Recreational Opportunities

Bicycling – Fishing – Hiking – Hunting – Horseback Riding – Outdoor Photography – Wildlife Viewing

Conservation Areas are open from 4:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.; hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, dog training, launching and landing boats allowed 24 hours a day on areas where these activities are permitted.

• Groups of more than 10 people and some special activities may require a special use permit. Please visit our website for more information.

• Bicycles and horses allowed on multi-use trails and bicycles allowed on designated service roads except during all portions of the firearms deer season and during shooting hours of spring turkey season. Multiuse trails and service roads can be located at https:// mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places.

• Bicycles and horses allowed on public roadways year-round.

• Camping is allowed on or adjacent to all area parking lots and in designated camping areas. No unattended open campfires allowed. Stays are limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period. Camping with horses/pack animals is only allowed at parking lot A. Groups of more than 10 campers require a special use permit.

• Walk-in/backpack camping is allowed **EXCEPT** during firearms deer and turkey seasons. Same rules apply.

• Target shooting not allowed except for at the unstaffed range. Shooting hours are one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset. Use shall be in accordance with posted rules or as directed on special use permit. Only paper targets attached to provided target holders may be used. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on all ranges and associated parking lots.

• Nuts, berries, fruits, edible wild greens and mushrooms may be taken for personal use.

• Digging roots is prohibited.

• Vehicles are restricted to public roadways and parking lots unless otherwise allowed by area regulations.

- Use of fireworks is prohibited.
- Guiding for pay is prohibited.
- Field trials prohibited.

Fishing and Boating

Fishing is permitted under statewide regulations. The following special regulations also apply:

• On lakes and ponds fish may be taken only with pole and line and not more than three poles may be used by one person at any time.

• On area ponds all black bass between 12 and 15 inches in total length must be released immediately. Daily limits on ponds are six black bass, four channel catfish, and 30 crappie. Total number of all other fish may not exceed 20.

• Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited in lakes and ponds.

• Only electric motors are permitted.

Hunting and Trapping

Area is open to statewide regulations. The following special regulations also apply:

• Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual changes. Please refer to the Spring Turkey or Fall Deer and Turkey booklets for current regulations.

• Only portable stands are allowed from September 1 through January 31. Unattended stands must be plainly labeled on a durable material with the full name and address or Conservation number of the owner and must be removed from the area by Feb. 1. Use of nails, screw-in steps, and any material or method that would damage the tree is prohibited.

• Decoys and blinds are permitted but must be removed daily. Blinds may be constructed on-site only from willows and non-woody vegetation.

Trapping of furbearers allowed only with a special use permit. Visit our website for more information.
Trail and game cameras are prohibited.

For local information, contact:

Missouri Department of Conservation 3500 S. Baltimore Kirksville, MO 63501 (660) 785-2420 www.mdc.mo.gov 02/2024

(Regulations are from the Wildlife Code of Missouri and selected statutes of the State of Missouri. Special area regulations are in Chapter 11 of the Wildlife Code. A free printed copy of the Wildlife Code, which lists most area regulations, is available from the Conservation Department. Chapter 11 in its entirety is available at www.soc.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp.) Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Questions should be directed to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, (573) 751-4115 (voice) or 800-735-2966 (TTY), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

Sugar Creek

CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION