

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Kevin Jarnagin  
Blue Heron Communications  
(800) 654-3766  
Kevin@blueheroncomm.com



**KeepAmericaFishing® Sponsors National Hunting and Fishing Day  
NHF set for September 26, 2015**

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (August 23, 2015)** — KeepAmericaFishing, the advocacy program for recreational fishermen, is entering its first year as a supporter of National Hunting and Fishing Day (NHF Day). KeepAmericaFishing is the platform for the fishing community to stand together on policy decisions that impact our opportunities to enjoy our nation's public waterways.

"In addition to maintaining access, KeepAmericaFishing is also dedicated to promoting clean waters and restoring fish populations," said Misty Mitchell, National Hunting and Fishing Day coordinator. "If not for sportsmen and women, our nation's original conservationists, many people would not have an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors. Their continued support of NHF Day goes beyond what is expected. KeepAmericaFishing is proud of the role it has in the conservation community."

NHF Day is set-aside for sportsmen and women to celebrate those conservation efforts. Each year, NHF Day is set to take place on the fourth Saturday in September. This year NHF Day falls on September 26.

Jim and Eva Shockey have been selected to serve as co-chairs for NHF Day. Like others before them, Jim and Eva will serve as a guiding light for sportsmen to mimic when it comes to recognizing conservation efforts by sportsmen.

The first to suggest an official day of thanks to sportsmen was Ira Joffe, owner of Joffe's Gun Shop in Upper Darby, Pa. In 1970, Pennsylvania Gov. Raymond Shafer adopted Joffe's idea and created "Outdoor Sportsman's Day" in the state.

With determined prompting from the National Shooting Sports Foundation, the concept soon emerged on the floor of the U.S. Senate. In June 1971, Sen. Thomas McIntyre, N.H., introduced Joint Resolution 117 authorizing National Hunting and Fishing Day on the fourth Saturday of every September. Rep. Bob Sikes, Fla., introduced an identical measure in the House. In early 1972, Congress unanimously passed both bills.

"NHF Day is a celebration of this country's sporting heritage," said Liz Ogilvie, KeepAmericaFishing director. "Let's remind ourselves of what generations of sportsmen and women have done to protect our public resources, so that outdoor

recreation of all types can be enjoyed for years to come.”

The list of sponsors for National Hunting and Fishing Day 2015 includes Wonders of Wildlife, National Shooting Sports Foundation, Yamaha, Bass Pro Shops, Realtree, Smith and Wesson, Gunbroker.com, Keep America Fishing, Ducks Unlimited, Scout, Limit Out Productions, Cabela’s, National Wild Turkey Federation, National Rifle Association and Izaak Walton League.

For more information, visit <http://www.nhfd.org>.

###