

Hunting and Trapping

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

- Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual changes. Please refer to 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 durable material with the full name and address or Conservation number of the owner and be removed from the area by February 1st. 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 disassembled and removed daily. Blinds may be constructed on-site only from willows (*Salicaceae*) and nonwoody vegetation.
- Trapping allowed only with a special use permit. Visit our website for more information.
- Trail and game cameras are prohibited.



Nearby Department Areas

Davisdale Conservation Area
Franklin Island Conservation Area
Lamine River Conservation Area
Plowboy Bend Conservation Area

For local information, contact:

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

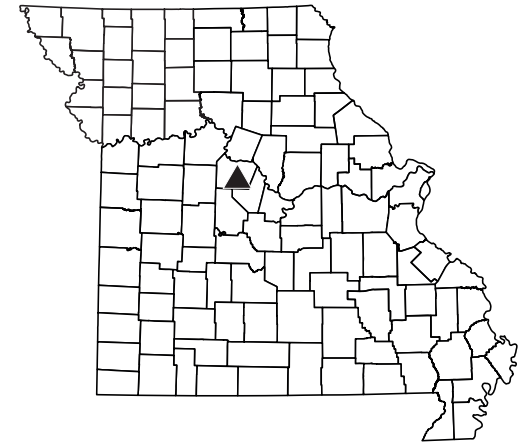
Visit us at:

www.mdc.mo.gov

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

Prairie Home

CONSERVATION AREA



12/2021

(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.

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

About this Area

Prairie Home Conservation Area is in eastern Cooper County about 4 miles southwest of the town of Prairie Home, off Hwy W.

This 1,461 acre area is primarily rolling uplands with a mix of timber, oldfields, cropland, warm-season grass plantings, and some glade and prairie remnant tracts. The original 212 acres was acquired in 1963 through funds from Pittman-Robertson Federal Excise Tax on sporting arms and ammunition. In 1997, Allen and Wilda Johnson donated money earmarked for resource management. Their generous gift resulted in construction of the three lakes that provide excellent habitat for fish, reptiles, amphibians, waterfowl, waterbirds and songbirds, and provide wonderful recreational opportunity and wildlife viewing for area visitors.

Prairie Home Conservation Area supports good deer, turkey, squirrel, rabbit and quail for the hunting enthusiast. The birder can find a seasonal array of songbirds including summer tanagers, woodpeckers, vireos and sparrows.

Facilities/Features: 3 fishable lakes (20 total acres), one with an ADA accessible parking, privy and fishing dock; five designated camping sites (no amenities); and 5.5 miles of designated multi-use trails.

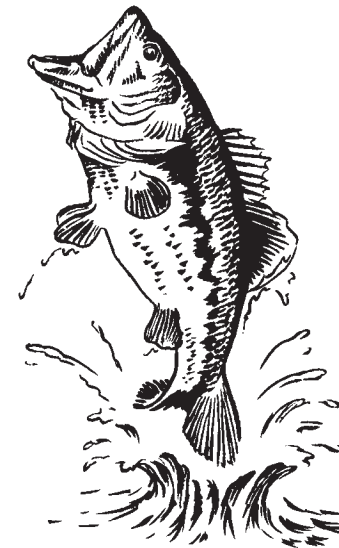
Recreational Opportunities

Bird Watching – Bicycling – Camping – Fishing – Hiking – Horseback Riding – Hunting – Outdoor Photography – Wildlife Viewing

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. Please visit our website for more information.
- Camping is allowed anytime in designated camping areas. These may or may not have defined campsites. Seasonal closures and restrictions may apply. Camping is limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period. Groups of more than 10 campers require a special use permit. No unattended camp fires. Camping on other parts of the area may be allowed by special use permit.
- Bicycles and horses allowed on multi-use trails and bicycles allowed on designated service roads year-round. Multi-use trails and service roads can be located at <https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places>
- Bicycles and horses allowed on public roadways year-round.
- Pets and hunting dogs are permitted but must be on a leash or confined at all times. 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.
- 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.
- Target shooting not allowed.
- Use of fireworks is prohibited.
- Field trials 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 person at any time.
- On ponds and impoundments, daily and possession limits are six black bass, four catfish, 30 crappie and all other fish may not exceed 20 in the aggregate.
- On lakes and ponds, black bass between twelve (12") and fifteen (15") inches in total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.
- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited in lakes and ponds.
- Boats, including sailboats, may be used on lakes and ponds designated as open to boats. Boats may not be left unattended overnight. Only electric motors are permitted on lakes and ponds of less than 70 acres.
- For more information on fishing creeks and streams, refer to A Summary of Missouri Fishing Regulations.