

- Waterfowl hunting is prohibited from October 15 through the end of the current waterfowl season on the lands and waters of the main arm of Thomas Hill Lake between Highway T and Ginger Street (Three and one-half miles north of Highway T).
- 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 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, but only from willows and non-woody vegetation.
- Trapping of furbearers allowed only with special use permit. Visit our website for more information.
- Trail and game cameras are prohibited.

**Nearby Conservation Areas**  
 Atlanta-Long Branch Conservation Area  
 Mussel Fork Conservation Area  
 Rudolf Bennitt Conservation Area  
 Hidden Hollow Conservation Area

**For local information, contact:**  
 Missouri Department of Conservation  
 3500 S. Baltimore  
 Kirksville, MO 63501  
 (660) 785-2420  
[www.mdc.mo.gov](http://www.mdc.mo.gov)

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

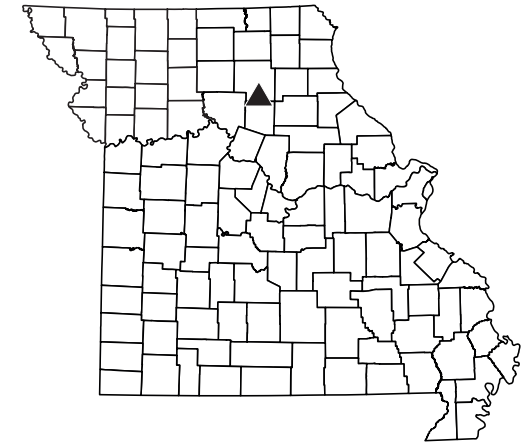
*Regulations are from the Wildlife Code of Missouri and selected statutes of the State of Missouri.*



# Thomas Hill

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## 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](http://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

## Recreational Opportunities

Bird Watching – Camping – Hiking – Fishing  
Hunting – 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. Parking or storing watercraft or commercial vehicles on department areas during closed hours is prohibited.*

- 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 permitted only at the Highway T campground. Camping is permitted only at numbered campsites and is limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period. All personal property must be removed from the area at the end of the 14-day period.
- Numbered campsites are limited to one camping or sleeping unit per site. A maximum number of 6 people are permitted in each campsite. All visitors not occupying a campsite must leave the campground by 10 p.m.
- Quiet hours are in effect from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily. Quiet hours are defined as the cessation of excessive noise from people or any mechanical device that causes disturbance to other campers.
- Nuts, berries, fruits, edible wild greens and mushrooms may be taken for personal use.
- Digging roots is prohibited.
- Bicycles allowed on designated service roads year-round. 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 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.
- Vehicles are restricted to public roadways and parking lots unless otherwise allowed by area

regulations.

- Target shooting is not allowed.
- Guiding for pay is prohibited.
- Field trials prohibited.
- Use of fireworks is prohibited.

## Fishing and Boating

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

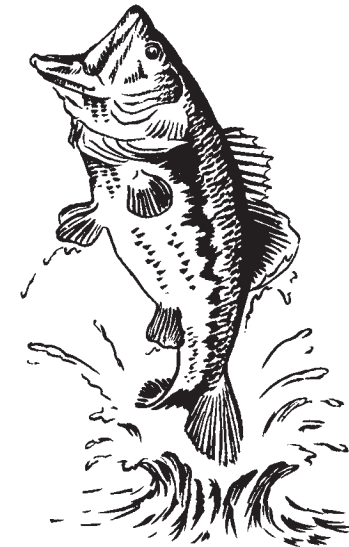
- On Thomas Hill Lake, all largemouth bass less than 15 inches and all hybrid striped bass less than 20 inches in total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.
- In area ponds and strip pits, all largemouth bass between 12 and 15 inches in total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught. Total length is measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail, with the fish laid flat, the mouth closed and the tail lobes pressed together
- On area ponds and strip pits only poles or rods with attached lines may be used, and not more than three poles or rods may be used by any one person.
- Fish caught in area ponds and strip pits may not be possessed on Thomas Hill Lake and vice versa.
- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited on all area ponds and their discharge channels.
- Salvage seining of non-game fish for personal use is permitted only with written permission of the Conservation Department.
- Boating is permitted on Thomas Hill Lake. Water skiing is prohibited north of Highway T on the Stinking Creek arm of the lake, and on the warm-water arm upstream of the marker buoys. No horsepower restrictions apply.
- All boating is prohibited on the main arm of the lake north of Highway T from October 15 through January 15.
- On area ponds and strip pits electric motors only are permitted.

- Daily Creel limits are:

Area Ponds and Strip Pits	
Largemouth bass	6
Catfish combined	4
Crappie	30
All other fish combined	20

Thomas Hill Lake	
Largemouth bass	6
Hybrid striped bass	4
Blue catfish	5
Flathead catfish	5
Channel catfish	10
Crappie	15
Carp buffalo, gar	**

\*\*See Wildlife Code for complete listing.



## 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 Spring Turkey or Fall Deer and Turkey Booklets for current regulations.