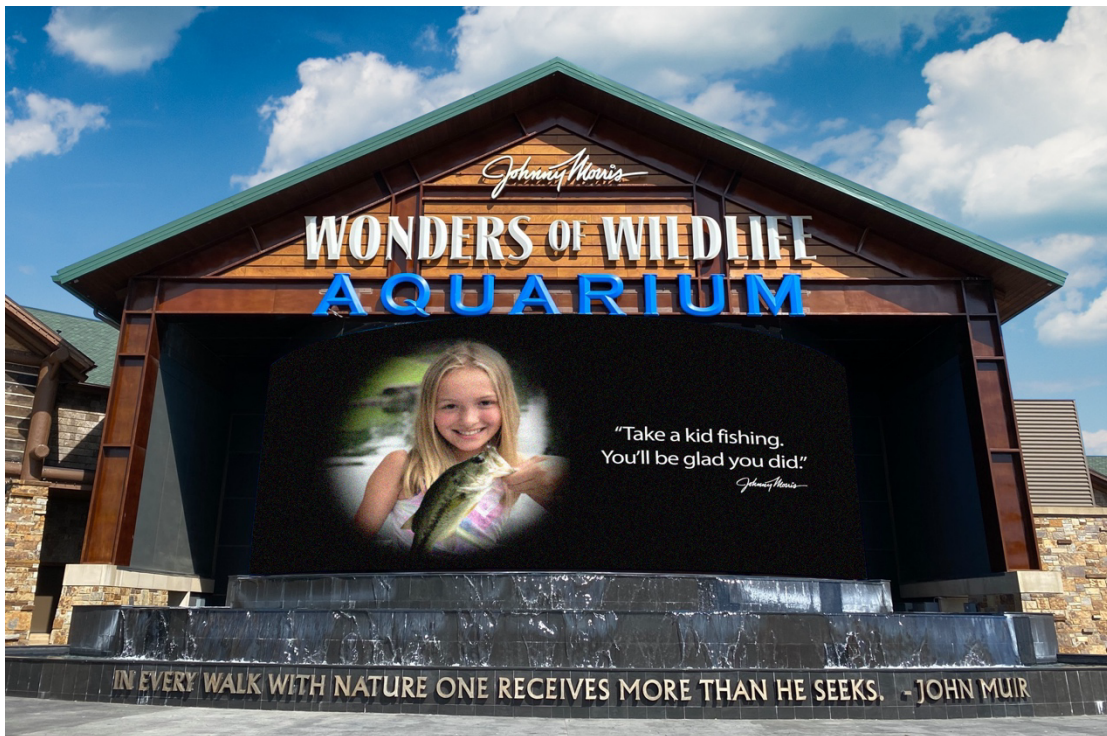




FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 21, 2022

National Hunting and Fishing Day marks 50th anniversary with family friendly photo contest and Honorary Chairman Luke Combs



The Take a Kid Fishing photo contest will be featured at Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium, the official home of National Hunting and Fishing Day

SPRINGFIELD, Missouri – [Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium](#) is putting on a celebration to remember, with the 50th anniversary of National Hunting and Fishing Day on Sept. 24, getting help from country music superstar Luke Combs and hosting an exclusive photo contest for kids.

NHF Day recognizes hunters and anglers for their leadership in wildlife and conservation, and Wonders of Wildlife – the official home of NHF Day – is inviting outdoor enthusiasts nationwide to participate in the celebration of the natural world. Starting today, WOW is hosting a new “Take a Kid Fishing” photo contest, inviting families to submit a photo of their kids fishing. Participants who tag and follow @wondersofwildlife and use the hashtag #GuideToOutside will have the chance to be featured in a special photo exhibit at America’s Best Aquarium, Wonders of Wildlife. Winners will be announced in October.

The National Hunting and Fishing Day organization has partnered with groups across the country to celebrate the holiday, with events ranging from trout stocking for the community in Winchester, Va., to a fly-fishing demonstration with MacDougall Sportsmen’s Club in Waterloo, N.Y. For more information on events and activities, visit <https://nhfd.org/events/>

Honorary Chairman Luke Combs is the reigning Country Music Association Entertainer of the Year, and a six-time CMA, three-time Academy of Country Music, and three-time Billboard Music award-winner. He’s also an avid outdoorsman.

Luke Combs and Johnny Morris will celebrate the great outdoors at National Hunting and Fishing Day



“I am humbled to have been named Honorary Chairman for such a special movement for conservation,” he said. “It is so important to protect our lands and waters, and to partner with a conservationist such as Johnny Morris on such a necessary initiative is something I will forever cherish. I encourage all outdoorsmen and women and country music fans to get involved in National Hunting and Fishing Day and to get outside and take future generations fishing.”

In addition to the photo contest, Wonders of Wildlife is also encouraging participants to take the pledge to share the great outdoors with new nature enthusiasts by taking them

hunting, fishing or target shooting. By taking the pledge online, you'll be entered for a chance to win outdoor gear. Winners will be selected and announced September 30th. To enter and for more information, visit <https://nhfdays.org/pledge/>.

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About National Hunting and Fishing Day

On May 2, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed the first-ever proclamation of National Hunting and Fishing Day, writing "I urge all citizens to join with outdoor sportsmen in the wise use of our natural resources and in insuring their proper management for the benefit of future generations."

Celebrated on the fourth Saturday of every September, the federally recognized holiday brings together sportsmen and women from across America to celebrate the rich tradition of hunting, sport shooting and fishing through organized local, state, and national events aimed at introducing new audiences to the outdoors.

One of the main goals of National Hunting and Fishing Day is to recruit new hunters and anglers by encouraging participation and increasing public awareness of the connection between hunting, angling, and conservation. For more than 80 years, through self-imposed fees and excise taxes, sportsmen and women have raised more than \$57 billion.

Now celebrating 50 years of NHF Day, it is the largest, most effective grassroots movement ever undertaken to promote outdoor sports and conservation. Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium serves as the official home for NHF Day. For more information, visit www.nhfdays.org.

About Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium

Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium is largest, most-immersive fish and wildlife attraction in the world. The destination consists of a 1.5-million-gallon Aquarium Adventure showcasing 35,000 live fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and birds, plus immersive Wildlife Galleries that bring visitors eye-to-eye with the greatest collection of record-setting game animals ever assembled.

Created by noted conservationist and Bass Pro Shops founder Johnny Morris, the 350,000-square-foot experience celebrates those who hunt, fish, and act as stewards of the land and water. Located next to Bass Pro Shops National Headquarters in Springfield, Missouri, the campus is a centerpiece of America's Conservation Capital in Missouri's Ozark Mountains. Wonders of Wildlife was voted "Best New Attraction in America" in 2017 and "America's Best Aquarium" by *USA TODAY* a record four times.

About Founder of NHF Day- NSSF

National Hunting and Fishing Day was created by the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) to celebrate the conservation successes of hunters, target shooters and anglers. NSSF is the trade association for the firearms industry with a mission to promote, protect and preserve hunting and the shooting sports. Formed in 1961, NSSF has a membership of thousands of manufacturers, distributors, firearms retailers, shooting ranges, sportsmen's organizations, and media members nationwide. For more information, log on to <https://www.nssf.org/>

Sponsors

Official sponsors for the 50th annual National Hunting and Fishing Day include Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium, National Shooting Sports Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, National Wild Turkey Federation, Izaak Walton League of America, Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, and Boone and Crockett Club. For information on becoming an official sponsor, email nhfday@wondersofwildlife.org.

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