, these youth dove hunts would not be possible," said Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division Director Corky Pugh. "We encourage bird hunters to pass on the tradition to young people today so that future generations can also learn the enjoyment of the outdoors and dove hunting."

Pre-registration begins August 30 and is necessary for all youth dove hunts. When you pre-register, you will receive directions to the field, start time and other pertinent information. Before each hunt there will be a short welcome session with reminders on hunting safety.

For more information, contact the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries District Office in your area. North zone hunts begin Sept. 15 and South zone hunts begin Oct. 6. Hunt schedules, contact information, and schedule changes or updates are/will be posted on the Department's Web site at <http://www.outdooralabama.com/hunting/youth-hunts/youthdove.cfm>.

The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources promotes wise stewardship, management and enjoyment of Alabama's natural resources through five divisions: Marine Police, Marine Resources, State Parks, State Lands, and Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries. To learn more about ADCNR, visit [www.outdooralabama.com](http://www.outdooralabama.com).



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