



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

# Fishing News

## Conservation and Recreation



Fall is a great time to enjoy Iowa's outdoors. Discover new and exciting ways to get outdoors throughout the fall season with these simple suggestions.

- **Virtual Iowa Outdoor Expo 2020** – Visit [www.iowadnr.gov/expo](http://www.iowadnr.gov/expo) to view several family-friendly videos and resources to expand your skills and knowledge about recreating in Iowa's Great Outdoors. Whether it is at a local park, recreation area, or even in your own backyard, you are sure to have a lot of fun! Sign up for free webinars on [campfire cooking](#), [taste of the wild](#), and [bald eagles](#).
- **Fall fishing** – one of Iowa's best kept secrets. The fish are feeding like crazy to prepare for the spawn next spring. Use live bait, particularly minnows, small tackle and fish slowly. Find a new fishing hole to explore with our interactive [Fishing Atlas](#). Check conditions before you go with our weekly [fishing report](#).
- **Dove hunting** – an easy sport for hunters of all ages and experience levels. You don't need a lot of equipment - a bucket and a lot of shells. Doves can be found in all 99 counties. If a sunflower plot is not available, try a weed patch or harvested grain field. Brush up on Iowa regulations for hunting [migratory birds](#) before you go.
- **Bowfishing** – a great outdoor activity that's [easy to learn](#). It takes a quick eye and a fast shot to have a chance to reel in a carp as they often surface the water only briefly. Be sure you can identify the fish before you shoot. Only rough fish (such as carp and suckers) can be taken by bow and arrow. Bowfishing is generally allowed in public lakes, rivers, and reservoirs, but you should check your city/county ordinances before heading out.
- **Rabbit and squirrel hunting** – an inexpensive way to introduce beginners to hunting with little competition. If you're looking for land to hunt, try our interactive [Hunting Atlas](#), which shows public land as well as private land enrolled in the [Iowa Habitat and Access Program](#).
- **Fall trout fishing** – a great way to enjoy the cool weather and marvel at the amazing fall colors, including the trout (male brown and brook trout show off their

most vibrant colors this time of year). You need a valid fishing license and pay the trout fee to fish for or possess trout. Learn more about [Iowa's trout streams](#), including maps.

[BUY A LICENSE >](#)