# **Conservation Connection**

News and Events from the Missouri Department of Conservation • September 2014



# Celebrating National Hunting and Fishing Day!



A Day at the Confluence Sept 27 • Saturday • 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

See Columbia Bottom Conservation Area on page 6 for details.

### 100 Years Ago...

ow could there be thunder when it was a beautiful, sunny day? Suddenly, the sky grew dark as an unusual wind swept over the land and across their faces. Passenger Pigeons! Thousands and thousands of Passenger Pigeons were blocking out the sun as they flew overhead. Mary tried to yell to her mom, but they couldn't hear each other over the noise of the birds! Instead, they stood in awe as the procession of feathers continued across the sky.



Passenger pigeon mount

Scenes like this were not uncommon during the mid-1800s, yet a morbid future awaited the estimated 3 to 5 billion Passenger Pigeons. Sadly, in a matter of roughly 40 years, they were brought to extinction from overhunting. One of the culprits in this tragedy was the N. W. Judy & Co. of St. Louis, MO; the largest game dealer and packer in the United States. Thousands of pounds of Passenger Pigeons and other game birds were shipped to restaurants and hotels in New York, Boston, and London, but as the number of game birds continued to diminish from overhunting, the N. W. Judy & Co. eventually closed its doors, in 1910.

Fortunately for us, the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) has played a huge role

in honoring the painful lessons from the past, including the loss of the Passenger Pigeon, in order to play a vital role in the stewardship of Missouri's natural treasures today. From reintroduction and protection programs of threatened animals and plants in Missouri's wild places to advice for private land owners, MDC has led the way back to the enjoyment of the outdoors as well as a sustainable harvest of a variety of its wildlife.

Along with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the extinction of the Passenger Pigeon on September 1, 2014, check out programs in Conservation Connections for some fresh ideas on how you too can be a good steward to promote the natural gifts of Missouri! Specifically, consider attending the Protecting Our Natural Treasures for the Future: Remembering the Passenger Pigeon event on September 27, 2014 to learn some history and have fun celebrating our conservation success stories. See the Rockwoods Reservation page for more details.

by ANGIE AND AARON JUNGBLUTH, MDC Volunteer Conservation Naturalists

Protecting Our Natural Treasures for the Future: Remembering the Passenger Pigeon Sept 27 • Saturday • 3:30–8 p.m. Rockwoods Reservation (All ages)

Lessons from the loss of the Passenger Pigeon 100 years ago can guide us to be better stewards of the natural gifts of Missouri.

Investigate what is going on around the state related to the loss of the Passenger Pigeon 100 years ago. Visit Project Passenger Pigeon at <a href="http://passengerpigeon.org/">http://passengerpigeon.org/</a> for more information about the loss of this bird. **See page 7 for some fresh ideas on how you can get involved.** 

### Jay Henges Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center

1100 Antire Road, High Ridge, MO 63049 • mdc.mo.gov/node/299



From the east/St. Louis I-44 west to Beaumont Antire Road, exit 269. Left over I-44 to Antire Road. Right on Antire. One hundred feet to entrance. Left into driveway.

From the west/Eureka I-44 east to Beaumont Antire Road, exit 269. Follow exit lane around to top.

#### **HOURS:**

May 1-August 31 Wednesday: 1-7:30 p.m. Thursday-Sunday: 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. September 1-April 30 Wednesday-Sunday: 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Programs are free. Call 636-938-9548 or email henges.range@mdc.mo.gov with your name and phone number to sign up for a program requiring registration. Up to two reservations are allowed per registration; groups should contact the range for more information. If you are unable to attend, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice.

#### **How to Mount a Rifle Scope**

Sept 9 • Tuesday • 6–8 p.m. (Ages 14 and up) Ever had that feeling your scope has moved, wanted to buy a new scope for your rifle, or just want to check the mounting yourself? Come and let our range professionals show you the simple steps to get that scope on your rifle correct the first time. We will cover various different mounting systems, scope sizes, leveling and more. (Reservations begin August 9.)

#### Beginning Archery

Sept 11 • Thursday • 5:30–7 p.m. (Families)

Learn the fundamentals of shooting the bow and arrow based on the Missouri National Archery in the School Program (MoNASP). This is a fun program for the family, ages fourth grade and up. All equipment will be provided. (Reservations begin August 11.)

#### Trigger Time – Handgun

Sept 13 • Saturday • 8:30–9:30 a.m. (Ages 18 and up)

Trigger Time is "hands-on" personal instruction designed to make you a better marksman. There is no classroom time, just expert one-on-one instruction from our staff. Participants must bring their own handguns and ammunition, at least 100 rounds. This program is not appropriate for beginners. (Reservations begin August 13.)

#### How to Bore Sight and Zero a Rifle

Sept 16 • Tuesday • 6–8 p.m. (Ages 14 and up)

Just got that new rifle with a mounted scope, just mounted a new scope on your rifle, or not sure if your scope is still on target? This class is for you. Our professionals will explain what proper bore sighting is and is not. Show different ways to bore sight and then properly zero your rifle without wasting a lot of very expensive cartridges. (Reservations begin August 16.)

#### **Basic Metallic Cartridge** Reloading

Sept 20 • Saturday • 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (Ages 10 and up) Learn the fundamentals of metallic cartridge reloading. The class includes both discussion and hands-on instruction, including safety, case preparation, and selection of primers, powder, bullets, equipment, and the

use of manuals, ballistic tables, and component assembly. Attendees should bring lunch, snacks, and drinks. Everything else (equipment, components, tools, etc.) is supplied. (Reservations begin August 20.)

#### **Rifle Care and Cleaning**

Sept 25 • Thursday • 6–7:30 p.m. (Ages 9 and up)

Even new firearms, from the store, must be cleaned and properly lubricated before shooting or hunting. Keeping that rifle, whether a family heirloom, expensive sporting or competition gun, or a hard working basic shooter needs proper care and attention to keep it working and prevent worn or damaged parts. Come let us help you with proper techniques and overview some of the multitude of products out there to maintain your firearm. (Reservations begin August 25.)

#### Youth .22 Rifle

Sept 27 • Saturday • 8–9:30 a.m. (Ages 9-15)

Interested young people who have no experience shooting rifles are invited to participate in this session on learning safety and the proper techniques of shooting .22 caliber rimfire rifles in a controlled, safe environment. Firearms, ammunition, and safety equipment are provided. (Reservations begin August 27.)

Unless otherwise indicated, youth under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

# Busch Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center

2360 Hwy D, St. Charles, MO 63304 • mdc.mo.gov/node/270

#### Wing Shooting Warm-Up

Sept 6 • Saturday • 4–7 p.m. (Ages 12 and up)

Brush up on your wingshooting skills to get ready for hunting seasons. We will discuss safety, proper shooting technique, shotgun fit, ammunition, shot size, proper choke selection, and more. This class IS NOT designed for the beginning shooter. This class will take place at August A. Busch Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center. (Reservations begin August 6.)

#### **Basic Archery**

Sept 9 • Tuesday • 6–8 p.m. (Ages 10 and up)

All equipment and materials will be provided. This course will take place at the August A. Busch Shooting Range and **Outdoor Education Center Broadhead** Pits. Develop your archery skills as we cover types of bows, parts of the bow and arrow, proper stance, grip, form, release, and other important tips and techniques. (Reservations begin August 11.)

#### **Basic Skeet**

Sept 17 • Wednesday • 6–8 p.m. Sept 18 • Thursday • 6–8 p.m. (Ages 12 and up)

This is designed for those who have experience with shotguns, and want to learn the finer points of American Skeet. Wednesday, this program will take place at the August A. Busch Conservation Area Regional Office classrooms. Thursday, we will meet at the August A. Busch Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center for the live fire portion. All firearms, ammunition, and safety equipment are provided. (Reservations begin August 18.)

#### **Intermediate Handgun**

Sept 20 • Saturday • 7:30–9:30 a.m. (Ages 18 and up)

This program is designed for handgun owners to sharpen their target shooting skills. Come experience some one-onone instruction with one of our highly qualified instructors. Participants are required to bring their own handguns and ammunition, and be familiar with their handgun and safety. This is not a beginning program. (Reservations begin August 20.)

#### Missouri Deer Rifle Selection

Sept 24 • Wednesday • 6–9 p.m. (Ages 11 and up)

In this class we will discuss significant aspects of the hunt such as terrain, methods of hunting, physical limitations, experience level, and how these factors help determine which rifle and caliber is best for you. We will present the pros and cons of the various action types and calibers, and discuss the characteristics and ballistics of each. (Reservations begin August 25.)

#### **Deer Calling**

Sept 25 • Thursday • 6–8:30 p.m. (Ages 11 and up)

This class offers the opportunity to understand how deer communicate. Learn how to make the calls that will attract deer closer to your stand, blind, or viewing platform. We will discuss the four deer calls that can be used during the time of the rut to attract the sex and age class of deer you want. Bring a notebook, a pen and any calls you may have. This class will be held in the classrooms at the Busch Conservation Area. (Reservations begin August 25.)



From I-64/40 take Hwy 94 south to Hwy D; turn west on Hwy D for approximately 5 miles. The area entrance is on the south side of Hwv D.

#### **HOURS:**

December 1-March 31 Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. April 1-November 30 Monday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Tuesday: 2-8 p.m.

Programs are free. Call **636-441-4554** to register Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice.

#### **NWTF Jakes Event**

Sept 27 • Saturday • 12:30–7 p.m. (Ages 17 and under)

The event will start at Busch CA lakes 2 and 15 where there will be activities in fishing, turkey call making, guest speakers, and more. At 4 p.m. head to the shooting range for dinner, shotgun shooting, archery and more. Shotgun shooting will be limited to 11–17 year olds who are Hunter Ed certified. Attendees MUST preregister for the event. For more information and registration information call Lisa Masters 314-223-6590 or Jeff Beumer 314-560-4145.

*Unless otherwise indicated, youth under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.* 

### **Powder Valley** Conservation Nature Center

11715 Cragwold Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122 • mdc.mo.gov/node/271



From I-44 east take the Watson Road exit and turn left on Geyer. Cross over the bridge and turn left on Cragwold Road. Follow one mile to the entrance. Enjoy nature exhibits, attend programs, purchase hunting and fishing permits, browse through a nature-related gift shop, and pick up free conservation brochures. Outdoors, enjoy three miles of hiking trails through oak hickory forest.

#### **HOURS**:

Building: Tuesday–Saturday: 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Area: Daily: 8 a.m.–8 p.m. DST 8 a.m.–6 p.m. CST

Programs are free. Call **314-301-1500** to register. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice.

#### **Incredible Insects**

Sept 2 • Tuesday • 10–11:30 a.m. (Ages 3–6)

Insects are everywhere, and sometimes we like them around and sometimes we don't! We'll learn what makes an insect an insect before we go looking for them in the garden and on the trail. (Reservations begin August 19.)

#### Just So Stories? Or Just So?

Sept 9 • Tuesday • 10–11:30 a.m. (Ages 4–8 years)

Why does the opossum play dead? Is the coyote really a crafty, sneaky animal? Myths have been told over the centuries to explain oddities about animals. Come hear some Native American folklore stories told, and to hear the truth behind the myth. (Reservations begin August 27.)



# Scout Discovery Table: Insects, Bugs, and Spiders

Sept 13 • Saturday • 10 a.m.–2 p.m. (All ages)

Discovery Tables are open to Boy and Girl Scout groups, the general public, and individuals. This table will offer activities for the Boy Scouts: Insect Study Badge; Brownies: Bugs Badge and Hiker Badge. (No reservations necessary.)

#### **Monarch Mysteries**

Sept 16 • Tuesday • 9:30–11 a.m. (Ages 4 and up)

The familiar black and orange monarch butterfly is actually very mysterious. What is the one and only plant the caterpillars will eat? How do both the caterpillars and the butterflies tell birds not to eat them? What other kind of butterfly cashes in on the strategy? Where do monarch butterflies go for the winter? We'll learn about monarchs and celebrate their mysteries with stories, games, and crafts. Siblings are welcome. (Reservations begin September 2.)

#### **Homeschool: Discovery Quest**

Sept 17 • Wednesday • 10–11:30 a.m. (Ages 10 and up)

Come out for a day of adventure at Emmenegger Nature Park as we learn basic orienteering techniques by learning how to take bearings with a compass. Test your new skills by navigating your way through an outdoor course in search of hidden treasures, while learning about some of Missouri's animal groups. (Reservations begin September 3.)

#### **Autumn Hike with a Naturalist**

Sept 23 • Tuesday • 10 a.m.–12 p.m. (Families, ages 7 and up)
Welcome to autumn! Summer is over, and it is time to explore another beautiful season at Powder Valley. Join me on a 1 1/5 mile hike, to see what nature has to offer us at this time of year. We will meet at the nature center first, to discuss some of the plants and animals that we might see, and to collect some binoculars to take along. (Reservations begin September 9.)



### Hallway Exhibit Society of Independent Artists

For the past 75 years the Society of Independent Artists has provided an avenue for the promotion of fellowship through monthly meetings and congenial competition among its artists. Several times a year members exhibit watercolor, acrylic, and oil paintings at locations around the St. Louis area.

# **Powder Valley** Conservation Nature Center

11715 Cragwold Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122 • mdc.mo.gov/node/271

### **Summer Service Slam**

See the October issue for the follow-up story.



### **Forest Park Office**

5595 Grand Drive, St. Louis, MO 63112 • mdc.mo.gov/node/10254



From I-44 take Kingshighway north to West Pine Blvd, turn left. Follow West Pine to Lindell, turn left. Continue on Lindell past Union Drive to Cricket, turn left. Take first right onto Grand Ave. The visitor's center is on the right.

#### **HOURS:**

Monday-Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Programs are free. Call **314-877-1309** to sign up for a program requiring registration. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice.



#### **Owl Pellet Dissection and Prowl**

Sept 17 • Wednesday • 5:30–7:30 p.m. (Ages 7-Adult)

Without teeth to chew, owls swallow their food whole. Take a close look at what's left after an owl eats its prey. The aftermath or undigested material is a pellet of fur, bone, teeth and/or shells. It's a fun way to learn about food chains too! After this, we will hike and listen for any of Forest Park's resident owls. Meet at the Dennis and Judith Jones Visitor & Education Center in Forest Park. This program will be held outdoors. No need to bring anything with you but a bottle of water and sturdy shoes to begin our Hoot! (Reservations begin August 27.)

### Columbia Bottom Conservation Area

801 Strodtman Road, St. Louis, MO 63138 • mdc.mo.gov/node/298



From I-270 north, take the Riverview Drive exit (last Missouri exit); go north 2.8 miles. Riverview Drive becomes Columbia Bottom Road at its intersection with Larimore Road. The entrance is on the right-hand side.

#### **HOURS:**

Building: Wednesday–Friday: 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Saturday–Sunday: 8 a.m.–4 p.m. Area: One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset except authorized activities.

Programs are free. Call **314-877-6014** to sign up for a program requiring registration. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the wating list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice.



## Harvest Moon over the Confluence

Sept 7 • Sunday • 6–7:30 p.m. (Ages 6 and up)

Before the sun sets over the fields and prairies, the "Harvest Moon" rises over the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers. We will walk the paved wooded path from the slough to the confluence to watch the rising Harvest Moon, then head back to the levee top to catch the last rays of the sun as it sets over the prairie. These events signal the "night shift creatures" to venture forth. Look to discover evidence of their activities along the way. Meet at the slough parking lot "M" about 4 miles from the front gate. (Reservations begin August 24.)

#### **Autumn Senior Picnic**

Sept 16 • Tuesday • 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. (Senior Adults)

As summer comes to an end, the fields and prairies are ablaze with the gold and purple of grasses, goldenrod and asters while birds, bees, and butterflies enjoy the bounty of nectar and seeds. This is a great time to investigate the natural wonders at Columbia Bottom. After meeting at the Visitor Center we will visit several of our Exploration Stations on the way to the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers. Bring a "sack lunch" to eat in one of the covered pavilions. Water and dessert will be provided. Our investigation will include some light walking with easy access to all the areas we visit. (Reservations begin August 31.)

A Day at the Confluence, Celebrating National Hunting and Fishing Day! Sept 27 • Saturday • 10 a.m.–3 p.m. (All ages)

Our Confluence, at the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, is a great place to hunt, fish, and discover nature. Did you know hunters and anglers were some of the first to recognize the need for hunting and fishing regulations? There was a day when over harvest was common. That's why, this month, we remember the passenger pigeon and celebrate National Hunting and Fishing Day.

So, it's with conservation in mind that we hope you join us for "A Day at the Confluence". Whether you dress it, fillet it or none of the above, there are fun outdoor activities for everyone. See our list of activities, and we'll meet you at the Columbia Bottom Boat Ramp area, parking lot "G". (No reservations required.)

Boat rides
Fried catfish samples
Archery
Air rifle
Discover Nature Fishing
Fish ID maze
Mammal ID maze
Asian carp fillet demos and samples

Animal signs hike
Pee wee archery (foam)
Kid's craft corner
Pee wee fishing (magnets)
Boy Scouts
Ducks Unlimited
St. Louis Audubon

National Great Rivers Resource and Education Center

### August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area

2360 Hwy D, St. Charles, MO 63304 • mdc.mo.gov/node/300

#### **Natural Living Workshop**

Sept 13 • Saturday • 1–4 p.m. (Ages 16 and up)

Live a cleaner, healthier life in harmony with nature and save money at the same time! Learn to identify plants and natural material to replace common household chemicals and pharmaceuticals in this hands-on workshop. Discover natural remedies for daily use and develop skills to work with natural materials. Be prepared for a short hike in the forests at Busch. (Reservations begin August 29.)

#### **Wildlife Auto Tour**

Sept 11 • Thursday • 5:30-7 p.m. (All ages)

Explore wildlife viewing opportunities along the Busch Auto Tour! Find wildlife hotspots and learn about specific animals that are often seen in these areas. View wildlife through provided spotting scopes. Each family will be in their own vehicle and is encouraged to bring binoculars and cameras. Please be prepared to be outdoors for short periods of time. (Reservations begin August 28.)

#### Puckerless Persimmons – **Homeschool Special**

Sept 29 • Monday • 10 a.m.–12 noon (Ages 12 and up)

Discover myths and facts about Missouri's wild edible treat, the persimmon! Will the fruit ripen enough to eat before frost? How will we collect the tasty fruit from high branches without climbing? How many persimmons do you need for a batch of cookies or loaf of dessert bread? Come find out with our experienced naturalists! (Reservations begin September 15.)

#### Watercolors and Wildlife for Kids

Sept 17 • Wednesday • 10–11:30 a.m. (Ages 3-6)

Discover shapes, colors, and textures of nature while creating art. Children will have fun observing animal mounts and plants while being creative using beautiful watercolors. (Reservations begin September 3.)



From I-64/40 take Hwy 94 south to Hwy D; turn west on D for approximately two miles. The area entrance is on the north side of Hwv D.

#### **HOURS**:

Building: Monday-Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Area: Daily: 4 a.m.-10 p.m.

Programs are free. Call 636-441-4554 to sign up for a program requiring registration. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice.

(Continued from cover)

#### Fresh ideas on how you can get involved:

Visit MDC Conservation Areas to explore, enjoy, and learn about the different organisms we share our community with

http://mdc.mo.gov/regions

Create habitat friendly property / backyards

- http://grownative.org/
- http://athome.audubon.org/

Become a volunteer or consider a career in conservation

- http://mdc.mo.gov/about-us/get-involved/volunteer-opportunities
- http://mdc.mo.gov/about-us/careers

Hunt and fish responsibly

- http://mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping
- http://mdc.mo.gov/fishing

Become a citizen scientist and help collect important data

- Project Feeder Watch <a href="http://feederwatch.org/">http://feederwatch.org/</a>
- Great Backyard Bird Count <a href="http://gbbc.birdcount.org/">http://gbbc.birdcount.org/</a>

### **Rockwoods** Reservation

2751 Glencoe Road, Wildwood, MO 63038 • mdc.mo.gov/node/272



From I-44 take Hwy 109 north 4 miles to Woods Avenue; left on Woods Avenue, then immediately right on Glencoe Road. From Manchester Road take Hwy 109 south 2 miles to Woods Avenue; right on Woods Avenue, then immediately right on Glencoe Road.

#### **HOURS:**

Building: Monday–Friday: 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Area: Sunrise to one-half hour after sunset except authorized activities.

Programs are free. Call **636-458-2236** to sign up for a program requiring registration. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice.

### Remembering the Passenger Pigeon Sept 27 • Saturday • 3:30–8 p.m. (All ages)

Discover how we can use lessons from the loss of the Passenger Pigeon 100 years ago this month to conserve nature for generations to come. Family friendly activities include an outdoor flight demonstration by the World Bird Sanctuary's raptors, crafts, and games for the young at heart, outdoor showing of the original movie *The* 

Lorax by Dr. Suess, viewing of original paintings of Passenger Pigeons by local artists, and more. A wide variety of information from MDC, Stream Team, St. Louis Audubon, and many others will also be available. Admission is free and no reservations are needed. Event will occur rain or shine.

3:30–5:30 p.m. – Crafts, games, booths, art viewing. Bring your own favorite picnic foods, drinks, blankets and chairs (No food or drink will be sold.)

5:30–6:30 p.m. – World Bird Sanctuary raptor flight demonstration over the crowd.

6:30–8 p.m. – Announce art winners, Passenger Pigeon presentation, outdoor showing of the original *The Lorax* film.



Passenger pigeons by John James Audubon

# Scout Discovery Table: Poisonous and Venomous Things

Sept 6 • Saturday • 10 a.m.–2 p.m. (All ages)

Learn about the poisonous and venomous plants and animals found in Missouri. Explore snakes, spiders, bees, wasps, hornets, scorpions, mushrooms, and poison ivy. There will even be live venomous snakes on display! Stop by anytime during the four hour period. (No reservations necessary.)

#### LaBarque Creek Hike

Sept 13 • Saturday • 9 a.m.–1 p.m. (Adults)

Hike through the diverse forests and sandstone bluffs of LaBarque Creek; one of the newest Conservation Areas and a designated Missouri Natural Area. Visit several small sandstone glades and outcrops exposed by intermittent streams. Effort = Strenuous due to hiking 3 miles in forests with elevation changes. (Reservations begin August 29.)

#### **Mother Daughter Camp-Out**

Sept 20 • Saturday • 4 p.m. to Sept 21 • Sunday • 11 a.m.

(Mothers with daughters ages 9–12)
Enjoy a night of camping at Rockwoods
Reservation! Begining campers will learn
helpful skills for any outdoor adventure.
On Saturday, we will cook a Dutch-oven
dinner and explore the forest trails at
night to discover nocturnal wildlife. On
Sunday, we will eat a camp breakfast
and explore the aquatic ecosystems of a
pond and stream. Camping equipment
is available to borrow. A mandatory
pre-camping meeting will be held at the
Rockwoods Reservation Visitor Center
on Wednesday September 17, 6–7 p.m.
(Reservations begin September 3.)