



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 Sept. 1 through Jan. 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 Feb. 1st. Use of nails, screw-in steps, and any material or method that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- Decoys 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

Scrivner Conservation Area
 Bagnell Dam Access
 King's Bluff Access
 Tuscumbia Access

For local information, contact:

Missouri Department of Conservation
 783 Thunder Mountain Rd.
 Camdenton, Mo 65020-2811
 (573) 346-2210

OR

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.

Saline Valley

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

Saline Valley Conservation Area is 2.3 miles south-east of Eldon on Highway M off of Highway 54.

The area was established in 1977, with the original purchase of 292 acres by the Conservation Department. Subsequent purchases have increased the size of the area to 4,783 acres. The central corridor to the 4,783-acre Saline (pronounced suh-lean') Valley Conservation Area may be accessed by driving a short distance north from Tuscumbia on Route 17 and turning west on Saline Road. Visitors can access the headwater side of the area by turning east from Hwy. 54 near Eldon onto Miller County Route M and traveling to the end of the blacktop. Lower Saline Creek and properties adjacent to the Osage River are accessible by boat from the nearby Tuscumbia and Kings Bluff public boat accesses. Saline Valley Conservation Area provides public access to nine miles of bottomland corridor along Saline Creek. Jack Buster Creek, Jim Henry Creek and the Osage River provide an additional six miles of stream corridor access. Natural communities of the area include dry dolomite forest, dolomite glades, bottomland forest and a fen. The dominant trees of the nearly 3,500 acres of continuous timbered forests leading away from the creeks are black, white and chinquapin oaks and hickories. Plants growing on the glades, which are rocky openings on south and west slopes, include little bluestem, side oats grama, Indian grasses, Missouri coneflower, bluets and blue hearts. Plants growing in the fen include several species of sedges, Carolina willow, buttonbush, spotted touch-me-not and bulrush. King's Bluff is actually three 30-foot high dolomite bluffs, which offer a good view of the Osage River. Western wallflower, a showy species somewhat rare in Missouri, grows on the bluffs. Much of the area lies in floodplains subject to spring flooding and "backing up" when the Osage River is at high flow. In managing the

area, emphasis is being placed on the stabilization of stream banks that are subject to erosion, habitat diversity and restoring glade communities. The area is unique in its habitat diversity and its abrupt habitat transitions. Bottomland fields and timber stands of sycamore, walnut, elm and ash adjoin the creeks. Strips of native warm season prairie grasses form transition corridors around cultivated fields. Visitors to the area can expect good gravel roads suitable for automobile travel along the main corridor. Eleven small parking lots are maintained for off-road parking.



Recreational Opportunities

Camping – Fishing – Hiking – Hunting – Nature viewing – Outdoor photography – Picnicking

Open for public used 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.

Rules and Regulations

- 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 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.

- 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.
- Vehicles are restricted to public roadways and parking lots unless otherwise allowed by area regulations.
- 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.
- Nuts and berries, fruits, edible wild greens and mushrooms may be taken for personal use.
- Digging roots is prohibited.
- Field trials are prohibited.



Fishing and Boating

Fishing and frogging are permitted under statewide regulations. The following special regulations also apply.

- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited on all impounded waters and their discharge channels.
- For more information on fishing creeks and streams, refer to A Summary of Missouri Fishing Regulations.