

About This Area

Buford Mountain Conservation Area, located east of beautiful Belleview Valley, was purchased by the Missouri Department of Conservation from the Nature Conservancy in 1979. The area was named after its settlement in 1812 by William Buford, who acquired the land through a Spanish Land Grant. Today, Buford Mountain covers 3,956 acres. In the mid- to late-1800s, the charcoal industry flourished in the Belleview-Arcadia Valley. Old charcoal kilns still remain over the entire mountain. The highest peak of the mountain is 1,740 feet above sea level. With most of the mountain hardened by granite known as Rhyolite, the area yields little permanent water. Limestone streambeds mark the base of the mountain. Several wet weather springs can be found over the area; these are usually dry, however, during summer. The area's most outstanding feature is its glades, ranging in size from less than 1 acre to over 10 acres. These glades provide many scenic views and excellent opportunities to observe glade plants and animals. Buford Mountain is home to wildlife species common to Missouri. This is a favored hunting area for turkey hunters, and some deer hunting occurs as well. There is a two-acre walk-in pond located on the east side of the area.

RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Bird Watching — Hiking — Hunting
Outdoor Photography — Fishing

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

- No littering, digging, fireworks, open fires or target shooting.
- Destroying, cutting, or removing vegetation is prohibited. Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal consumption only.
- Vehicles are restricted to graveled and paved roads and established parking areas, unless otherwise posted.
- Hiking is permitted on interior roads and trails.
- Primitive camping is permitted in designated areas only. Campers are limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period. Groups of 10 or more campers need a special use permit.

- Pets and hunting dogs are permitted but must be on a leash or confined when not being trained or used for hunting.

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.

Fishing and Boating

Fishing and frogging are allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions:

- Daily limit is 6 black bass, 4 catfish (channel, blue and flathead combined) and 30 crappie. Total number of all other fish may not exceed 20.
- All black bass between 12 and 15 inches must be released immediately after being caught.
- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited.
- Hand-launched watercraft only.
- Only electric motors are permitted.

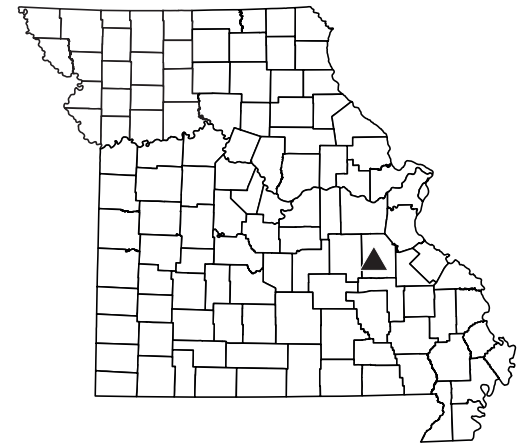
For local information, contact:
Missouri Department of Conservation
410 Piedmont Avenue
Piedmont, MO 63957
(573) 223-4525

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/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.

Buford Mountain

CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION