

Exceptional Anglers Event at Oak Mountain State Park, May 10-12



Photo by Kenny Johnson, ADCNR

April 5, 2023

The Exceptional Anglers event, Gone Fishin', Not Just Wishin', at Oak Mountain State Park will take place May 10-12, 2023. The event teaches basic fishing skills to students with special needs from Alabaster and Pelham city schools and the Shelby and Jefferson county school systems. The media is invited to attend on May 11, from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

During the event, students will be given the opportunity to fish, participate in art projects, learn about fish and wildlife, perform with local musicians, listen to storytellers and learn aspects of water safety, including the proper use of life jackets. The fishing and festivities will take place behind the park's main office.

"Community fishing events like this serve many of Alabama's children, seniors and participants with special needs," said Chris Blankenship, Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR). "Without the hard work of our volunteers and the support of the sponsors, this event would not be possible. We are very grateful for their help in enriching the lives of these students and helping ensure that all Alabamians can participate in outdoor recreation."

Volunteer and sponsorship opportunities are still available. For more information, contact Kasie McKee at kasie.mckee@dcnr.alabama.gov or call (205) 331-1266.

Gone Fishin', Not Just Wishin' sponsors include: ADCNR's Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division, Alabama Power Company, Spire Energy, Alabaster City Schools, Bud's Best Cookies, Buffalo Rock, City of Pelham, Consolidated Pipe and Supply, EBSCO, Golden Flake, Hadaway's Good Little Farm, HMP, the Humber family, Jefferson County Adapted Physical Education, Jefferson County Board of Education and Transportation, Oak Mountain State Park, Pelham City Schools, Pelham police and fire departments, Shelby County Commission, Shelby County Schools, and Tyson Foods.

ADCNR promotes wise stewardship, management and enjoyment of Alabama's natural resources through four divisions: Marine Resources, State Lands, State Parks, and Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries. Learn more at www.outdooralabama.com.