

- Dove hunting is permitted only by managed hunt after 1:00 p.m. during the first seven (7) days of the dove hunting season and during legal shooting hours for the remainder of the season. All hunters must possess a valid area daily hunting tag.
- Waterfowl may only be taken by holders of a valid daily hunting tag and only in designated areas.
- Waterfowl hunting is prohibited after 1 p.m. daily during the area's prescribed duck season.
- Waterfowl hunters must check out immediately after their hunt.
- The area is closed to waterfowl hunting on December 25.
- Only authorized persons are permitted in the waterfowl hunting zone from October 15 through the close of the area's prescribed duck season.
- Decoys and portable blinds are permitted but must be removed from the area daily.
- Temporary blinds may be constructed on site but only from willows and non-woody vegetation.
- Rail and snipe may be hunted during that portion of the season which falls prior to October 15 except in areas closed by posting. Inquire at the Area Headquarters for self check-in procedures.
- Squirrel may be taken by holders of a valid daily hunting tag. Season dates will be announced annually.
- Hunting of other wildlife is not permitted.
- Trapping of furbearers is permitted only by special-use permit.

Columbia Bottom Conservation Area is located in Spanish Lake in north St. Louis County at the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers. To reach this 4,318-acre area, go north approximately 2.5 miles from the I-270 Riverview Drive exit. Riverview Drive becomes Columbia Bottom Road at its junction with Larimore Road.

Nearby Department Areas

Bellefontaine Conservation Area
 St. Stanislaus Conservation Area
 Marais Temps Clair Conservation Area
 Pelican Island Natural Area
 Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center

For local information, contact:

Missouri Department of Conservation
 St. Louis Regional Office
 2360 Highway D
 St. Charles, MO 63304
 (636) 441-4554

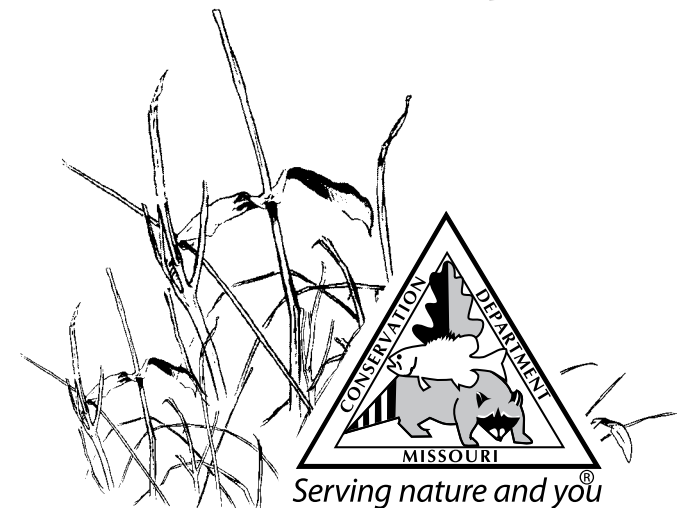
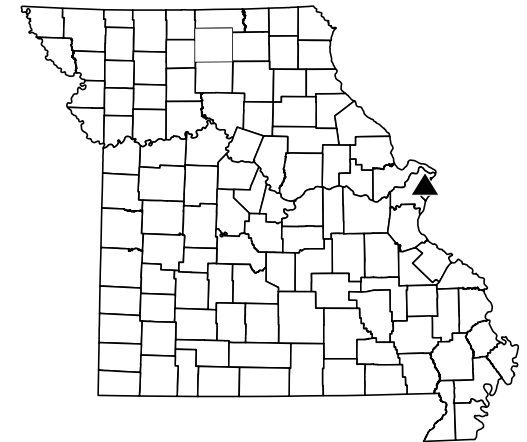
Additional area information is posted on bulletin boards located in parking areas.

8/2021

(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, religion, national origin, sex, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, veteran status, 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 Chief, Public Civil Rights, Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Columbia Bottom

CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Columbia Bottom CA

Area Highlights

Columbia Bottom Conservation Area is located at the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers in the north St. Louis County community known as Spanish Lake. The Conservation Department purchased this 4,318-acre area in 1997 to create an urban conservation area.

The area includes a view of the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, more than 6.5 miles of river frontage, about 800 acres of bottomland forest and a 110-acre island.

A small town once known as Columbia, and later St. Vrain, was located in this river bottom. It was shown on plat maps from the mid-1800s but was gone by 1870.

A flood protection levee protects most of this bottom from minor floods. The great flood of 1993 overtopped this levee and flooded most of the area, depositing sand and debris. The area will continue to be prone to occasional flooding.

The Conservation Department is managing Columbia Bottom to create a mosaic of bottomland habitats that includes shallow wetlands, bottomland hardwoods, prairie and cropland. These habitats attract a wide variety of resident and migratory wildlife for the enjoyment of all of our state's residents and visitors.

Recreational Opportunities

Bird Watching – Bicycling – Fishing – Hiking
Hunting – Outdoor Photography – Wildlife Viewing

Columbia Bottom Conservation Area is closed to public use from one-half hour after sunset until one-half hour before sunrise daily.

- No fireworks.
- No open fires.

- No target shooting allowed.
- Dogs must be leashed or confined when not being trained or used for hunting.
- Dog training is prohibited during managed deer hunts.
- Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal use.
- Motor vehicles are restricted to roadways and parking areas.
- Bicycles are allowed only on roads open to vehicles and designated trails. Bicycles are not permitted on service roads or the *River's Edge Trail*. *Madison Ferry Trail is open only from April 1 through August 31.*
- Horseback riding is allowed only on the *Madison Ferry Trail* and only from April 1 through August 31.

Restricted-Use Zones

Several "Public-Use Zones" have been established on Columbia Bottom Conservation Area to accommodate a variety of public-use activities. These zones are shown on the attached map and described below:

No Hunting Zone – No hunting is permitted in these zones at any time.

No Shooting Zone – Archery hunting is permitted in this zone during managed archery hunts. No hunting with firearms is permitted.

Waterfowl Hunting Zone – Only authorized persons are permitted in this zone from October 15 through the close of the area's prescribed duck season.



Waterfowl Refuge – No public access is permitted in the waterfowl refuge from October 15 through March 1.

Fishing and Boating

Fishing in the rivers and sloughs is permitted under statewide regulations with the following exceptions, which apply to lakes, ponds and wetland pools within the area:

- Bullfrogs and green frogs may not be taken with firearms.
- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited.
- Gizzard shad may be taken from lakes and ponds by dip net or throw net.
- Salvage seining of non-game fish for personal use is permitted only with written authorization.
- Boats are allowed in wetland pools and slough area. Only electric motors are allowed.

Hunting and Trapping

- Use or possession of lead shot is prohibited for hunting on this conservation area.
- All hunters must have a valid daily hunting tag or managed hunt permit.
- Deer hunting is by managed hunt permit only. Hunters must apply for a permit through the managed hunt drawing system. Application information is available at most Conservation Department offices.
- Archery method hunters may not hunt on or within 100 feet of any trail or road open to vehicular traffic. Firearms hunters may not hunt on or within 100 yards of any trail or road open to vehicular traffic.