

Hunting and Trapping

Hunting is allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions:

- Hunters may not hunt on or within 100 feet of any trails, or roads open to vehicular traffic.
- Quail hunting is prohibited.
- Rabbits may be hunted with shotgun only from Jan. 1 through Feb. 15. Daily limit: 4.
- Dove hunting is permitted during legal shooting hours in accordance with statewide regulations, except the use or possession of lead shot is prohibited. During the month of September, dove hunters must possess a valid area daily hunting tag while hunting and must accurately report their harvest immediately upon completing their hunting trip.
- Deer hunting 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.
- Only portable tree stands are allowed and only 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 before February 1. Use of nails, screw-in steps, and any material or method that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- Waterfowl hunting is by special managed hunts only.
- Spring turkey hunting is permitted during special managed hunts. Fall firearms turkey hunting is prohibited. Fall archery turkey hunting is permitted only by holders of an archer's hunting permit who have been selected to participate in the area's archery managed deer hunt; turkeys may only be taken prior to filling deer quota.
- Firearms firing single projectiles are prohibited except for special managed deer hunts, and except that furbearers may be taken with a rimfire .22-caliber or smaller firearm when treed with the aid of dogs.
- Furbearers not treed with the aid of dogs may be taken only by shotgun during the prescribed furbearer season.

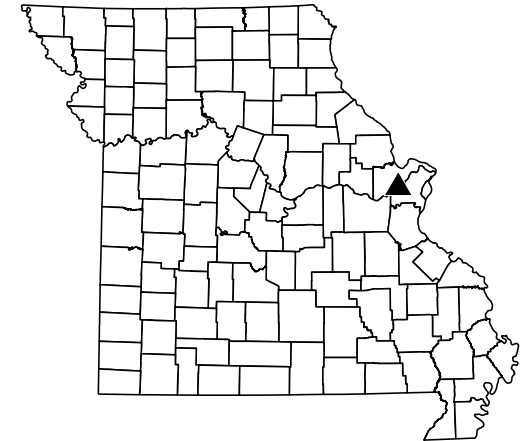
- All furbearers may be taken during managed deer hunts that coincide with the prescribed furbearer season using methods allowed for deer by participants holding a valid managed deer-hunting permit and the prescribed permit for taking furbearers.
- Furbearer trapping is permitted by special-use permit.

For local information, contact:

August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area
2360 Highway D
St. Charles, MO 63304
(636) 441-4554
FAX: (636) 926-9125

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

August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area



4/2023

(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

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area

Area Highlights

This 6,987-acre area contains 3,000 acres of forest in addition to cropland, old fields, prairie and wetlands.

Facilities/features: boat rentals, picnic areas and a pavilion, hiking trails, fishing jetties, fishing docks, staffed firearms range, archery range, viewing blinds, and a visitor center. The area also has 27 fishable lakes and ponds totaling 550 acres. It is located south on Highway 94 from I-64 then 1.5 miles west on Route D.

Portions of the August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area were used by the Department of Army in the 1940s for TNT and DNT production and by the Atomic Energy Commission in the 1960s for uranium ore processing. The affected portions were all part of a federal environmental cleanup project and required to meet certain environmental health and safety standards. The area is now considered to be safe for all recreational pursuits allowed on the area, as well as the wildlife found within the area. To find out more about the history of these activities on the area, you can visit the Weldon Spring Site Interpretive Center located at 7295 Highway 94 South, St. Charles, MO 63304.

Recreational Opportunities

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

The Conservation Area is closed from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. except for authorized hunting, trapping and dog-training activities.

- For safety reasons target shooting is permitted only at the shooting range.
- Dog training: The training of hunting dogs by holders of a Missouri hunting permit is permitted in designated areas. Training of dogs is prohibited in agricultural crop fields prior to harvest. Dog training and field trials may take place in area lakes under the following restrictions:

→ Lakes 1, 2, 12 and 15 are closed to all dog training and field trial events.

→ Lakes 6 and 7 are closed from April 15 through September 14.

→ Lakes 3, 7, 21, 22, and 23 are closed from November 1 through March 31.

→ Lakes 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 16, 19, 20, 24, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37 and 38 are open year-round.

→ Lake 9 is open year-round except that training devices producing any type of noise simulating gunfire are prohibited. This includes blank pistols, popper loads, dummy launchers and similar devices.

- Special-use permits are required for field trials.
- Horseback riding is permitted only while training hunting dogs or when necessary in field trials (special-use permit required for field trials).
- Dogs must be leashed or confined when not being trained or used for hunting.
- Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal use. Cutting or removing other vegetation is prohibited.
- Digging is not permitted for any purpose.
- Motor vehicles are allowed on public roadways and in gravel and paved parking areas. Roads open to vehicles are designated on map.
- Bicycling is allowed on public roads or trails designated for their use.
- Fires are only permitted in the picnic areas in existing barbecue grills.
- Artifact Collecting: It is unlawful to remove any artifacts, including arrowheads.
- Swimming is prohibited.

Fishing

A state fishing permit is required of all anglers from the ages of 16 to 64. Fishing is permitted on designated waters from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

- Fish may be taken only by pole and line and not more than 3 poles may be used by any person.
- No live bait may be captured on area lakes and ponds, except that gizzard shad may be taken from lakes and ponds by dip net or throw net.
- Personal kayaks/canoes only are allowed on lakes 6, 34, 35, 36, and 38 year round except a daily boating

tag is required April 1 through September 30. Daily boating tags can be obtained from the concessionaire.

- Rental boats are generally available April 1 through September 30; anglers should check with the office for more details. Only electric trolling motors are permitted.
- Some lakes may be closed to fishing. Check bulletin board at lake.
- Trout are stocked in several lakes from November to February. Special regulations apply. A trout permit is required for all persons catching and keeping trout. Contact area headquarters for information.
- Bullfrogs and green frogs may not be taken with firearms.
- Lake 8 and Hampton Lake closed to all fishing and hunting.

- Lakes 1, 2, 15 closed to public fishing.

Fish Limits

- Black bass (largemouth) – 2/day

All black bass less than 15 inches in total length may not be taken or possessed.

On Lakes 33 and 35 no black bass less than 18 inches total length may be taken or possessed.

- White bass, striped bass and their hybrids in the aggregate (combined) – 4/day

White bass, striped bass and their hybrids less than 20 inches total length may not be taken or possessed.

- Channel catfish, flathead catfish and blue catfish in the aggregate (combined) – 4/day

- Crappie – 15/day, except lake 33 - limit 30/day.

- Muskie – 1/day

Muskies less than 36 inches may not be taken or possessed.

- All other fish – statewide limits, but not to exceed 10/day in the aggregate (combined).
- Lake 12 – Children 15 and under only may fish. One pole limit. Two (2) fish limit.
- Lakes 16, 31 and 32 are catch-and-release fishing only. Artificial lures, flies and soft plastic baits (unscented) only. No fish may be possessed on these lakes.