

Hunting and Trapping

Hunting is allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions.

- Deer hunting by managed hunt only.
- During managed firearms deer hunts, all other hunting is prohibited.
- Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual changes. Please refer to Spring Turkey or Fall Deer and Turkey Booklets for current regulations.
- Quail may be taken from Nov. 1 through Dec. 15.
- Only portable tree stands may be placed or used and only between Sept. 1 and Jan. 31. Unattended stands must be plainly labeled on a durable material with full name and address or Conservation number of the owner and be removed from the area by Feb. 1st. Use of nails, screw-in steps, and any material or method what would damage the tree is prohibited.
- Blinds may be constructed on-site only from willows (Salicaceae) and nonwoody vegetation.
- Trapping allowed only with special use permit. Contact area manager.
- Trail and game cameras are prohibited.



For local information, contact:

Whetstone Creek Conservation Area
P.O. Box 43
Williamsburg, MO 63388
(573)254-3330

OR

Missouri Department of Conservation
Central Regional Office
3500 E Gans Road
Columbia, MO 65201
(573) 815-7900

Visit us at:
www.mdc.mo.gov

Additional area information is posted on our website and on bulletin boards located in parking areas and area offices.

04/2021

(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.sos.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.

Whetstone Creek

CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION



About this Area

From I-70 Williamsburg exit, take Route D north to the stop sign. Turn west and continue on Route D to County Road 1003. Go north 2 miles on County Road 1003 to the entrance.

Prior to settlement, the land area of what is today Whetstone Creek CA, had a tallgrass prairie, savanna, woodland, and forest landscape. The woodland and forest slopes on the rolling hills adjacent to the creek gave way to more open savanna and prairie habitats on the flat plains above the creek. Portions of the property have had many owners since the mid-1800's (there were 27 different families owning portions of the land in 1876). It was mostly owned by a few landowners who had relatively large properties by the later 1800's. The area was managed as a cattle ranch through most of the 1900's up until the time when the Department purchased the property in 1976. The area is today managed primarily for small game species such as quail and rabbits.

Management is primarily accomplished through permittee farming, prescribed fire, and woodland management. It is a popular area for small game hunting and field trial events. All deer hunting on the area is managed through the state's managed hunting program and must be applied for in order to participate. Turkey hunting and fishing activities are also popular on the area. The Whetstone Creek Natural Area is designated for the portion of the stream corridor that passes through the area. The Natural Area is designated for the high quality stream and the state threatened Black-nosed Shiner that lives in the creek.

Recreational Opportunities

Camping – Dog Training – Fishing – Hiking – Hunting

Rules and Regulations

Open for public use 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. Contact area manager for more information.
- Camping is allowed anytime in designated camping areas shown on map. These may or may not have defined campsites. No amenities are provided. Seasonal closures and restrictions may apply. Groups of more than 10 campers require a special use permit. Campers are limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period.
- Field trials permitted by special use permit only. Contact area manager.
- Target shooting is permitted only at the designated public shooting range.
- Nuts, berries, fruits, edible wild greens and mushrooms may be taken for personal use.

- Wild greens may not be collected from the designated natural area.
- Digging roots is prohibited.
- Pets are permitted but must be on a leash or confined at all time. Hunting dogs may be used off the leash and unconfined for hunting and training purposes. A hunting permit is required to train dogs in pursuit of wildlife.
- Waste containers may be used only for disposal of garbage, trash, refuse, or rubbish generated on the department area.
- Vehicles are only permitted on public roadways and in parking lots.
- Use of fireworks is prohibited.
- Guiding for pay is prohibited.

Fishing and Boating

Fishing and frogging are allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions.

- On lakes and ponds, fish may be taken only with pole and line and not more than three (3) poles may be used by one (1) at any time.
- On lakes and ponds, daily limits are six black bass and four channel catfish and 30 crappie. All other fish, total number taken may not exceed 20.
- On lakes and ponds, all black bass between 12 and 15 inches in total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught. Head and tail must remain attached on the area or waters to which length limits apply, until such fish have been checked by a Conservation Agent.
- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited in lakes and ponds.
- Only electric motors are permitted on lakes and ponds of less than 70 acres.