

About this Area

Ketcherside Mountain Conservation Area is home to a portion of the St. Francois Mountains Natural Area and the Royal Gorge Natural Area. Royal Gorge Natural Area contains an outstanding example of an igneous shut-ins geologic feature along Big Creek and igneous glades and stunted old-growth trees and a 2.3 mile hiking trail. Nearly 400 native plant species have been documented from the area that contains outstanding igneous glades, woodlands, and forests . This area also has roughly 6.2 miles of the Ozark Trail meandering through the area.

RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Bird Watching — Hiking — Hunting
Outdoor Photography — Wildlife Viewing

Conservation Areas are closed from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. except for authorized camping, fishing and hunting activities.

- No littering, digging, fireworks, target shooting, or open fires.
- Horseback riding is prohibited on the Ozark Trail.
- Primitive camping is not permitted within 100 feet of the Ozark Trail. Campers are limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period. Groups of 10 or more campers need a special use permit.
- Bicycles allowed on multi-use trails and designated service roads year-round. Multi-use trails and service roads (if any) can be located at <https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places>. Bicycles are not permitted on the Ozark Trail.
- Hiking is permitted on interior roads and trails.
- Pets and hunting dogs are permitted but must be on a leash or confined when not being trained or used for hunting.
- Destroying, cutting, or removing vegetation is prohibited. Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal consumption only. On the Natural Area, taking edible wild greens is prohibited.

- Vehicle use is restricted to graveled and paved roads and established parking areas, unless otherwise posted.

Fishing and Boating

Fishing and frogging are allowed under statewide regulations.

Hunting and Trapping

Hunting is allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions:

- Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual changes. Please refer to Spring Turkey and Fall Deer and Turkey summaries for current regulations.
- Only portable tree stands are allowed and only between September 1 and January 31. Unattended stands must be plainly labeled with the full name and address, or conservation number, of the user and must be removed from the area before February 1. Use of nails, screw-in steps, and any materials that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- The placement of trail or game camera or similar device is prohibited.
- Furbearer trapping is permitted by special use permit.

For local information, contact:

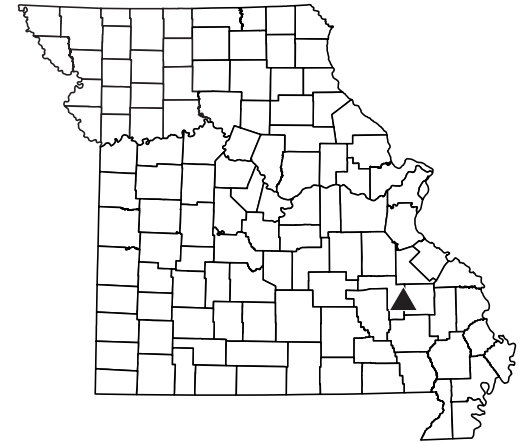
Missouri Department of Conservation
410 Piedmont Ave
Piedmont, MO 63957
(573) 223-4525

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

9/2024

(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/5csr/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.

Ketcherside Mountain CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION