

Celebrating the great outdoors

EcoWild expo will put the focus on outdoor adventures, equipment

Alabama is unique — from northern Alabama mountains to southern coastal beaches, the state offers something for everyone to explore and do in the outdoors. Now all of those opportunities will be featured at the new EcoWild Outdoor Expo, May 10-12 at the Mobile Convention Center.

The event will feature 100,000 square feet of booths, activities and education, showcasing the latest in gear and equipment for hunting, fishing, camping, hiking and other outdoor activities.

When PMT Publishing, publishers of Mobile Bay Magazine and Business Alabama, decided to develop the show, “We wanted it to reflect the character of Mobile and the Gulf Coast, and to be family-friendly, not just ‘miles of aisles’



like other expos,” said Stephen Potts, assistant publisher at PMT. To create the kind of event where people want to bring their children and spend a fun day, the expanded expo has lots of unexpected elements — a hands-on classroom for kids, Expo Hall features a rock-climbing wall, interactions with the Auburn eagle, beekeeper hives, birds of prey and touch-tanks, hunting and fishing expert talks, local artisan foods and crafts, food trucks on site and a gallery of nature-inspired art.

A key element of the expo is the inclu-

sion of local and national conservation and ecology organizations, giving demos and talks on “the things we need to know to protect our environment, so we can continue to enjoy these outdoor activities,” said Potts. PMT Publishing will be donating to the top three organizations on site, as voted by attendees.

Top Alabama organizations have already signed on, including the Poarch Band of Creek Indians as the presenting sponsor, Alabama Black Belt Adventures Association, Alabama Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, Wild Alabama and more. In addition, there are national sponsorships from The Nature Conservancy and Audubon.

For more information on EcoWild, visit ecowildexpo.com.



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